



SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION

376 West Main Street, Suite 130, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

FROM: K. John Egelhaaf

DATE: June 3, 2019

RE: Staff Report for the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission June 18, 2019

Office Updates

A. Staff Changes

- a. Ryan Fellows – Departure as of May 20, 2019
- b. Ylana Padgett - Summer Intern
 - i. Cornell College – Environmental Studies/Art History Major
 - ii. June 3 – August 31
- c. Jerrid Burdue – New Hire Associate Planner
 - i. Michigan Technological University
 - ii. Start Date – July 22

B. General

- a. Marcy Hamilton
 - i. Cass County Conservation District Workshop
 - ii. Statewide Water Strategy Meetings
 - iii. G.I. Conference
- b. Brandon Kovnat
 - i. Asset Management Conference – Gaylord
- c. John Egelhaaf
 - i. Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) Annual Conference Planning Committee
 - ii. Leadership Accelerator Panel Presentation – Harbor Planning
 - iii. Presenter – Strategic Leadership Spring Summit
 - iv. Webinar Presenter – Inclusive Transit Planning Community of Practice (University of Massachusetts)
- d. Kris Martin
 - i. MPO Traffic Monitoring Training
 - ii. St. Joseph River Basin Symposium
- e. Kim Gallagher
 - i. Michigan Transportation Planning Association Meeting

Project Updates

A. Twin Cities Harbor

- a. News Feature Story on South Bend ABC 57 News: <https://abc57.com/news/twin-cities-harbor-transforming-the-waterfront>

SWMPC Staff Report – June 18, 2019

Project Updates

- A. Twin Cities Harbor (continued)
 - b. Governance Retreat – Originally Scheduled for June 11th – POSTPONED (because of B.H. schools challenges)
 - i. Goals:
 1. Bring leaders together
 2. Identify common goals, priorities, opportunities
 3. Facilitate discussion to identify where coordination and collaboration is necessary for implementation
 4. Strategies for advancing collaborative goals and priorities
 5. Determine governance structure

- B. Seven County Non-Motorized Transportation Plan
 - a. Meetings Scheduled in Six of Seven Counties - Month of June
 - i. Cass – June 5
 - ii. Van Buren – June 11
 - iii. Calhoun – June 17
 - iv. St. Joseph – June 18
 - v. Branch – June 20
 - vi. Kalamazoo – June 24

- C. SWMPC Website Revamp
 - a. Targeting 2020
 - b. Seeking additional funding from MDOT

- D. Economic Development District Planning Activities
 - a. Three-Year Grant for 2019-2021 SWMPC Planning Received
 - i. May 14, 2019 Approval
 - ii. \$210,000 Federal Funding Over Three Years

- E. Metropolitan Transportation Major Documents
 - a. Niles Buchanan Cass Area Transportation Study (NATS)
 - i. 2045 Long Range Plan
 - ii. 2020 Unified Work Program
 - iii. 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program
 - b. Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS)
 - i. 2020 Unified Work Program
 - ii. 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program
 - c. Cass County Air Quality Conformity