

RPI REGION 8 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

February 9, 2017

10:30 A.M.

W.E. Upjohn Institute
300 South Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

AGENDA

1. Meeting Purpose
2. Review RPI Strategic Planning/Action Item
 - a. Review the prioritized and updated objective and strategies
3. Discuss and Refine the “Big Idea”

The big idea? – Generally: pursue goal #1 but more from the standpoint of improving economic and human resource opportunity.

The big idea? – Specifically: Discuss proposed objective and strategies presented at meeting.
4. Existing or Potential Regional Synergies
 - a. What work is being done currently on the Big Idea?
 - b. What organizations are engaged in the work?
 - c. Are there opportunities to align the existing efforts?
5. Summary

Community Development Goal and Objectives

Goal: Improve the livability of our region's communities to attract and retain talented workers

Prioritized objective: *Create a more diversified transportation system*

Updated objective: *Create a diverse transportation system that meets the needs of residents, employers, and institutions*

New strategies:

- Encourage transit access to those who currently, and in the future may, lack it
 - Determine the areas of highest need and ensure that transit access is available
 - Improve pedestrian facilities between activity nodes
 - Alleviate physical barriers to mobility
 - Use transportation to develop and/or preserve non-urban communities
- Leverage the resources and demands of employers to develop new modes of transportation for their current and potential employees
 - Develop a shuttles system between high-density nodes of employers and residents
 - Downtown Kalamazoo-Fort Custer Industrial Park-Downtown Battle Creek (M-96)
 - Downtown Kalamazoo-Three Rivers-Sturgis (US-131 and US-12)
 - Downtown Kalamazoo-Benton Harbor-St. Joe Industrial Park (I-94)
 - Downtown Battle Creek-Marshall-Coldwater (I-94/I-69)
 - Encourage and incentivize carpooling/vanpooling
 - Encourage development along transit corridors
 - Ensure that childcare options are available near transit nodes
- Develop a transportation system that connects people to employment centers, education and social institutions, and healthcare throughout the region
 - Focus resources on high-impact routes
 - Leverage existing infrastructure to plan for and create multi-model access nodes (bus facilities, train stations, bike routes, carpool facilities) to allow for greater connectivity
- Encourage development that allows for better access to a broader range of transportation options
 - Encourage commercial and residential development around multi-model access nodes
 - Encourage density around existing transportation systems