



## SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

FROM: K. John Egelhaaf

DATE: December 4, 2020

RE: Staff Report for the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission December 15, 2020

#### Project Updates

- A. SWMPC Community Planning Projects Currently in Process (not a complete list)
  - a. Van Buren County Recreation Plan
  - b. Cass County Recreation Plan
  - c. Berrien Township Recreation Plan
  - d. Galien Master Plan
  - e. Berrien Township Master Plan
  - f. City of Buchanan Master Plan
  - g. US DOC Economic Development Administration CARES Act Economic Recovery Strategy for SW MI
    - i. Includes Broadband Data Collection for Berrien & Cass
    - ii. Organizational Orbits App. (See below for more detail)
    - iii. COVID 19 Economic Impact Data Collection
- B. Niles St. Joseph River Pucker Street Dam Removal
  - a. Seven-Year Collaboration w/City of Niles
  - b. Like to See SWMPC in the Media? Here You Go!
    - i. <https://mmeanet.org/currents/>
- C. Organizational Orbits Computer Application
  - a. Creation of App to Facilitate Regional Collaboration
    - i. Accelerate a Uniform Understanding of Collaborator Focus Areas & Goals
    - ii. Accomplished via a Refined System of Data Collection & Visualization
  - b. Project Slated to Start in December (anticipate start week of 12/7)
- D. SW MI Regional Food Branding Project
  - a. Three Finalist Consultants
  - b. In Last Phase of Interviews (week of 12/7)
  - c. Project Right on Schedule

## **SWMPC Staff Report – December 15, 2020**

### **E. Berrien Housing Diagnosis Project**

#### **a. Moving Out of Data Collection Phase**

- i. Data to be Housed in a “Story Map” Context** Used previously on another project seen here:

<https://swmpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=b8f9de7875aa4daabbed51142e0357b1>

#### **b. Problem Identification Phase is Next**

### **F. Transportation Rural Task Force**

#### **a. SWMPC Assisting Rural Communities in Application Process for Rural Transportation Funding**

#### **b. SWMPC Helping Communities with State-Level Changes to RTF Program**

### **G. Seven County Non-Motorized Map & Plan**

#### **a. Completed & Back from Printer**

#### **b. Soon to be Distributed**

- i. Currently Stored at MDOT SW Regional Office in K’Zoo**

### **H. 2020 COVID 19 SWMPC Holiday Staff Party?**

#### **a. Holiday Hike!**

##### **i. Outdoor Fun**

##### **ii. Beauty + Social Distancing**

#### **b. Location Yet to be Determined**