



Planning for People in the Greater Lansing Region Since 1956

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Over \$228k Granted to Greater Lansing Regional Prosperity Initiative!



(Above) Local development officials on the Regional Prosperity Initiative team accept grant award.

The Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget has awarded grant dollars to Prosperity Region 7 (Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties) for the second year of Gov. Snyder's Regional Prosperity Initiative.

The group charged with leading Prosperity Region 7, the Greater Lansing Regional Prosperity Initiative (GLRPI)*, was elated to receive a \$228,750 Regional Collaboration Grant from the State of Michigan. With this grant, they will complete the work started in 2014 to promote regional growth and prosperity with grant-funded planning and development projects.

After a very successful 2014, the group will expand on current projects, including an expanded reach of the October 2014 CATALYST: Capital Region Prosperity Project to Clinton, Ingham, and Eaton Counties; further development of a Five-Year Prosperity Plan; expansion of the MICapitalRegion.com dashboard; and finally, the continuation of monthly meetings engaging economic professionals and governmental entities in

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2015 Aerial Data Conditions

It is almost time for the aerial photography fly-overs of the Lansing Tri-County Region. Springtime weather rapidly approaches—the perfect time for successful aerial photography! Hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate with TCRPC.

Weather and ground conditions need to be as suitable as possible before the planes, equipment and crews come from all over the country to fly our region. The parameters that must be met before the flight begins include: ground clear of snow, trees free of leaves, streams and rivers within natural banks and lakes free of ice. Optimal conditions for data collection will include clear skies and a good sun angle. Sanborn Map Co. and the State of Michigan will keep in close contact with our local designated contacts regarding weather conditions throughout the flight season.

The imagery processing, including quality checks, will be done in about five months and new digital files of photography will be delivered to our region.

GLRPI

economic prosperity discussions.

These discussions will be the topics of the monthly meetings with the Lansing Tri-County Regional Economic Partnership (LTREP), Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), and TCRPC. They jointly convene as the GLRPI on the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m., at varied locations (posted on MICapitalRegion.com). Meetings are open to the public and inter-

ested businesses and agencies are encouraged to participate. The next meeting is April 16, 2015 at the office of the TCRPC Large Conference Room located at 3135 Pine Tree Road, Lansing, MI 48911.

Follow GLRPI's progress, as well as the progress of the Five-Year Prosperity Plan, and get information about future regional events at www.MICapitalRegion.com. That site also offers upcoming schedules and the

products of 2014 on display.

**GLRPI consist of six community leaders in the Region: Lansing Regional Chamber, the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, Capital Area Michigan Works!, Lansing Community College and Michigan State University.*

TCRPC is now accepting applications for a **Chief Transportation Planner** as well as for a **Planning Technician**. For more information, go to www.mitcrpc.org.

Staff Highlight: Meghan Martin



Meghan Martin, the newest member of the staff, is TCRPC's Outreach & Communications Coordinator.

Meghan joined the TCRPC in 2014 as a Planning Programs Assistant and quickly proved to be most valuable in communications and design projects that promote awareness for TCRPC efforts and goals.

Acting as support for all programs at TCRPC, she promotes program efforts

and events via email, social media, newsletter (ahem) and multiple websites.

In her short time here, Meghan has helped execute and promote the [CATALYST: Capital Regional Prosperity Project](http://www.catalystcapitalproject.org) (www.catalystcapitalproject.org), collaboratively developed the Regional Dashboard, MICapitalRegion.com, and maintains seven social media and online presences.

In addition to her work at TCRPC, Meghan also serves on the Fenner Conservancy Communications Committee and finds this role very rewarding as she promotes their educating of the value of

our natural surroundings.

Meghan is excited for the upcoming year and all of the opportunities TCRPC will have to interact and engage the Region.

Home-grown out of DeWitt, Meghan is a graduate of Michigan State University's School of Journalism (Go Green!), and recently moved back to DeWitt with her husband and daughter. She looks forward to the summer and getting out on the water.

If you are interested in TCRPC outreach and communications, contact Meghan at mmartin@mitcrpc.org.

you are
Invited to
meet your
match

Michigan ByProduct Synergy

Working together to
reduce costs, reduce
waste through
ByProduct Synergy

BPS Meet Your Match in 2015

Come to a "Meet Your Match" networking event for businesses and organizations interested in sharing their available byproduct streams and learning about available byproducts from other Michigan organizations. RSVP today to reception@mitcrpc.org or call (517)393-0342.

UPCOMING EVENT DATES:

April 30, 2015

September 10, 2015

Questions? Contact Chief Environmental Programs Planner Christine Spitzley at cspitzley@mitcrpc.org or call (517) 393-0342.

'Systematic Decline' in Michigan Road Conditions Presented to the State Transportation Commission

Edited from the Transportation Asset Management Council. TCRPC assists in conducting the pavement assessments for our three-county region and contributes the data to the Transportation Asset Management Council.

An emerging report by the Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) shows Michigan's roads are continuing to deteriorate – and the pace is accelerating.

"Over the nine years the Council has been collecting and analyzing data, we have seen a systematic decline in the miles rated 'good' on the paved federal aid system," said TAMC Vice Chairman William McEntee. "We have also seen an accelerated increase in the number of roads rated 'poor' in the last year."

