



Grand Vision Growth & Investment Areas

Regional Network Meeting

Monday, August 12th, 2013: 10a.m. – 12p.m.

1209 S. Garfield Ave.– Michigan Works!

Mission Statement: Facilitate the growth and entrepreneurial culture of unique cities and villages that strengthen our region by encouraging business development, removing barriers, utilizing incentives, and fostering public and private improvements.

Meeting Minutes

A. Welcome and Introductions

Mike Coy – Cadillac	Blake Smith – USDA
Mark Randolph – Kalkaska Parks & Rec	Jason Jones – Grand Traverse Parks & Rec
Robin Johnson – Empire Planning Commission	Gary Howe – Traverse City Planning Commission
Mary Faculak – East Jordan Chamber	Kurt Schindler – MSU-E
Jan Kellogg – NLEA/NWMCOG	Tim Roach - Gosling Czubak
Hugh Campbell - Ellsworth	Doug Coates - Gosling Czubak
Misty Youngson – Elk Rapids Chamber	John Sych – Grand Traverse County Planning
Mary Jo Barck – Traverse City Chamber	Scott Gest – NWMCOG
Mike Woods - NWMCOG	Janie McNabb - NWMCOG

B. Water infrastructure-

Doug Coates from Gosling Czubak discussed municipal water infrastructure and the MDEQ's Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW) grant program.

- SAW grant is a new program that's all State funds from the DEQ. The program is still in flux and will be published in September 2013.
- SAW is for communities that demonstrated a water quality problem. i.e. e-coli, phosphorous
- \$97 million allocated for 2014; requires a 10% local match
- The grant may cover expenses for legal and financial services
- The grant requires a development of an Asset Management plan which must include inventorying the community wastewater infrastructure, identifying structural needs, mapping, and assessing the level of service, and assign priorities for repair replacement, and ultimately developing a rate structure.
- The grant pays for Point source and water quality issues modeling and technical services
- Have to demonstrate a need and present a forward motion within 3 years. If not, grant dollars have to be repaid with interest.
- Stormwater management plans may also be required.
- Applications are first come/first serve basis.
- Sept 19th, DEQ will start training sessions. Grants awards will be in April 2014.
- Works with rural development
- This is a program for disadvantaged communities, which is determined by income. Most communities in NW Michigan may qualify for this designation.



- Rural development and other sources can help fund grant application administrative requirements (SRS grants, and DEQ loans).

C. Land Use/Commercial Corridor Inventory – Scott Gest discussed the survey results from the visual preference survey

- Approximately 315 have participated in the survey thus far. Looking to expand this number.
- Once survey is closed, multi-analyses will take place to determine areas of significant impact

D. Goal Setting – Mark Randolph led a discussion on the growth and investment network's goals as they relate to the grand vision

- Difficult to come up with a goal that doesn't affect everyone. Some people like it, most people will want to implement it given input.
- Grand Vision is a set of principles to advance, not written in stone.
- Private sector needs to be more involved in guiding G&I goals

E. HUD Plan update

- Lets decide how website is active and interactive to the public
- Social equity network summit will be held in November, including guest lecturer, Dr. Donna Vogel who will discuss the challenges of poverty. Panels will be convened on various strategies on overcoming barriers

F. Community Updates

- a. City of Cadillac
 - o Wrapping up the Complete Streets plan which will be used by the city in the future planning and development of streets, sidewalks, bike paths and other active pathways
 - o Working on a design of an extension of the White Pine Trail. The project calls for the trail to extend into the city's downtown with the creation of a full trailhead.
 - o The Cadillac Area Market Study continues to be used by the city and developers in analyzing potential economic opportunities. Baker College used this study to help decide in retrofitting the O'Neill building into student apartments.
- b. Village of Ellsworth
 - o Need warmer weather to get some product to the farmers market.
 - o The C38 reconstruction project is planned for this fiscal year
- c. Village of Empire
 - o Hired a consultant for the transportation plan. Citizens are on board with the plan and include positive reviews. They are 2 months from a draft plan which includes rolling in wayfinding signs.
- d. City of Frankfort
 - o The Wi-Fi project is approximately 90% complete
- e. Grand Traverse County Parks & Recreation Department
 - o Working on 2014 budget and working with rotary to get input on parks & rec infrastructure – in the process of developing a survey that will be sent out shortly.
 - o Developing a task force to put together a universal standard of care to get the word out about potential hazards of beaches (i.e. Providing throw rings, medical equipment at beaches, etc.)
 - o Free of charge water safety class is available for freshman at TC central and west students.



- Jan 20th thru 25th is the Michigan Recreation and Parks association conference at the GT resort.
- f. Kalkaska County
 - Rec plan will be brought before the County Commissioners Wed. night. Included in the plan is assessing the Kaliseum. County is anticipating a 2% increase in tax revenues.
 - Despite the cell tower located on park land, they will only have a 50 point deduction for their plan instead of a complete denial.
- g. Village of Kalkaska
 - Non Participant

G. Roundtable Discussion and Announcements

This meeting is open to all who wish to attend. If you are planning to attend and have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments – Mike Woods (231-929-5056/E-mail at michaelwoods@nwm.cog.mi.us)