



# Grand Vision Growth & Investment Areas

## Regional Network Meeting

Monday, December 10th, 2012: 10a.m. – 12p.m.  
1209 S. Garfield Ave.– Michigan Works!

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*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

#### I. Welcome & Introductions

Josh Mills (City of Frankfort)  
Mark Breederland (MSU Extension / Sea Grant)  
Liz Durfee (NOAA/Sea Grant/CZMP)  
Jan Kellogg (NLEA/NWMCOG)  
Mary Youngson (Elk Rapids DDA)  
Tree Sturnam (GTCD)  
Jerry Adams (City of Cadillac)  
Hugh Campbell (Ellsworth)  
Mary Faculak (East Jordan Chamber of Commerce)  
Sharon Vreeland (Acme Twp)  
Adam Umbrasas (Kingsley)  
Janie McNabb (NWMCOG)

Liz McKellar (TCACC/TBEDC)  
Marc McKellar (GTCRC)  
Kathy Egan (Suttons Bay/Bingham Twp)  
Kurt Schindler (MSUE)  
Connor Miller (Northsky)  
Wally Delamater (Suttons Bay)  
Paul Skinner (Empire)  
Patty Coffey (Kalkaska DDA)  
Bob Burgin (Kalkaska DDA)  
Bob Carstens (GTCPC/Acme Twp)  
Scott Gest (NWMCOG)  
Mike Woods (NWMCOG)

#### II. UPDATE - Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

- A. Janie McNabb (NWMCOG)
  - a. The title of the HUD project has changed to “Framework for Our Future”. There will be 4 regional plans centered around housing, transportation, land use, and energy. They will each include a broad and comprehensive inventory and analysis. Why do this? The Grand Vision was the *what* we want for the future. This is the *how* – which will focus on decision making. The process incorporates a lot of strategies that will be backed by surveys, assessments, inventories, and citizen input. Input Expos will take place in March. They will include discussion tables for transportation, land use, energy, housing, and social equity. The purpose of these expos is to give communities tools and strategies to make the Grand Vision a reality.

#### III. Coastal Communities: Competitive Advantages, Opportunities, Complexities & Challenges in the Blue Economy

- A. Mark Breederland (MI Sea Grant Extension)
  - a. There are several factors that affect coastal communities and present waterfront challenges. These include not maintaining harbors, climate/weather, and management implications of lake levels. Coastal Communities and waterfronts create a sense of place; provide jobs, they’re a key to tourism, contribute to the local and regional economy and have a cultural and historic value. (See presentation on the GV website)



- B. Liz Durfee (NOAA/Sea Grant/CZMP)
  - a. A nationwide network- comprised of multiple sectors, orgs, agencies and Sea Grant programs- with a mission to increase the capacity of coastal communities and stakeholders to make informed decisions, balance diverse uses, ensure access, and plan for the future of their working waterfronts and waterways. A website will serve as a one stop shop for WWF issues + info (and will feature a case study on Fishtown in Leland, MI) National Working Waterfront Network Website will go live March 2013 at the National Working Waterfront +Waterways Symposium. (See presentation on the GV website)

#### **IV. Community Updates**

- A. City of Cadillac – The outline of the complete streets plan has been presented and approved by the planning commission
- B. Village of Ellsworth – Awarded a grant to implement a farmers market. Presently accepting bids for a LED sign. Framework is set up. The sign will be located In front of the high school on the Breezeway
- C. Village of Empire - Received a grant to write a transportation plan. They have requested RFPs and firms will make a presentation pitch to the council at the next village council meeting.
- D. City of Frankfort – Presently working on a community Wi-Fi grant and plans to issue out an RFP in Jan/Feb. Working with Elberta to provide service. 4th of July is target date for Wi-fi launch.
- E. Grand Traverse County - Will be creating an “Up north Experience” app. This will be a 1 stop access port that should be completed in May. It’s considered an “Experienced based” app.
- F. Kalkaska County – Is updating and revising their Recreation Plan. Surveys have been sent out to residences within the County.
- G. Village of Kalkaska – The village is purchasing the Erb Lumber property for the purposes of development
- H. Village of Kingsley – Is working to transform vacant lots into vibrant spaces using public art. Village will be leasing lots from owners. Most of this work will be in - house and therefore low cost.

#### **V. Public Comments/Sharing**

- Marc McKellar mentioned that the Statewide non-motorized trail proposed by Gov. Snyder will be mostly for advanced bikers, however the trail could play an important role as a regional asset.
- Bob Burgin stated that the KART does not have the administration to look after day to day operations. He is proposing that TART should adopt KART in the interest of creating a regional network.

#### **VI. Adjourn**

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*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 – Matt McCauley (231-929-5061/E-mail at [mccauley@nwm.cog.mi.us](mailto:mccauley@nwm.cog.mi.us))