



June 3, 2020

Board of Commissioners
c/o Administrator Britt & Chair Bolter
County Administration Building
300 Monroe Avenue NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503

Dear Administrator Britt and Chair Bolter –

I want to begin this communication to thank you both, and the entire Kent County Commission, for your leadership during these trying times. The West Michigan Sports Commission continues to benefit from your support, and in turn, we remain ready to impact our county through a quick re-start of sports tourism and the economic benefit it brings to our lodging tax and ancillary spending in our many restaurants and other small businesses.

We remain hopeful, with the declining number of new cases of the novel coronavirus and fewer hospitalizations; along with the increase of testing with dropping rates of positive outcomes, that the economy will be ready to fully re-open. We know that there will continue to be the need to put COVID response plans and practices in place to ensure the safety of our residents and of those visiting to prevent any new outbreak of this virus. Having just served on a statewide workgroup toward re-opening amateur sports, our comprehensive plan has gone to the Governor's office this week for review.

I was made aware of the Kent County COVID relief fund provided through the CARES Act to assist local governments and their many small businesses with efforts to implement practices to help prevent further COVID-19 cases. I am requesting assistance from you, through this fund, to assist the West Michigan Sports Commission and our operations (Art Van Sports Complex, State Games of Michigan) to put into place proper COVID-19 prevention practices to safely execute youth and amateur sporting events and once again impact our county with the associated tourism spending.

The spending would be used toward equipment to ensure social distancing (i.e. portable player benches to increase safe seating distances of our dugouts), cleaning supplies and equipment, signage and social distance markings, and proper PPE for staff and volunteers. My estimate of these expenses is in the range of \$15,000-\$20,000. Please advise as the potential to support these measures as we look to re-open our many efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Guswiler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Guswiler
President