NOTICE OF A PROPOSED BUILDING DEMOLITION PROJECT RESULTING IN AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON HISTORIC RESOURCES AT SAWYER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, GWINN MI

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are notified of a proposed project at Sawyer International Airport (Airport) that will result in an adverse effect on historic resources.

The Airport proposes to demolish 14 buildings at the Marquette County Airport/Sawyer International Airport, which is the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. Planned activities include demolition of 14 buildings and grading of the building sites. Buildings proposed for demolition were found to be in poor condition and do not meet the strategic planning goals of the Airport. The Airport seeks to create new leasable facilities and green spaces that could be used to market new business growth in the area. As the Airport operates under a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) license, proposed work is subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106) and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

In compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulation 36 CFR 800, the FAA, in consultation with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), has determined that the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) as a historic district and has significance at the state level in the areas of Military, Politics, and Government. The FAA recommended that the proposed demolition of 14 contributing buildings would constitute an Adverse Effect under Section 106 and the SHPO concurred with this finding.

In order to resolve adverse effects under 36 CFR 800.6, consultation is required with interested parties to develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will mitigate adverse effects to the proposed historic district. The FAA is seeking input from the public to assist in the development of appropriate mitigation measures to resolve the adverse effect to the historic district.

Members of the project team are available to discuss any questions or concerns related to historic resources at the Airport and would appreciate hearing from the public regarding any suggested mitigation items. Citizens are encouraged to submit comments or concerns by March 20, 2023. Send comments to:

Duane DuRay Airport Director 125 G Avenue Gwinn, MI 49841 (906) 346-3308 dduray@mqtco.org

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time.