



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Agenda

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 6, 2021
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Virtual Meeting
<https://www.gotomeet.me/Upjohn> (Audio and Video)
1-877-309-2073 (Toll Free)
1-669-224-3217
Access Code: 422-647-013

1. Call to Order
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Board openings for Branch, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph Counties
3. Approval of the Agenda **[Action]**
4. Approval of the Minutes **[Action]**
5. Public Comment
6. Acceptance of the Financial Report
 - a. Presented by staff
7. Transportation
 - a. KATS report
8. Capacity Building Grant / EDA
 - a. Update on the capacity building grant application
 - b. Discuss work plan for Capacity Building Grant
 - i. Broadband
 - 1) Work already started and will be our primary focus for some time
 - ii. Recovery and Resiliency Planning
 - 1) Some preliminary work started, we will not focus on this work for a few months
 - iii. Supply Chain Analysis
 - 1) Work will not start until next year
 - iv. Technical Assistance
 - 1) Some work now and will continue through the entire grant period
9. Local Government Assistance and Planning Activities
 - a. Update on regional Housing Toolkit and housing work
 - i. plan4housing.org
 - ii. St. Joseph County
 - iii. Kalamazoo County
 - b. Updates on various other projects
10. Staff Report/Other:
 - a. Monthly Correspondence
11. Representative Comments
12. Adjournment **[Action]**

Next Meeting: May 4, 2021



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 12, 2021
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Virtual Meeting
<https://www.gotomeet.me/Upjohn> (Audio and Video)
1-877-309-2073 (Toll Free)
1-669-224-3217
Access Code: 422-647-013

1. Call to Order
 - a. The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:36am.
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Representatives Present: Bomba (Battle Creek, MI), Drost (Kalamazoo, MI), Hazelbaker (Coldwater, MI), Carahaly (Richland, MI), Grieve (Schoolcraft Twp., MI). Staff: Nagler (KATS), Adams, Trueblood. Public: Joanna Johnson, Kelli Scott.
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Drost moved to approve the agenda. By unanimous consent, **the agenda was approved at 11:38am.**
4. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Drost moved to approve the minutes from December 1, 2020. By unanimous consent, **the meeting minutes were approved at 11:39am.**
5. Public Comments
 - a. None were offered.
6. Acceptance of the Financial Report
 - a. Adams said that the first quarter financial reports are being prepared by staff and will be presented at the February SMPC board meeting.
7. Transportation
 - a. Nagler gave the KATS report. He said that December was dedicated to county-level and full regional level task force meetings for 2021. The KATS Budget for 2021 was identical to the 2020 budget, although it was previously assumed there would be an increase, so some projects needed slight adjustments. He indicated that the remainder of KATS' time was spent updating projects in JobNet, getting minutes posted and distributed. In the next 2-3 months, KATS still needs some agency information to finish up JobNet postings, then KATS will try to schedule PASER ratings. KATS has until June 30 to spend the 2020 carry-over funding for ratings, and they will be doing the entire federal aid system this year. Nagler indicated he would send Trueblood shapefiles for the 2021 CEDS report.
 - b. Representatives reviewed the KATS Invoices in the packet. Adams requested that representatives email him any questions or comments about the invoices, and he reviewed the internal process for paying KATS invoices.
8. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy / EDA
 - a. Staff led discussion on the CEDS Plan Draft. Adams explained the committee-led process that staff have been working on over the past few months to develop the elements of the CEDS, and reviewed the draft plan with the representatives. Adams said that SMPC has sent the draft to the EDA for review, and has received positive feedback. He reviewed the format and contents of the CEDS plan, demonstrating how each page of information and data can be used by regional stakeholders. SMPC staff are incorporating committee feedback and anticipate only minor edits from this point forward. Grieve asked who the

audience was for the CEDS; Adams explained that federal (EDA and USDA) and local (EDOs, local government, nonprofit) audiences will use the CEDS. Grieve requested a Word document to provide his edits, and Trueblood said she would provide the draft by email. Grieve also requested that the CEDS data be made more accessible to the public, and Adams said that their plan is to make the data available on the SMPC website.

- b. The Chair asked for staff's action request on the CEDS. Adams requested contingent approval of the draft CEDS, pending incorporation of Grieve's and the committee's edits into the document. Drost moved to approve the draft CEDS document, with submission pending review by the SMPC board and CEDS committee; Grieve seconded the motion. The Chair and other representatives thanked staff and the institute for their work on the creation of the CEDS document.
- c. **By unanimous consent, the representatives approved the 2021 CEDS draft, pending edits.**
- d. Adams provided an update on the EDA capacity building grant application. He said that the project officer in Chicago recently explained at a meeting that CARES Act funding requests have only been received, but not processed by the EDA. The project officer anticipates that processing will begin shortly. The Chair reviewed the activities of the capacity building grant and the in-kind contributions of the Upjohn Institute. Adams reviewed the finances of the grant, those being \$280,000 in grant funds plus a \$70,000 match. Adams described the grant activities: broadband planning; recovery and resiliency planning; potentially a supply chain analysis; and providing technical assistance to local units of government and nonprofits for economic and workforce development initiatives related to COVID-19 recovery.

