125.286 Nonconforming uses.

Sec. 16. (1) The lawful use of a dwelling, building, or structure and of land or a premise as existing and lawful at the time of enactment of a zoning ordinance, or, in the case of an amendment of an ordinance, then at the time of the amendment, may be continued although the use does not conform with the ordinance or amendment.

(2) The township board shall provide in a zoning ordinance for the completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, or substitution of nonconforming uses upon reasonable terms set forth in the zoning ordinance. In establishing terms for the completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, or substitution of nonconforming uses different classes of nonconforming uses may be established in the ordinance with different requirements applicable to each class.

(3) A township may acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise private property or an interest in private property for the removal of nonconforming uses. The cost and expense, or a portion thereof, of acquiring the private property may be paid from general funds or assessed to a special district in accordance with the applicable statutory provisions relating to the creation and operation of special assessment districts for public improvements in townships. The elimination of the nonconforming uses and structures in a zoning district is declared to be for a public purpose and for a public use. The township board may institute and prosecute proceedings for condemnation of nonconforming uses and structures under the power of eminent domain in accordance with Act No. 149 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended, being sections 213.21 to 213.41 of the Michigan Compiled Laws or other applicable statute.