Preliminary findings were presented to the State Transportation Commission (STC) March 19 at their meeting in Auburn Hills. The TAMC, a partnership of state and local road stakeholders, is required by law to submit an annual report to the STC, the Legislature and the House and Senate Transporta-

tion Committees. McEntee gave an overview of the data being used to generate this year's report. The final report will be submitted when completed.

The presentation shared the most recent pavement and bridge measurements, along with analysis of data collected over the past nine years. McEntee outlined the culmination of a long-term statewide trend: miles of roads rated "good" or "fair" have declined from 77% to 62% while miles of roads rated "poor" have increased from 23% to 38%.



The TAMC also announced that the 2014 PASER road condition data is available for downloading and display from the TAMC website. Information on the conditions of roads and bridges by state, county, and city or village jurisdiction—including an interactive map showing road and bridge conditions—can be found on the [TAMC website \(www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mitrp/Data/paserMap.aspx\)](http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mitrp/Data/paserMap.aspx). The dashboards and bridge data will be updated on the website in conjunction with the release of the final report, due in late April 2015.

Fast Facts about Michigan's Transportation

The Michigan Department of Transportation works closely with the TCRPC. They also have jurisdiction over:

9,669

route miles
(M, US, or I routes)
32,047 lane miles

4,750

highway, railroad, and
pedestrian bridges

665

miles of state-owned
railroad

4

state-owned airports
(Romeo, Linden, Plymouth-Canton, Houghton Lake)

MDOT also provides financial and/or technical assistance for portions of the transportation system owned and operated by others, including local transit systems, airports, intercity buses, trails, etc.

Destination Walking Signs



Edited from the Capital Area Health Alliance

April 1 is National Walking Day, and the Capital Area Health Alliance (CAHA) wants to help you place Destination Walking Signs around the Tri-County region. Destination Walking Signs are designed to highlight the walkability of our community and to get people out there walking!

CAHA will pay for and help design the signs. You pick the placement and destination where you want to direct people to walk. The sign will indicate the walking time from where the sign is placed to the designated location (i.e., it's a 10 minute walk to Shady Acres Park). The sign will also have a QR code that pedestrians can scan that gives them walking directions to the designated location.

For more information on how to get Destination Walking Signs in your community or neighborhood, [go to the CAHA website \(www.choosinghealth-caha.org/walking_signs.php\)](http://www.choosinghealth-caha.org/walking_signs.php).

Sue Says...Spring Forward!

The days are longer now and I enjoy more sunshine even if the nights are still cold. The sap is running for maple sugaring and I think I saw a hint of a crocus poking up from a protected place near our office. There is a first blush of green on the early blooming trees and birds chirp in the mornings. Many of the fair weather runners and walkers are out on our region's pathways. Cyclists are back in the bike lanes that held snow all winter. I agree with Bernard Williams who wrote, "The day God created hope was probably the same day he created spring."

Spring is a time to renew and revive. It is a time for new starts, for a fresh approach. So, in keeping with the season, TCRPC's theme this issue is "Renewal:" We have a big check to revive Regional Prosperity. TCRPC is seeking a couple of new faces for our transportation planning staff. Voter's are talking about

refreshing our roads. We will take to the skies to re-take the region's aerial photography. TCRPC will renew by-product synergies with another "Meet Your Match" event. And Tibbles the Troll will start traveling!

In winter, I plot and plan.

In spring, I move.

It's time to spring forward.

Happy Spring!

Sue



Please Welcome Tibbles the TCRPC Troll!



Did you know that the staff at the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission is regularly engaging the public?

We travel throughout the Region for speaking engagements, run display booths to educate the public, and hold events and meetings that engage regional residents and agencies in our work.

Well, to share these activities with you, we have welcomed Tibbles T. Troll to the office of TCRPC!

Tibbles travels with our planners, visiting throughout our region's communities, highlighting the people and places we visit.

If you want to see what Tibbles T. Troll is up to, follow him on Twitter at @TravelinTroll or wait to see his adventures every quarter in the TCRPC newsletter.



Tibbles visits Civil Engineering students at Michigan State University with TCRPC Executive Director Sue Pigg for a class on regional transportation planning.

Don't Miss These Opportunities!

April 3 — TCRPC office closed in observance of Spring.

April 9, 2-4 p.m. — [The Every Day Counts Exchange Session 9](#). Earle Learning Center (Lake Michigan Rm) 7575 Crowner Drive Lansing, MI 48917. An informative session about Road Diets from the Federal Highway Administration.

April 9, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. — Michigan Association of Planning's [Spring Institute](#) at the Radisson Hotel, Lansing.

April 10-15 — [National Anti-Distracted Driving Enforcement Week](#)

April 16 — [Regional Prosperity Meeting](#) from 3-5 p.m. in TCRPC's large conference room.

April 29, May 27, & June 24 — [TCRPC Commission meetings](#), 7:00 p.m. in TCRPC's large conference room.

April 30 — [BPS "Meet Your Match" Event](#)

For more events and opportunities, [follow us on Facebook!](#)

