



## Southwest Michigan Economic Development District Project Selection Process

1. Call for projects
  - a. SWMPC sends out a call for projects with directions on how to submit projects
    - i. Send out educational material highlighting eligibility requirements & SWMPC process
    - ii. A fillable PDF is made available to submit projects
      1. Collects information such as: project name, description, overall cost, contact
      2. Sets deadline for project submission to SWMPC
    - iii. Application rounds throughout the year
      1. Projects not previously selected can be resubmitted with added details/improvements
2. Submission to SWMPC
  - a. Eligible applicants submit projects to SWMPC (Jerrid Burdue, Associate Planner, [burduej@swmpc.org](mailto:burduej@swmpc.org))
3. Eligibility test
  - a. SWMPC ensures projects submitted meet the eligibility criteria
    - i. Based on eligibility criteria outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity
    - ii. Based on conformity with Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
4. Project scoring
  - a. Scoring criteria based on regional goals established in CEDS
    - i. Goal 1: Livability for Talent Attraction (promote a diverse environment that creates an excellent quality of life for talent)
    - ii. Goal 2: Education & Training (attract, retain, and develop a high-quality workforce)
    - iii. Goal 3: Infrastructure (create, improve, and maintain services and infrastructure)
    - iv. Goal 4: Support Business (support and meet the needs of current, new, and emerging businesses)
    - v. Goal 5: Coordination (promote better coordination among different economic development groups)
  - b. Additional scoring from outside the CEDS
    - i. Additional points for communities facing highest levels of poverty and unemployment
    - ii. Additional points for communities with greatest need for federal assistance
5. Selection
  - a. The CEDS Committee reviews projects, scores, and recommends which ones move onto the EDA application.
6. Application to EDA
  - a. SWMPC notifies applicants of project selection outcome
  - b. SWMPC works with successful applicants and EDA in the EDA application process
  - c. Submission of application to EDA
  - d. SWMPC works with unsuccessful applicants to improve their applications in the next round