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For Immediate Release

**Cornerstone Construction Management begins construction on highly anticipated Cass District Library in
Edwardsburg.**

With the celebratory groundbreaking of the Cass District Library (CDL) being mere weeks away, we wanted to share our excitement for this first construction phase. Site preparation will entail, making way on the property for the building and support services to come.

We are very thrilled to see action take place and wanted to share our plan of this first step of tree removal for the building footprint, parking lot, and a place for the driveway. The team from the very beginning has put in significant effort to take the best possible route in maintaining the integrity of the landscape. We have walked and examined the property with an independent forester who educated us on the health of existing trees and helped us to determine that there are not many high-quality trees in the frontage and many species will benefit from thinning to lessen the overcrowding. In addition, the library consulted with the Cass County Conversation District, Abonmarche's civil engineer, and landscape designer. We have utmost confidence that our contractors will work to minimize land and tree disruption.

Unfortunately, there will be a significant reduction in forest cover in the front quarter of the property to construct our planned building. The rear of the property and area closest to the lake will be less disturbed, and we anticipate beautifying it with paths, natural gathering spaces, and native plant species. For the next several years, funds from our budget will go back into plantings to increase the species diversity and repopulate the site. CDL graciously welcomes community donations to support this effort as well. Any interested donors may reach out to library director, Barbara Gordon for information.

CDL values sustainability and we are committed to having as little negative impact as possible on the ecosystem. While it may be a shock to see trees removed, we want to assure you that we are taking every measure to ensure sustainability and environmentally friendly practices.

It is so exciting to see the beginning of this new development and how it will benefit the people of Edwardsburg!

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Main Branch | Edwardsburg Branch | Howard Branch | Local History Branch | Mason/Union Branch