9. 2021 Work Plan

- a. The Chair led the review and representatives' comment period on the 2021 SMPC Work Plan. Adams reviewed the items in the work plan: management of SMPC; continue developing housing expertise, including housing asset management; EDA capacity building grant activities; CEDS coordination and EDD management; planning work; and ongoing collaboration and coordination with Upjohn Institute staff. He requested representative feedback on the Work Plan activities, and the Chair asked how many activities might extend into 2022. Adams said that some of the CEDS and housing activities could run over into 2022. The Chair asked that staff use this work plan to measure progress and evaluate work for the next calendar year annual report.

10. Local Government Assistance and Planning Activities

- a. Adams said that SMPC has been helping Calhoun County with their county broadband plan. The group has recently hired Merit Network to create their county plan, and Adams will encourage other counties to work with Merit as well. Once the county plans are completed, however, SMPC will likely contract with Connect Michigan to create a regional plan.
- b. Adams provided an update on the regional Housing Toolkit, which staff assembled on a website, plan4housing.org. Adams reviewed the elements of the website, including planning steps, best practices, feasibility map, and resources. He said that additional resources can be added to the website, and that staff are working with Upjohn communications to generate a promotion plan for the website. Carahaly asked to enlist help from partner organizations for promotion, and Grieve asked to share the feasibility map with MAR. Adams explained that while the website is aimed to be useful for communities beyond west Michigan, the feasibility map was purchased specifically for the 20 counties of west Michigan.
- c. No other updates on St. Joseph County Housing Plan or on various other projects were provided.

11. Staff Report/Other:

- a. Monthly Correspondence: SMPC received correspondence from MDOT about a Transit stakeholder survey they asked to be distributed, as well as two proposed amendments to the Kalamazoo County Solid Waste Plan.
- b. Review Kalamazoo County Solid Waste Plan and provide comment (if necessary): Adams reviewed the two proposed amendments, the first being to create a new waste transfer station and recycling center, Waste Not C&D Recycling at Ravine and Nichols in Kalamazoo Township, which could recycle heavy construction waste. The second amendment is related to an expansion of the Bestway transfer station on Miller Road, so that it can accept recycling. Since Adams sees no issue with the amendments, and both Adams and Carahaly are on boards that can comment, so Adams did not see a need to comment. Drost, who stated that she lives near the station, said that canvassers in her neighborhood have been trying to

oppose the expansion. Carahaly said that other commissions have given feedback already on these amendments. Johnson commented that the Kalamazoo County Road Commission engineering team is giving guidelines to address the expansion's potential impact. Since there were no representative comments, Adams said he will acknowledge receipts of the correspondence and plan.

- c. Trueblood asked if representatives could review the board openings, a previous agenda item called 'Discussion on board openings for Branch, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph Counties.' Adams said that Kalamazoo County has posted their vacancy and he has spoken with a potential applicant. In St. Joseph County, Adams will speak with Kulikowski about filling the vacancy from Woodin's resignation. Carahaly and Adams asked Hazelbaker to help make recommendations for a public official or citizen at large for the Branch County vacancy.

12. Representative Comments

- a. Hazelbaker said the jail construction is on schedule and on budget, with an anticipated opening in September 2021.
- b. Bomba asked about the roll out of the CEDS to each county, whether staff or committee members will share information. She said this may help also recruit committee members and explain why membership is important. Adams said staff will anticipate presenting the CEDS at county level. Adams asked Bomba and Hazelbaker to help get an SMPC presentation on the agenda, and Bomba asked for Adams to send potential dates that staff could give presentations.
- c. Drost explained that Southwest Michigan First is hiring a new executive director and is searching nationally for candidates. She said a new organizational focus will be increased partnerships with nonprofits, municipalities, and organizations across the region. In economic development, SMF is working 2-3 attraction leads for Kalamazoo County; the significant challenge is that no land or buildings are available for development, and sewer extensions are needed. 10-15 businesses are looking to expand as well, but projects are proceeding 'with cautious optimism.' SMF is putting together a public policy boot camp to share resources for economic development, Drost said she will check with the team to see if this is a good platform to share the CEDS. Adams suggested to Drost that the EDA has some funding available to create industrial parks.
- d. Grieve congratulated the team on the CEDS.
- e. Carahaly thanked the representatives for attending, staff and the Upjohn Institute for contributions, and acknowledged Johnson's attendance and participation.
- f. Johnson stated her gratitude for incorporating regional prosperity work into SMPC activities, and she requested that partners engage the road commission early for future project support and guidance. She then asked if SMPC can send out an email with links to apply for vacant SMPC representative positions.

13. Action: Adjournment

- a. Drost moved to adjourn; by unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.

