

Winter 2026
CEDS Strategy Committee
Quarterly Economic Development Meeting
January 30, 2026



Meeting Notes

Agenda

- 1) EDA Latest
- 2) WMSRDC Update
- 3) West Michigan Agriculture Coalition
- 4) Roundtable

Current EDA Grants in the Region

- 1) City of Hart: Wastewater Upgrades
- 2) Lake County Economic Diversification

Potential EDA Projects

- 1) Whitehall Infrastructure
- 2) Broadband Training (Newaygo County)
- 3) FARM (equipment/construction)

Attendance:

Curtis Burdette, Oceana County
Stephen Carlson, WMSRDC
Sue DeVries, MEDC
Dan Tavernier, City of Whitehall
Erin Kuhn, WMSRDC

Phil Morse, Village of Shelby
Trevor Friedeberg, GMED
Paul Bristol, USDA-RD
Blake Prewitt, NCRESA

1) EDA Latest

- As of this date, 2026 funding had passed the House and Senate and was expected to be signed by the president.
- EDA funding was included in a smaller package/bill, therefore increasing probability of approval.
- EDA has some funding carried over from 2025, therefore there is expected to be more to go around than usual when the new budget is approved.

2) WMSRDC Update

- WMSRDC currently engaged in a communications strategic planning process
 - All are invited to provide feedback regarding communication, especially as it relates to the CEDS and committee.
- A website revision is coming soon.

3) West Michigan Agriculture Coalition

- W. MI Agriculture Coalition continuing to take shape under the leadership of our IEDC Economic Development fellow, Annika Gacnik.
 - Next meeting is February 20 in Fremont.
 - To participate or stay informed, message Annika, agacnik@economicrecoverycorps.org.

5) Roundtable Notes

- Village of Shelby:
 - Working to improve the streetscape and seeing investments to improve downtown.
 - Industrial park is full. Interested in exploring addition of industrial park space.
- Oceana County
 - Successful brownfield TIF project in Walkerville.
 - Peterson Farms acquired King Juice.

- Kurdziel Iron building partially demolished for community space in Rothbury.
- Muskegon County
 - Over the last year, the county added manufacturing jobs but lost professional jobs.
 - Waterfront land swap approved in Muskegon (city) which could be beneficial to bring human activities to the Muskegon Lake shoreline.
- MEDC
 - Match on Main application window March 1-April 20.
 - Public Spaces Community Places program expected to return.

2026 Meeting Schedule:

April 24 - EDA Investment Priorities: **Critical Infrastructure & Economic Resilience**

July 31 - EDA Investment Priorities: **Workforce & Manufacturing**

October 30 - EDA Investment Priorities: **Innovation & Entrepreneurship**