



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

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Board Meeting Agenda

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
4400 S 26th St
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Call to Order

I. Representative Attendance

- a. Absent
 - i. Mingus
 - ii. Gisler
- b. Present
 - i. Conklin
 - ii. Gleesing
 - iii. Zwick
 - iv. Coney
 - v. Hazelbaker
 - vi. Bomba

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. **Motion by Hazelbaker to approve the agenda**
 - i. Conklin seconded the motion
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent

3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. **Motion by Hazelbaker to approve the minutes**
 - i. Bomba seconded the motion
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent

4. Public Comment

- a. None

5. Parks

- a. **Motion by Coney for Zwick as the SMPC representative on the Kalamazoo County**
 - i. Conklin seconded the motion
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent

6. Transportation

- a. KATS sent a written report

7. Recognition of Vince Carahaly

- a. **Motion by Bomba to approve the proclamation**
 - i. Coney seconded the motion
 - ii. Approved by unanimous consent

8. SMPC Transition

- a. Contract with the Upjohn Institute
 - i. Contract has been completed
- b. Board vacancies

- i. Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties are fully represented. Vacancies remain in Branch and Calhoun Counties
- c. GIS Contractor
 - i. Staff suggested bringing on an intern or contractor to create maps for projects such as master planning. Comm. Bomba suggested creating a memo of understanding with Calhoun county. Commissioner Coney suggested it would be a good opportunity for an intern or student. **Motion by Coney to hire an intern.**
 - ii. Zwick seconded the motion
 - iii. Approved by unanimous consent

9. Economic Development Administration

- a. CEDS Application
 - i. Staff gave an update that the EDA had not made a decision.

10. Other Contracted Work Options

- a. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- b. Michigan's Inclusive Training, Technology, and Equity Network (MITTEN)
- c. Housing was the primary concern of most of the commissioners. Coney mentioned Liz Smith Great Lakes Housing Services doing CDBG work. Other suggestions were for helping municipalities with Redevelopment Ready Community standards, data, accessibility, clear planning and service for smaller municipal groups

11. Staff Report/Other

- a. Update on Planning Work
 - i. Village of Homer
 - 1) Staff reported that this project had just kicked off
 - ii. St. Joseph County
 - 1) Staff reported that this project was nearly complete
- b. Update on the Materials Management Work
 - i. Staff reported that this project had developed and submitted a work plan to the state.

12. Correspondence

- a. Alamo Township master plan adoption
- b. Village of Colon parks and recreation plan
- c. Cooper Township master plan update
- d. Kalamazoo city DNR grant application
- e. Southwest Michigan DNR grant application

13. Representative Comments

- a. Bomba – Master plan update in Calhoun, Beckley Road DDA, more solar incoming 8,000 acres, solar development causing road issues
- b. Hazelbaker – New 100 megawatt solar farm for Ford, DTE. Clemens expanding
- c. Coney – Strategic planning session, County, Glen Oaks, SWMF. Two-way conversion on hold in city. Tariffs hurting local manufacturers. Heartland RVs eliminating 800 jobs in SW MI and Indiana.

14. Adjournment

Next Meeting: May 28th, 2025, Virtual Working Session