WELCOME
Planning Regional Prosperity in the Eastern Upper Peninsula: Agriculture and Local Food Systems Focus Group
Michigan’s Regional Prosperity Initiative

- Voluntary, competitive grant process that was included in the governor’s FY 2014 and FY 2015 Executive Budget.
- Encourages local private, public and non-profit partners to pursue vibrant regional economies.
- State designated planning regions, metropolitan planning organizations, and regional economic development organizations are eligible applicants for funding.
- Numerous state departments and programs are, if they have not already, aligning themselves with the RPI.
- Regions are not required to participate in the RPI; moreover, grant awards vary depending the region and what round of funding is being applied for: tier-1 (collaborative) received up to $250,000, tier-2 (council) can receive up to $375,000, and tier-3 (board) can receive up to $500,000.
- At the tier-1 funding level, regions are required to engage groups and organizations within the region concerned with higher education, workforce development, natural resources and tourism, etc.
E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. BOARD

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FOCUS GROUPS
- ECONOMIC / WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
- TOURISM / RECREATION / NATURAL RESOURCES
- INFRASTRUCTURE
- EDUCATION / ADULT EDUCATION
- HEALTH CARE
- INDUSTRY

E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. STAFF
- DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
- DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
- DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
- DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES
- STATE HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
- DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

FEDERAL AND STATE RESOURCES
- MI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
- MI E.D.C. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE TEAM
- MI STATE POLICE
- U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
- U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
- OTHER GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES

BOARD TO MAKE FINAL APPROVALS

RECOMMENDS ACTION TO E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. BOARD BASED ON ADHERANCE TO CRITERIA ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND OVERALL SATISFACTION OF THE PLAN

RECOMMENDS ACTION TO E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. BOARD BASED ON ADHERANCE TO CRITERIA ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION AND OVERALL SATISFACTION OF THE PLAN

TO MEET QUARTERLY

TO MEET BI-MONTHLY
We are on our way!

- The Regional Stakeholder Committee on July 31st to “kick off” the planning process.
- The first Advisory Committee meeting was on September 16th. The Advisory Committee meets more frequently than the Stakeholder Committee. However, a joint meeting will be held on January 15th, 2015.
- A memorandum of understanding has been finalized, fully defining the role and responsibilities of the shared-director position.
- High-definition videoconferencing at selected sites projected for implementation by the Fall of 2014.
- Prosperity website with dashboard will be developed sometime during this Winter.
- Community and economic development assistance strategy will be finalized by January of 2015.
- CEDS/RPI plan will be finalized by April 30, 2015.
So why are we here today?
Well...

Agriculture and local food systems have not been given much, in any, consideration in previous plans done for the region.

The Stakeholder Committee identified agriculture and local food systems as an important area that needed attention during the development of a Regional Prosperity Plan.

Economically, agriculture and local food systems play a substantial role in the Easter Upper Peninsula.

We need discuss the ways in which we can embrace the principles of the Michigan Good Food Charter of 2010.

Food fairness, quality, availability and affordability are ever-present concerns worldwide. Are there strategies and methods that we can employ in the Eastern U.P. to mitigate those concerns for those living here?
Proposed meeting schedule:

Next Focus Group meeting:
*Infrastructure; Private Industry*—January 9\(^{\text{th}}\), 2015

Next Stakeholder & Advisory Committee meeting:
*January 15\(^{\text{th}}\), 2015*
Contact us:

Eric Wedesky, Economic Development Specialist
ewedesky@eup-planning.org

Jeff Hagan, Executive Director
jshagan@eup-planning.org

Phone: 906.635.1581
A PLAN FOR REGIONAL PROSPERITY IN THE EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA