WELCOME STAKEHOLDERS

TO THE FIRST OF FOUR QUARTERLY MEETINGS PURPOSED TO ENGAGE AND UTILIZE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA REGION
MICHIGAN REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE

• Voluntary, competitive grant process that was included in the Governors’ FY 2014 and FY 2015 Executive Budget

• Encourages local, private, public and non-profit partners to create vibrant regional economies

• State designated planning regions, MPO’s, and regional economic development organizations are eligible applicants for funding.

• RPI is being integrated into numerous state departments and programs

• Not a “one size fits all” approach, regional participation is optional, currently there are three tiers of funding: TIER I - $250,000 (Regional Prosperity Collaborative), TIER II - $375,000 (Regional Prosperity Council), TIER III - $500,000 (Regional Prosperity Board)

• Required partners at the Tier One level include: Adult Education, Workforce Development, Transportation and Higher Education organizations.
REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL

- $155,330 REVISED TIER I GRANT AWARDED IN MID-MARCH, 2014
- DEVELOPMENT OF A 5-YEAR REGIONAL PROSPERITY PLAN FOR THE E.U.P. REGION (CHIPPEWA, LUCE, MACKINAC COUNTIES)
- HIGH DEFINITION VIDEOCONFERENCING AT TWO (2) SITES IN THE REGION (WWW.LINKUPMICHIGAN.COM)
- DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER LEVEL COLLABORATION WITH MICHIGAN WORKS! (SHARED OFFICES, SHARED DIRECTOR-LEVEL STAFF, OVERHEAD, SOME ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, OTHER COSTS), MOU etc.
- DEVELOP A COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE STRATEGY TO WORK ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION
NEXT STEPS . . .

- E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. MEETING WITH THE REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP ON JULY 31ST TO KICK OFF THE PLANNING PROCESS

- MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (M.O.U.) WILL BE FINALIZED IN LATE AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER DEFINING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SHARED DIRECTOR POSITION

- HIGH DEFINITION VIDEO CONFERENCING AT SELECTED SITES PROJECTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY FALL, 2014

- PROSPERITY WEBSITE WITH DASHBOARD WILL BE DEVELOPED AND LIVE BY LATE FALL 2014

- CEDS/PROSPERITY PLAN WILL BE FINALIZED BY APRIL 30, 2015

- COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE STRATEGY WILL BE FINALIZED BY JANUARY OF 2015
E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. BOARD

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOURCE GROUPS
- Workforce Development
- Economic Development
- Agriculture and Food Systems
- Natural Resources
- Young Professionals
- Tourism / Recreation

E.U.P.R.P.&D.C. STAFF
- Dept. of Transportation
- Dept. of Natural Resources
- Dept. of Environmental Quality
- Dept. of Human Services
- Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development
- State Housing and Development Authority

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
BEFORE WE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE, LET US TAKE A LOOK BACK ON WHAT WE HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT OUR REGION IN THE PAST.
WHAT HAVE WE IDENTIFIED AS OUR ASSETS IN THE PAST?

THE NATURAL:

• Forest: 80% of the E.U.P.'s land surface is forested;
• Water: Three Great Lakes and numerous inland lakes;
• Space: Less than 1% of the E.U.P. is urbanized;
• Scenic Beauty: From Tahquamenon Falls to Mission Point Overlook;
• Wildlife and Fisheries;
• Nearly No Natural Disasters;
• 47% of the land in the E.U.P. is publicly owned;
• Four Distinct Seasons.
WHAT HAVE WE IDENTIFIED AS OUR ASSETS IN THE PAST?

THE INFRASTRUCTURAL:

- Rail connection to Wisconsin and Canada;
- Excellent, well maintained highways;
- Regional airport with service to Detroit, plus municipal airports;
- Industrial parks located in each county;
- Deepwater ports that accommodate both shipping vessels and passenger ships;
- Cities with sewer and water services;
- Lake Superior State University, Bay Mills Community College;
- Comprehensive healthcare facilities, including three full-scale hospitals numerous assisted living / nursing care facilities, private practice physicians, and specialty services.
WHAT HAVE WE IDENTIFIED AS OUR ASSETS IN THE PAST?

THE TANGIBLE & INTANGIBLE:

• PROXIMITY TO CANADA AND WISCONSIN;
• UNIQUE SENSE OF PLACE IN SAULT STE. MARIE, ST. IGNACE, NEWBERRY AND ON MACKINAC ISLAND;
• SEVERAL OF THE STATE’S TOP TOURIST DESTINATIONS: THE SOO LOCKS, MACKINAC ISLAND AND THE TAHQUAMENON FALLS;
• NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES AND RESERVATIONS ADD UNIQUE CULTURE, CASINOS ADD ENTERTAINMENT;
• THE PEOPLE.
As we move forward, do the assets that we have identified in the past remain as integral and relevant as they were once deemed? Have new assets emerged?
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

DEVELOP ECONOMIC GARDENING AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

FOSTER REGIONAL COLLABORATION AMONG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

- Work together to gather and share data across the region;
- Engage in regional capacity building activities to improve leadership;
- Annually update regional strategic growth plan;
- In one word: Collaborate.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC TIES THROUGHOUT THE MIDWEST AND NORTHERN ONTARIO.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

FURTHER DEVELOP THE RECREATION / TOURISM CLUSTER THAT IS ALREADY ESTABLISHED.

PAST STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCEMENT INCLUDED:

• CONVENE A TOURISM SUMMIT;
• PUSUE REGION-WIDE MARKET RESEARCH;
• BUILD AND PROMOTE DAYTRIPS THROUGHOUT THE REGION;
• CONNECT VISITORS AND LOCALS TO WHAT THE REGION HAS TO OFFER;
• PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE SHIP TRAFFIC AT U.P. PORTS;
• IMPROVE COMMUNITY ENTRY-POINT AESTHETICS AND WAY-FINDING TOOLS;
• IDENTIFY THOSE PARTS OF THE REGION THAT MAY NEED IMPROVEMENT AND WORK TOWARDS SOLUTIONS.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

DEFINE A POSITIVE IDENTITY FOR THE REGION AND MARKET THAT IDENTITY.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

INVEST IN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ST. MARYS RIVER AREA WITH A FOCUS ON ENHANCING SENSE OF PLACE FOR PEOPLE WITH AN INTEREST IN NATURE, CULTURE AND HISTORY.

THIS INCLUDES:

• MAINTAINING ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES IN OUR MORE POPULATED COMMUNITIES;
• ENCOURAGING MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT TO CREATE VIBRANT DISTRICTS;
• TARGETING CATALYTIC INVESTMENTS IN KEY URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL PLACES;
• DEVELOPING DESIGN GUIDELINES THAT SERVE TO LINK URBAN AND RURAL AREAS VISUALLY, CULTURALLY, AND FUNCTIONALLY.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

DEVELOP A 21st CENTURY VISION FOR AREA INFRASTRUCTURE.

THIS INCLUDES:

- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING:
  - BROADBAND AND INTERNET ACCESS;
- CELLULAR SERVICE QUALITY AND REACH;
- REGIONAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN;
- MAINTAINING LIMITED PUBLIC TRANSIT;
- REHABILITATION OF DEEPWATER PORT;
- LONG-TERM AIR SERVICE STRATEGY;
- EXPANDING EAST-WEST HIGHWAYS.
WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE WE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST TO GROW THE REGION?

ADVANCE THE HIGHER EDUCATION CLUSTER IN WAYS THAT BENEFIT ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY AND RAISE THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE WORKFORCE.
These strategies have been identified as guidelines for the development of the E.U.P. However, as we come together to create a new regional prosperity plan we must ask ourselves, are the aforementioned strategies still viable, attainable and necessary? What new goals and strategies should we strive for? How can we collaborate to see them come to fruition?
MEETING SCHEDULE (PROPOSED)

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE WILL MEET QUARTERLY
JULY, OCTOBER, JANUARY, APRIL

ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROPOSED TO MEET MONTHLY
SEPTEMBER THROUGH APRIL/MAY AND BEYOND (ROUND 2 OF
RPI FUNDING TBD)
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