Next Meeting: February 2, 2021

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Projects 34050, 34052, 34053, 34054
 Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
 FY21 10/1/20-9/30/21
 Director: Lee Adams

FY21 (10/1/20 - 9/30/21)

February 2021

	34050/ 33050 FY21	34050 <i>SMPC General Budget</i>	34052/ 33052 FY21	34052 <i>SMPC Plan Budget</i>	34053/ 33053 FY21	34053 <i>SMPC Transp Budget</i>	34054/ 33054 FY21	34054 <i>SMPC Kzoo Budget</i>	Total FY21 To Date	Total <i>SMPC Budget</i>
W.E. Upjohn Institute										
- Wages	5,413.95		9,467.82		882.00		11,862.50		27,626.27	
- Fringe	2,375.24		5,131.73		439.18		-		7,946.15	
	-		-		-		-		-	
Total Staff:	7,789.19	12,500.00	14,599.55	47,500.00	1,321.18	12,740.00	11,862.50	33,250.00	35,572.42	105,990.00
Subcontracts:										
- KATS/Other	-		-		9,588.04	87,260.00	-		9,588.04	87,260.00
- Clark Hill, Legal	-		-		-	-	-		-	-
Other:										
- Training	-	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	650.00	-	2,650.00
- MI Assoc of Region Dues	960.00	960.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	960.00	960.00
- Liability Insurance	2,105.00	2,100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,105.00	2,100.00
- Copies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Postage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Supplies	10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.00	-
- Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Software License	-	30.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.00
- Web Site Hosting	420.00	420.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	420.00	420.00
- Transfer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel:										
- Travel	-	1,000.00	-	1,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,500.00
- Travel Reimbursement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Subs/Other/Travel:	3,495.00	5,510.00	-	2,500.00	9,588.04	87,260.00	-	650.00	13,083.04	95,920.00
Total Project Expense:	11,284.19	18,010.00	14,599.55	50,000.00	10,909.22	100,000.00	11,862.50	33,900.00	48,655.46	201,910.00
Invoices										
34050, 34054	16,500.00	16,500.00					10,337.50	33,750.00	26,837.50	
St Joe 24022 34052	-								-	
Flowerfield	-		2,500.00						2,500.00	
Mendon										
Branch County										
Sherman 24030	-								-	
MDOT 24023	-				4,213.96	26,000.00			4,213.96	
MDOT 24024	-				1,505.82	19,000.00			1,505.82	
MDOT 24025	-				4,543.71	55,000.00			4,543.71	
Total Invoices:	16,500.00	16,500.00	2,500.00	50,000.00	10,263.49	100,000.00	10,337.50	33,750.00	39,600.99	200,250.00
Expense	11,284.19	18,010.00	14,599.55	50,000.00	10,909.22	100,000.00	11,862.50	33,900.00	48,655.46	201,910.00
Net Income(Expense):	5,215.81	(1,510.00)	(12,099.55)	-	(645.73)	-	(1,525.00)	(150.00)	(9,054.47)	(1,660.00)
Invoices	16,500.00	16,500.00	2,500.00	50,000.00	10,263.49	100,000.00	10,337.50	33,750.00	39,600.99	200,250.00
Receipts	12,000.00	16,500.00		50,000.00		100,000.00	7,525.00	33,750.00	19,525.00	200,250.00
Acct.Rec.Balance:	4,500.00	-	2,500.00	-	10,263.49	-	2,812.50	-	20,075.99	-

SMPC Fund Balance: \$149,312.59. Maintained and audited by W.E. Upjohn Institute.

This document is an unaudited estimate of project activities.



The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Kalamazoo Area

5220 Lovers Lane, Suite 110

Portage, MI 49002

269-343-0766

info@KATSmpo.org

TO: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Board
FROM: Steven Stepek, KATS Executive Director
DATE: March 29, 2021
SUBJECT: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Report

During the month of March 2021, KATS staff worked on the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Planning Activities for the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC). Work was concentrated in the following activities:

- Participated in the March Rural Task Force monthly meeting with MDOT Planning
- Attended online training for Inventory Based Rating of unpaved roads
- Assisted the City of Sturgis with questions regarding changing from odd to even year cycles in the Small Urban federal aid program
- Produced and posted materials for the March 5 Rural Task Force #3 meeting
- Hosted and facilitated the March 5 Rural Task Force #3 meeting, produced, distributed and posted meeting minutes
- Updated the Rural Task Force #3 tracking spreadsheet to reflect changes approved at the March 5 meeting
- Worked on polling member agencies and scheduling of Rural Task Force and Small Urban Task Force meetings to discuss and possibly approve projects and/or changes in response to the recently released Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP)/COVID funding
- Generated and posted notices for Rural Task Force and Small Urban Task Force meetings. Dates and times are posted on the SMPC website's Transportation page
- Began work on scheduling of federal aid PASER ratings. In 2021 the entire federal aid system will be rated. To start, work will be concentrated on segments originally slated for rating in 2020, utilizing carry-forward funding that expires after June 31
- Worked on generating materials for the April 7, 2021 Rural Task Force #3 meeting

