



# Open Space and Trails Advisory Board

April 13, 2026

To the Erie Town Council Members:

The Open Space and Trails Advisory Board (OSTAB) writes to clarify its position regarding the Page property. OSTAB's position is that the property should be preserved in its entirety as open space, and that no development should occur on any portion of the site. OSTAB believes the Page property holds significant open space, ecological, scenic, and community value, and that preserving the property as a whole best protects those attributes for current and future generations.

OSTAB also recommends that the existing buildings on the property be further evaluated for potential use as storage or operational support space for the Parks and Open Space Division. This evaluation would allow the Town to consider whether the structures can serve a functional purpose while remaining consistent with preserving the broader property as open space.

In addition, OSTAB suggests that staff pursue opportunities to enhance the property's ecological value through exploration of trail connections, reclamation activities, and management of the existing pond. OSTAB believes these efforts could strengthen habitat value, improve connectivity, and support long-term stewardship of the site in a manner consistent with the Town's open space goals.

Should Council determine that development is desired and move forward with a development plan, OSTAB maintains that at least 50 percent of the property's acreage should remain as open space. OSTAB further maintains that any areas identified as "open space" through the development process that do not meet current Unified Development Code requirements should not count toward overall open space dedication requirements, and that any deficiency should be addressed through a fee in lieu. Any development plan should also strive to preserve as much of the property's open space value as possible, including viewsheds, trail corridors, and natural habitat.

OSTAB offers this clarification to ensure its position is clearly understood as Council considers the future of the Page property. OSTAB continues to support preservation-focused planning that protects the site's unique character and long-term public value.

Sincerely,

The OSTAB Board

Ken Martin, Chair

Christine Felz, Vice-Chair

Phil Brink, Member

Tim Payne, Member

Bill Rigler, Member

Joe Swanson, Member

Dave Tazik, Member