



**BOARD COORDINATOR  
GENESEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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JOSHUA M. FREEMAN  
COORDINATOR

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Monday, December 4, 2017, 9:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. MINUTES** – November 13, 2017 - Attached

**IV. PUBLIC HEARING**

A. C120417IVA: Genesee County County-Wide Community Development Public Needs Hearing

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS TO COMMITTEE**

**VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. C120417VIA: I-69 Thumb Region – Regional Prosperity Initiative Update

**VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**VIII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

A. C120417VIIIA: Chairman's synopsis of November 28, 2017 EDC meeting

**IX. ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS**

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Commissioner David Martin, Chairperson  
Community and Economic Development Committee

**FROM:** Derek Bradshaw, Director-Coordinator  
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission

**DATE:** December 4, 2017

**SUBJECT:** **Genesee County Community Development Program and 2018  
Action Plan Public Needs Hearing**

A public needs hearing is being held Monday, December 4, 2017 to provide an opportunity for citizens to evaluate the effectiveness of the Genesee County Community Development Program and provide needs within Genesee County, outside of the City of Flint. Individual citizens and representatives from neighborhood associations, community groups, and nonprofit organizations are urged to discuss improvements to the community development block grant program, community development needs, and suggest future projects that will improve our neighborhoods. A list of proposed projects is attached for your review.

Comments will be received verbally during the public hearing or written comments can be provided directly to Ms. Sheila Taylor, Principal Planner, at the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission. All comments will be included in the development of the 2018 Action Plan.





GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Room 223 – 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan 48502-1470 • (810) 257-3010 • Fax (810) 257-3185 • www.gcmcp.org

DEREK BRADSHAW  
DIRECTOR-COORDINATOR

CHRISTINE A. DURGAN  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

**Genesee County  
County-Wide Community Development  
Public Needs Hearing**

Genesee County Administration Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Harris Auditorium  
Monday, December 4, 2017 at 9:30am

**2018 PROPOSED PROJECTS:**

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**

- CDBG Planning and Administration
- Home Improvement Program
- Genesee County Fair Housing Activities
- Infrastructure Improvements
- Public Facility Improvements
- Demolition of Blighted Structures
- Senior Center Improvements
- Removal of Architectural Barriers
- Special Assessment Assistance
- Senior Center Operations
- Programming for Seniors
- Public Safety Equipment
- Code Enforcement
- Youth Program Operations
- Job Training Programs
- Recreation Programs

**HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program**

- HOME Planning and Administration
- Development of Affordable Housing
- Homebuyer Down Payment Assistance
- Community Housing Development Organizations
- Single Family Housing Rehabilitation/New Construction
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) for Special Needs Populations

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program**

- ESG Planning and Administration
- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Homeless Prevention
- Rapid Rehousing
- Homeless Management Information Systems

**Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) - 1 and 3**

- NSP Planning and Administration
- Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Demolition



An Equal Opportunity Organization

Equal Housing Opportunity



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Commissioner David Martin, Chairperson  
Community and Economic Development Committee

**FROM:** Derek Bradshaw, Director-Coordinator  
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission

**DATE:** December 4, 2017

**SUBJECT: I-69 Thumb Region – Regional Prosperity Initiative Update**

During November, staff drafted the 2018 Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI) application. The application is due to the State on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Projects included in the application are funds for additional First Impressions Tourism (FIT) Program assessments, targeted outward facing marketing for resident recruitment, a regional recreation website and funds for an education related project.

The I-69 Thumb Region has also entered into an agreement for funding from the Defense Manufacturing Assistance Program (DMAP) administered out of UM Ann Arbor. DMAP supports qualifying impacted defense dependent communities by providing advisory services and/or project funding assistance of up to \$50,000 in order to adapt to diminished defense resources, advance and flourish. The proposed project will involve a housing study. More housing choice throughout the region improves the quality of life and can make the region more competitive in attracting and retaining talent and businesses.

An outline of projects the I-69 Thumb Region has completed or is working on is attached.

The December I-69 Thumb Region Steering Committee meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will be in February 2018.

The next meeting of the GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission will be held January 23, 2018.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ORGANIZATION



Since 2012 the I-69 Thumb Region has had many successes including:

#### **I-69 International Trade Corridor Marketing Campaign – 2012, 2013**

- Marketing and branding efforts included: signage/printer materials, e-communications and social media presence, local events, publications/media relations, memberships and conference/trade missions

#### **Regional Economic Development Collaboration – 2014**

- Economic dev partners provide general consultation/support to the regional initiative

#### **Accelerate: A Plan for Regional Prosperity – Economic Development Strategy and Prosperity Plan for the I-69 Thumb Region – 2014**

- Expresses a shared economic vision and creates a roadmap for unified actions in the region with the intention of bringing new jobs, international marketing opportunities and investment
- UM-Flint EDA Center in conjunction with ED partners will update the Accelerate Plan – complete Spring 2018