Anticipated future activities include:

- Updating project data in JobNet for the 2021 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Program as project data sheets are submitted or as otherwise needed
- Facilitating meetings of other Rural or Small Urban Task Forces as needed
- Work on scheduling and performing PASER rating of all federal aid roads in the five counties in Region 3. The Transportation Asset Management Council has issued revised requirements for the makeup of rating teams that gives more flexibility in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- Work with Region 3 agencies on approving and programming of projects and activities using recently authorized federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and HIP COVID Relief funding

2020 EDA Capacity Building Grant Application – Scope of Work

If funded, the W.E. Upjohn Institute (Upjohn Team) Capacity Building Grant would fund the expansion of economic development activities in Southcentral Michigan. The Upjohn Team intends to use the funding for additional staffing, to implement recovery and resiliency strategies, implement the action steps outlined in the CEDS, to create a broadband plan for the region, and to fund related expenses. These funds are vital to further economic development, to encourage recovery from the effects of COVID-19, to introduce more resiliency into the regional economy to better weather economic shocks, and to expand the services offered to the region by the Upjohn Team.

Develop an Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan for SMPC Region 3

The Upjohn Team will use EDA grant funds and local match to develop a recovery and resiliency plan for the region. Recovery planning is important work because Michigan and the region were hit hard by the COVID-19 virus. In fact, MI-Region 3 had not fully recovered from the economic impacts of the Great Recession when the pandemic hit. The state as a whole is now facing a projected 2-to-ten-year recovery period needed to address the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Local units of government and businesses are both anticipating drastic cuts to revenues that will impact their ability to provide goods and services, pay employees, and remain a ‘going concern.’

Governor Whitmer declared a statewide emergency on March 10th, and public universities announced they were moving to online classes the following day. A national emergency was declared on March 13th, and all Michigan K-12 schools were closed starting March 16th. Michigan’s stay-at-home order was put into effect on March 23rd and remained in place through part of June. Although MI-Region 3 has a strong healthcare sector, all the other major industries that support regional employment – manufacturing, retail, arts, entertainment, and food services – have suffered during the stay-at-home order. Michigan’s business activity in the arts, entertainment and food services is estimated to have decreased at least 70% since the shutdown (Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics 2020). With state revenues (and revenue sharing) down by at least 12% in FY2020, and more than 1.4 million jobs lost statewide (LAUS, April 2020), regional leaders need to prepare to respond to unprecedented economic challenges with fewer resources in the coming years. These conditions demonstrate the need for increased coordination, innovative strategies, and effective interventions that will assist the region’s recovery and adjustment to a post-COVID economy, which are the goals of this grant project. The resources and relationships that are built through this grant project are in alignment with the goals of SMPC’s 2020 Regional Economic Development Plan, and will aid in increasing the region’s resilience to future economic shocks by creating opportunities for investment in infrastructure, job training, education, and the strength of local economic linkages.

Because of both current and persistent conditions, three of the four counties in MI-Region 3 are considered distressed by the EDA benchmarks. Kalamazoo County, which has the largest population and greatest amount of economic activity, is relatively prosperous while Branch, Calhoun, and St. Joseph counties are in distress. Calhoun and St. Joseph counties are considered distressed under both EDA measures (unemployment and per capita personal income). Branch, Calhoun, and St. Joseph Counties are all considered distressed due to their per capita personal income (PCPI): Branch County’s PCPI is \$37,622 which is only 69.1% of the national average; Calhoun County’s PCPI is \$40,276 which is 74.0% of the national average; and St. Joseph County’s PCPI is \$38,866, which is 71.4% of the national average (BEA). Currently, Calhoun County has a 24-month average unemployment rate of 4.83%, and St. Joseph County has a 24-month average unemployment rate of 5.15 %, which both exceed the threshold of 1% higher than the 24-month national average of 3.66% (BLS). Branch County is nearly considered distress due to its unemployment rate of 4.52% (BLS) which is 0.86% higher than the national average.

Employment has declined drastically in the region since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. 2018 ACS 5-Year county-level estimates indicated that unemployment rates in Branch and St. Joseph Counties (4.5% and 5.2%, respectively) were below the state and national annual rates (6.5% and 5.9%, respectively). Unemployment rates in Kalamazoo County (6%) were slightly above the national average, and unemployment rates in Calhoun County (7%) were above both state and national rates. 2018 ACS data does not account for the recent impacts of COVID-19, but BLS data from April 2020 show that regional unemployment rates are now much higher. While the statewide, non-adjusted unemployment rate is reported 23.8%, all of the distressed counties have similar or higher unemployment

rates: the rate for Branch County is reported at 23%; the rate for Calhoun County is reported at 24.6%; Kalamazoo County is reported at 17.2%; and St. Joseph County reports the highest level of unemployment at 30.3% (BLS, LAUS).

