

Press Release for Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in Region 3

For Release On: **October 20, 2020**

Contact: Lee Adams, Director, SMPC
Phone: 269-385-0409
Email: adams@upjohn.org

Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Invites Community Members to Give Input on Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Kalamazoo, MI – The Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC) invites community members to join a digital public meeting on Wednesday, October 28th about the ongoing regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) planning process. The CEDS plan will create a blueprint for economic prosperity, encourage collaboration, and leverage relationships for additional federal resources in Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph counties over the next five years and beyond. The aim of this meeting is to invite community members and potential partners to learn about the CEDS and to provide input into the plan. SMPC will use Zoom for this meeting so that community members can participate safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting will include a presentation on goals, strategies, and economic conditions in the 4-county region, as well as information on opportunities to partner and provide feedback on the CEDS plan. SMPC will use input from this meeting to finalize the goals and strategies of the CEDS, so public officials, development professionals, and community members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Individuals who wish to join the meeting are asked to register in advance. Registration and the meeting information can be found online at the SMPC website, www.smpcregion3.org/ceds. Anyone who is unable to attend this meeting is invited to share their feedback via a short survey available via https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020_CEDS any time before November 13th.

For more information, contact Lee Adams at either 269-385-0409 or via email at adams@upjohn.org.

.....

The Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC) is a regional planning organization that aims to improve the economic, environmental, and fiscal health of member organizations through transportation, land use and environmental planning, economic development, and efficient local staffing. SMPC serves State Planning and Development Region 3 which is comprised of Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and St Joseph Counties.