#### **Regional Agribusiness Strategy – 2014**

- Reported the region's ag-related strengths and weaknesses and an Action Plan

#### **Regional Freight Forecast – 2014**

- Expanded the scope of an existing freight report to include all seven counties

#### **Fiber Optics: Vision for the I-69 Thumb Region – 2015**

- Outlines broadband download speeds throughout the Region, and shows where gaps exist
- Conclusion: the Region has a broad-reaching fiber optic network in place, providing a great opportunity to make additional fiber to the premise connections in the future and market the fiber optic networks that exist to attract businesses and residents to the region

#### **Talent Tours – 2015, 2017**

- Provide grants for the cost of transportation for talent tours
- 4,070 students, 77 businesses and 29 school districts have participated

#### **Financial Assistance for the Consolidation of Workforce Development Agencies – 2015**

- Provided reimbursement for costs relating to the consolidation of Genesee Shiawassee Michigan Works! and ThumbWorks! into the newly formed Genesee Shiawassee Thumb (GST) Michigan Works!

Please contact GLS Region V for more information at: [apinter@co.genesee.mi.us](mailto:apinter@co.genesee.mi.us) or 810.257.3010

### **Regional Manufacturing Coalition – 2015**

- Engage a broad base of regional manufacturers to achieve shared goals

### **Regional Site Strategy/Square Footage Study – 2015**

- Findings: multiple opportunities exist for both speculative industrial private and public investment if steps are carried out to effectively prepare and position properties for development interest; market factors suggest advanced manufacturing and value-added agriculture will yield increased prospect activity that will lead to securing investment

### **I-69 Thumb Region Asset Mapping of Work-Based Program and Initiatives – 2015**

- Asset mapping was done to gain understanding of what education and workforce programs currently exist within the Region and then determine the effectiveness of the programs, acknowledge opportunities for replication and/or expansion, assess any obstacles and/or gaps and develop a strategy to integrate employer participation to resolve workforce issues

### **I-69 Thumb Region Local Craft Agricultural Directory – 2015**

- Highlights 150 breweries, wineries, farms, stores, farmers' markets, meat/poultry, orchards and other specialty businesses offering local agriculture products

### **Craft Agriculture Videos – 2015**

- 21 videos completed; Videos accompany selected businesses' profiles on the directory webpage

### **Catapult Your Craft Food & Beverage Business Competition – 2016, 2017**

- Targets existing or startup small businesses in order to retain and grow Michigan businesses
- Over \$60,000 in prize money, from the MEDC, was awarded

### **I-69 Thumb Region Multi-Modal Market Assessment – 2016**

- Phase I – Performed a market assessment on the development of a multimodal logistics facility(ies) in the Region
- Phase II – Created an implementation plan for two multi-modal freight transfer terminals

### **Regional Marketing/Communications 2014 – 2017**

- Generate messaging and communications to promote the region, the Accelerate Plan, and Partnership projects
- Develop content for I-69 Thumb website and update routinely, marketing brochures, social media, etc.
- Conference sponsorships for targeted trade and industry groups; outreach mission trips to Ontario, Canada for development leads

### **Regional Trainings – 2016**

- Incremental Development Alliance

- Presented an “Introduction to the Small Developer Movement” for local elected officials, staff, DDA members and others
- Implementation Clinic in Marlette provided a customized strategy of implementation steps to encourage small scale real estate development projects
- Recast City
  - Presented a workshop on how to expand job opportunities in small-scale manufacturing and integrate these businesses into downtown reinvestment
  - Community Analysis in Vassar included meeting with small-scale manufacturers and property owners to gain insights on opportunities and barriers actions

### **First Impressions - 2016**

- Assessors travel to a community that they have not visited previously, spend several hours there as a tourist/visitor engaging with business owners, restaurants, shops, etc., and provide feedback via a visitor’s manual on their experiences - completed by end of 2017

### **Tourism Project – 2016**

- Ecotourism Symposium was held in May 2017
- 10 \$500 mini grants were awarded to increase awareness and visibility of ecotourism attractors
- A directory of ecotourism attractors is being compiled, the items will be mapped and the final product is expected to be similar in function the Agri-Tourism Directory

### **I-69 Thumb Region Education Grant Program - 2016**

- \$20,000 in grants were awarded to ten educational institutions and agencies involved in workforce development
- Projects varied, but all were aimed at student career readiness

### **Business Portal – 2017**

- UM-Flint EDA Center will complete a business portal that will help entrepreneurs and business owners navigate the support services and technical assistance available in the Region

### **USDA Match Money for Loan Program – 2017**

- Provide local match dollars for a USDA Loan Program grant

### **Ontario Outreach – 2016, 2017, 2018**

- Consultant services and travel costs to support attraction efforts through mission trips to Ontario, CA

### **Regional Talent Forum – 2018**

- To bring together employers, leaders of workforce development agencies, education and local/state government to discuss strategies and challenges in talent retention and recruitment