To address the aforementioned concerns and to plan for future prosperity, the Upjohn Team will develop a plan with the following framework:

- Understand prevailing trends and plan for changes to the local economy due to COVID-19
 - Use modeling software, such as REMI, to test possible economic and fiscal scenarios, in order to anticipate and plan for the most appropriate responses to various challenges
- Work to understand the supply chain connections (existing and potential) in the region to ensure that local businesses have the supplies they need, to connect local companies in the same supply chain, and to ensure that workforce development strategies align to these business needs.
- Understand the fiscal implications of COVID-19 on local governments and work to mitigate shocks
- Examine best practices for recovery and resiliency from around the country
- Identify and implement economic recovery strategies
- Identify and implement economic resiliency strategies
- Provide funding, guidance, and local leadership on the plan implementation

Provide Technical Assistance to Organizations in the Region

To aid in the economic recovery process and to help enhance resiliency in the region, the Upjohn Team will provide Technical Assistance to Local Governments, Businesses, and Other Stakeholder Organizations. The technical assistance activities anticipated are as follows:

- Educate local groups on EDA programs and the region's CEDS
 - Provide regional assistance navigating EDA and other economic development grants offered by federal, state, and regional sources
- Provide economic data related to economic development and prosperity
- Provide economic impact forecasting for potential projects or policies (utilizing REMI software)
- Assist communities and economic development organizations with planning, implementation, and project analyses

Create a Plan for Expanding Broadband Internet Access Throughout the Region

It was clear before the COVID-19 pandemic hit that broadband internet access was important to the success of the region; now we understand that broadband internet access is essential for commerce, education, health, and social interaction. Businesses, local government, school districts, and nonprofits in the region have consistently stated that the lack of broadband access, affordability, and adoption are limiting the success of local businesses, for individuals working from home, and for students accessing educational resources during the coronavirus crisis. Broadband internet access requires urgent action to prevent long-term, detrimental, and damaging effects on the regional economy and workforce. EDA funds associated with this grant application will allow for the creation of a regional plan that provides accurate internet coverage data, identifies barriers to broadband access, and recommends effective interventions to increase broadband coverage, access, and utilization in MI-Region 3. The Upjohn Team will contract with a qualified firm to provide expertise in broadband issues and to assist with the planning process. It is anticipated that this activity would begin in the fall of 2020 and be completed in 9-12 months.

Implementation of 2020 CEDS for Region 3

To ensure that the CEDS has an impact on the community and maintains relevance throughout its lifespan, funding is needed to implement its action steps. The SMPC Team at the Upjohn Institute will conduct work and find partner agencies to conduct work that will accomplish some of the action steps listed in the CEDS. The CEDS Committee will help guide the use of funds and the strategies we look to implement.

- Increased staff time and monetary resources will be dedicated to implementing the strategies identified in the 2020 CEDS

Expansion of SMPC organizational staffing capacity

- Economic Recovery and Resiliency Coordinator
 - Coordinator Activities:
 - 50% of time committed to economic recovery and resiliency planning activities
 - 25% of time committed to CEDS implementation activities
 - 25% of time committed to technical assistance to local governments, businesses, and other stakeholder organizations
- Utilization of existing Upjohn staff for various roles :
 - SMPC Director
 - Mapping and Data Visualization Specialist
 - Senior Regional Analyst
 - Economist
 - Research Assistant

<i>Category</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>EDA Share</i>	<i>Match</i>
Staff	\$ 171,500	\$ 101,500	\$ 70,000
Broadband Plan	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	
R&R Plan Implementation	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
CEDS Implementation	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	
Travel	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
Supplies and Software	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	
Total	\$ 350,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 70,000



March 16, 2021

Southcentral Michigan Planning Commission
300 South Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Subject: City of Three Rivers
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan
487-7860.001

Via: Email

Dear Administrator:

We wish to inform you that the City of Three Rivers (City) is in the planning stage of projects throughout their wastewater collection system and wastewater treatment plant. Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd. has been retained by the City to prepare a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Plan. The plan must be submitted to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (EGLE) by June 1, 2021 as a requirement for a low-interest CWSRF loan.

The project includes rehabilitation of nine (9) pump stations throughout the City. This includes replacement of equipment, piping, valves, electrical systems, and controls in existing structures. The project also includes the replacement of two (2) existing pump stations with three (3) new pump stations. These new pump stations will be located on City of Three Rivers property. Please see the attached maps in Appendix A for site locations of the pump stations. Lastly, the project may include rehabilitation/replacement of a treatment building at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treatment addition will be located at the existing site.

The purpose of this notice is to give you an opportunity to have your interests and concerns considered. Should you have any comments on potential impacts in the area of proposed project, please provide them to us within 30 days of this notice. Please feel free to return your response in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Thank you for your interest in this manner.

