



SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

FROM: K. John Egelhaaf

DATE: December 3, 2019

RE: Staff Report for the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission December 17, 2019

Office Updates

A. General Staff Engagement

a. Marcy Hamilton

- i. SW MI Sustainable Business Forum Award – “Person of the Year”
- ii. Marquette Greenway – Meetings with Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Council, MDOT, New Buffalo & Chikaming Townships, City of New Buffalo, Village of Grand Beach
- iii. Pucker Street Dam Meetings
- iv. Whirlpool Sustainability Meeting
- v. League of Women Voters Wastewater Tour Guide
- vi. Rotary Presentation
- vii. Ox Creek Better Beaches

b. Kim Gallagher

- i. Michigan Transportation Planning Association Meeting – Lansing
- ii. Transportation Research Board/AARP Participation in Roundtable “Ushering in Era of New Mobility” – Washington D.C.
- iii. Presentations on 2020 Census & Implications on Transportation Funding
- iv. Rural Task Force Transportation Program – Project Implementation Presentation

c. John Egelhaaf

- i. Local Food Council
- ii. Healthy Berrien Consortium Board
- iii. Quad State Directors
- iv. Univ. of Michigan Economic Growth Institute
- v. Strategic Leadership Council Housing Strategy Planning
- vi. Univ. of Michigan National Science Foundation Community Workshop
- vii. Macatawa Area Coordinating Council Presentation

d. Brandon Kovnat

- i. Asset Management Local Plan Training – Lansing

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A. General Staff Engagement (continued)

- e. Kris Martin
 - i. IN-MI River Valley Trail Ribbon Cutting Event
 - ii. West Michigan Trails & Greenways Fall Summit
 - iii. Trail Towns Workshop
- f. Jerrid Burdue
 - i. Leadership Accelerator
 - ii. Regional Economic Diversification Summit Planning Meetings
 - iii. MEDC Interlocal & Corporate Partners Annual Meeting
 - iv. Univ. of Michigan National Science Foundation Community Workshop
 - v. Consortium for Scenario Planning Conference – Hartford, CT

Project Updates

A. Upjohn Housing Toolkit

- a. Identify the key ingredients needed to develop a functioning housing ecosystem
- b. Gather quantitative data
 - i. Supply data
 - ii. Demand data
- c. Gather qualitative data
 - i. Interviews with key stakeholders
 - ii. Survey
- d. Housing product feasibility model and mapping software
 - i. MapCraft Labs - <https://www.mapcraftlabs.com/>
- e. Regional housing SWOT analysis
- f. Synthesize Target Market and other local housing plans
- g. Best practices
 - i. Conducted through a literature review and through comparison areas
 - ii. Ideally, a list of best practices would provide local decision-makers with a menu of strategies they could implement
- h. Next Steps – Local Partners Create Local Plans
 - i. Identify partners and work to align them around common priorities
 - 1. Empower partners to make decisions regarding the plan
 - ii. Assess the local housing market
 - 1. Conduct local SWOT analysis of the local housing ecosystem
 - iii. Define goals, objectives, and strategies for the housing ecosystem
 - iv. Create an implementation plan for the identified strategies
 - 1. Identify champions of each strategy and create accountability system
 - 2. Define and track progress
 - v. Identify the appropriate role for each local partner
 - 1. Secure a commitment from those partners
 - 2. Establish an accountability system

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Project Updates (continued)

- B. 2019 Countywide Pavement Condition Reports
 - a. Pavement Surface Evaluation & Rating System (PASER) Road Ratings
 - b. Individual Berrien, Cass, & Van Buren County Summaries
 - i. Countywide trends in pavement condition
 - ii. Ratings by individual jurisdiction w/in each county
- C. Seven-County Non-Motorized Mapping
 - a. Mapping Completed for Seven-County Non-Motorized Plan
 - b. Plan to be Completed by End of 1Q 2020
- D. MDOT Grant Award – SWMPC Website Redesign
 - a. \$50,000 to Fund New SWMPC Website
- E. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Story Map – Be Healthy Berrien
 - a. New Innovation in Presentation of Mapping Data
 - i. Incorporate GIS maps into a larger contextual story
 - b. <http://arcg.is/rXLKv0>
- F. Assistance to Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority (TCATA) – Annual Report
 - a. SWMPC Provided Data Tables & Graphics
 - b. First Ever Collaboration on TCATA Annual Report
- G. Development Corridors Mapping Project
 - a. Collaboration with Berrien County Community Development & Cornerstone Alliance
 - b. Two Phase Project
 - i. Phase 1 – Target Industry Analysis (TIA)
 - ii. Phase 2 – Map top ranked corridors for industrial development prospects identified in (TIA)