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**3 Awards were presented for Innovative Projects at the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission's 2017 Planning Forum**

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC) hosted its 11<sup>th</sup> Planning Forum showcasing the theme "*Sustainable Communities and the Future of Infrastructure*". During the forum, three awards were given in order to recognize deserving innovative projects in Genesee County. According to Derek Bradshaw, GCMPC Director-Coordinator, "The projects recognized at this year's Planning Forum are representative of the innovative work being completed throughout Genesee County. We are eager to see what new and exciting projects these communities are planning to do next."

The 2017 Award for Innovation in Infrastructure and Technology was presented to the City of Fenton for their Downtown Streetscape Project. Accepting the award was Councilmember Scott Grossmeyer, City Treasurer Cindy Shane, DPW Director Dan Czarnecki, Assistant City Manager Michael Hart, and City Manager Lynn Markland. Mr. Markland stated "it was a great community project that's had a positive impact for all residents." Mr. Markland also wanted to thank Genesee County for the award.



The Award for Innovation in Planning and Development was presented to the City of Flushing for their crowdfunding initiative to rebuild the boardwalk along the Flushing Riverview Trail. Accepting the award was Mayor Kevin Keane and Councilperson Teresa Salem. After receiving the award Mr. Keane stated "The City of Flushing is very proud of its citizens who regularly give their time and talents for the benefit of the greater community. Teresa Salem is one of the City's leaders who exemplifies that credo."



The Award for Innovation in Community Development was presented to the City of Clio for their unique approach in developing the City's Code Enforcement Program. Mayor Bob Smith, City Commissioner Bonnie Bare, were on hand to accept the award. "The City of Clio has established a successful code enforcement program, but it is a program that continues to evolve to best meet the needs of the community," stated City Administrator Eric Wiederhold.