Sincerely,

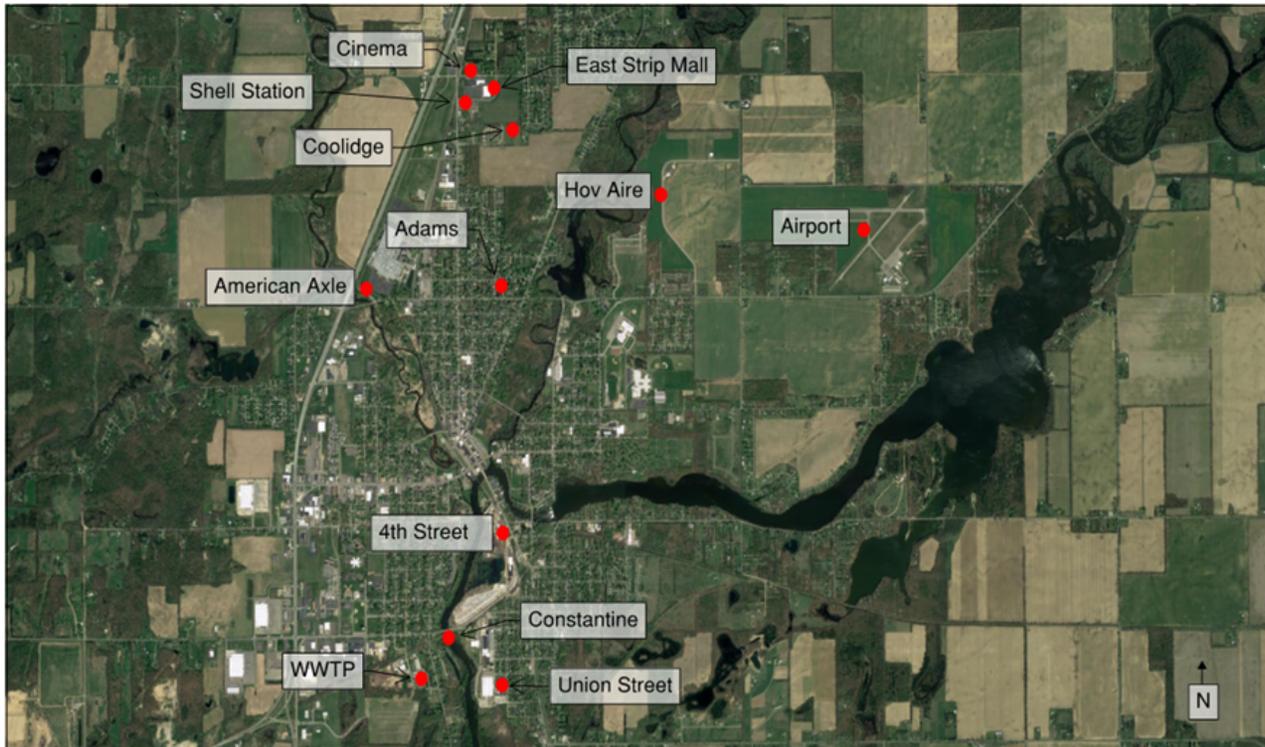
JONES & HENRY ENGINEERS, LTD.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'AJD', is written over the typed name.

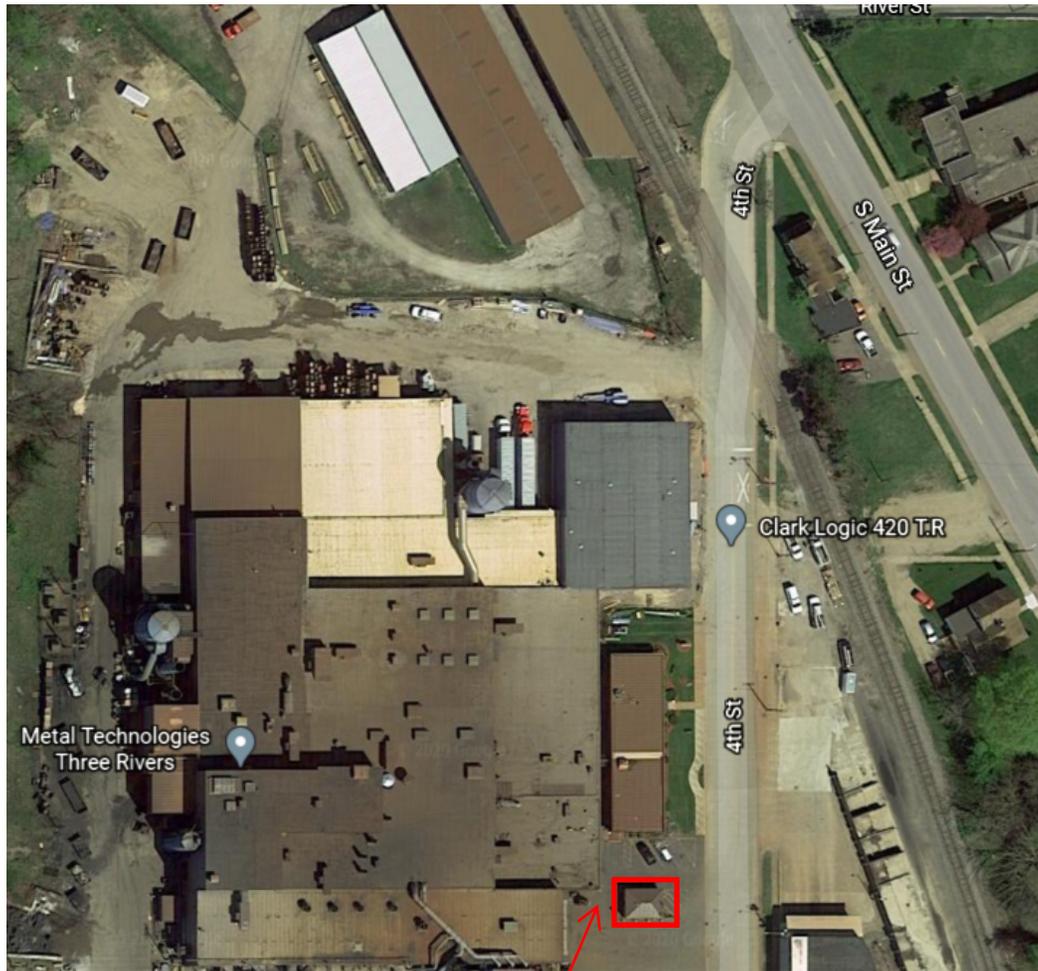
Aaron J. Davenport, P.E.
Vice President, Kalamazoo Office Director

