

# Opposition grows against gravel mine application in Metamora Twp.

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**METAMORA** — Opposition and concern among local officials, residents and business owners continues to grow regarding announced plans to mine gravel on the D-Bar-A Boy Scout Ranch that would result in dozens of gravel haulers every day passing through the normally quiet village of Metamora.

On Monday, the Metamora Village Council unanimously approved a resolution to support the four-month moratorium on gravel mining adopted by the Metamora Township Board at a Dec. 14 meeting. The temporary ban was passed by township officials at the recommendation of

their legal counsel, who sought additional time to mount an opposition tactic to an application by the Levy Company that seeks to mine gravel from a 500-acre section of the sprawling Boy Scout Ranch.

The Levy Company and its subsidiary, American Aggregates, have filed an application for a 30-year lease on the property to mine gravel used in road construction and cement and asphalt production. Access to the property is proposed to be limited to one driveway on the north side of Dryden Road, located approximately 900 feet west of Ribble Road.

“That kind of volume of heavy trucks all day would have serious effects on downtown Metamora.

It’s a big concern, for sure,” said Metamora Village Clerk

Tina Sauve. “We really have no say, because the property is in Metamora Township, but we wanted to show support for the township’s position because we’re all in this together.”

Probably nobody has more at stake than Victor Dzenowagis, who, along with his wife, Linda Egeland, has spent three years and more than \$3 million to renovate and reopen the historic White Horse Inn that includes a massive outdoor deck only feet from Dryden Road.

Dzenowagis attended Monday’s meeting at the village offices, located directly across the street from the White Horse on High Street (Dryden Road) that would