AJD/adk

Copy: Alexis Kontorousis, Jones & Henry Engineers



All Pump Stations within City of Three Rivers, MI to be rehabilitated or replaced.



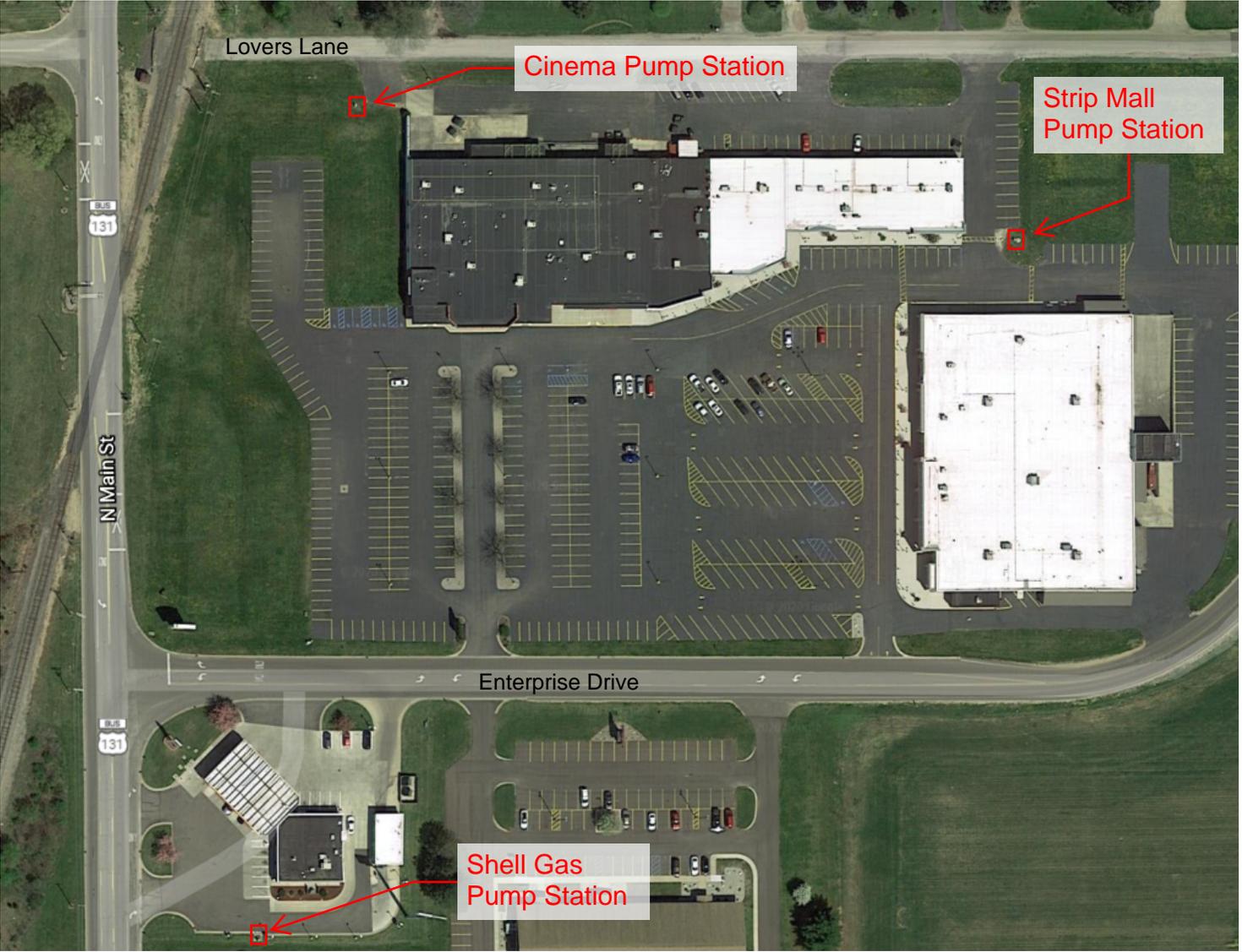
Fourth Street Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure

Adams Street Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure

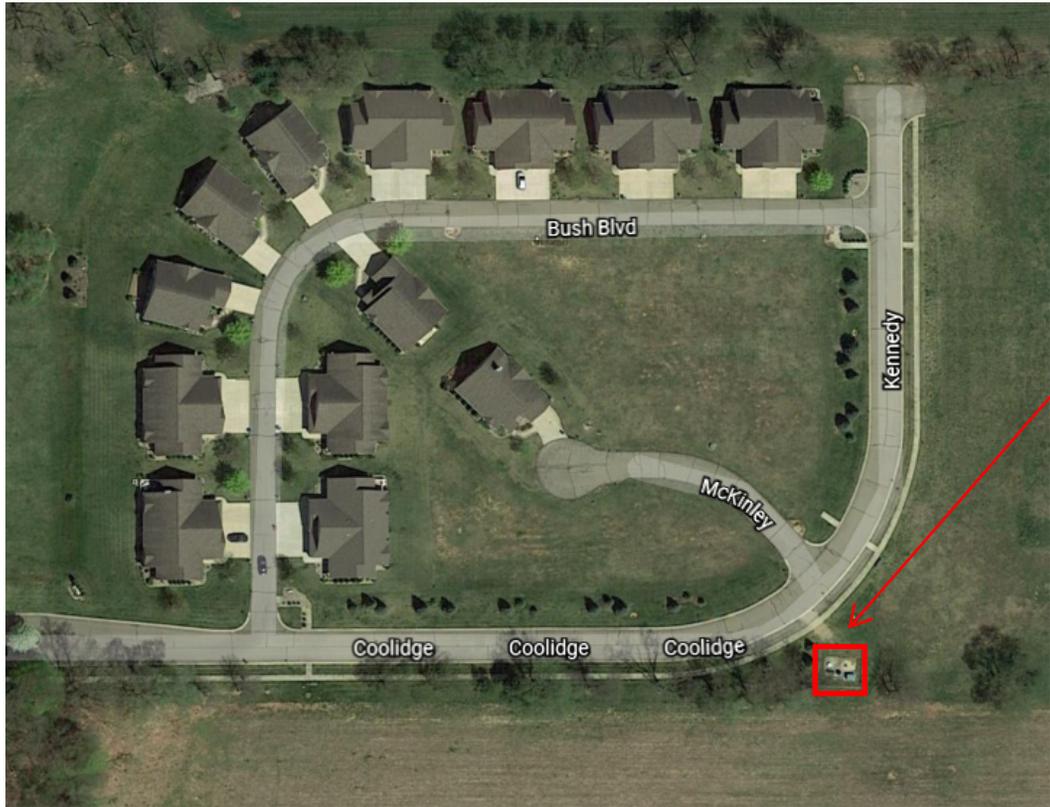




Union Street Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure



Construction will be within the existing Pump Stations



Coolidge Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure



Hov Aire Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure



Airport Pump Station: Includes replacement of equipment within the existing Structure





April 1, 2021

Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
Mr. Lee Adams, Director
300 S. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

By Email: adams@upjohn.org

Dear Mr. Adams,

The Village of Mendon in St. Joseph County is in the process of applying to the Water & Waste Disposal Program (CFDA 10.760) at USDA Rural Development. The total project cost is approximately \$2,910,000.

The Village of Mendon will request funding to make improvements to their water production and distribution systems. Twelve percent of the Village's water distribution system currently consists of watermain that is less than 6 inches in diameter. Undersized watermains reduce fire flows which affects the Village's ability to provide adequate fire suppression. Undersized watermains can also cause pressure issues when large volumes of water are being used. The Village also has five dead-ends in their water distribution system that are planned to be looped.

Approximately 30 commercial water meters will be replaced, and residential meters will be installed.

The Village intends to add one new well (Well Six) at the same site as well five. The Village pumps water from wells three and four through treatment to the ground level storage tank and then re-pumps into the distribution system. The quality of water from wells three and four is not acceptable and it is planned to remove the wells. The ground storage tank and associated pumps and controls will be upgraded to allow for storage.

We welcome your comments on the proposed project and its compliance with the area comprehensive development plan. Any additional comments are welcome.

Comments can be emailed to me at paul.bristol@usda.gov or sent to my office at:

USDA Rural Development
3260 Eagle Park Dr., Suite 107
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Please call me at 616 222-5817 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Paul Bristol
Area Specialist

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