

Fall 2025
CEDS Strategy Committee
Quarterly Economic Development Meeting
October 24, 2025



Meeting Notes

Agenda

- 1) EDA Update
- 2) WMSRDC Update
- 3) W MI Ag Analysis
- 4) Economic Variety & Regional Integration
- 5) Roundtable Updates

Attendance:

Ken Adamski, Shelby State Bank
Julie Burrell, Newaygo County
Curtis Burdette, Oceana County
Stephen Carlson, WMSRDC
Ryan Coffey-Hoag, MSUE
Sue DeVries, MEDC

Greg Poches, FACF
Erin Kuhn, WMSRDC
Annika Gacnik, ERC Fellow
Trevor Friedeberg, GMED
Darryl Todd, MEDC
Chad Marr, MI Works! WC

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)

1) EDA Update

- Nothing to update as the government has been shut down

2) WMSRDC Update

- Materials Management Planning – may have economic development ties in the future
- Muskegon Lake delisted as an Area of Concern
- Stephen and Annika attending Industry Cluster development training
- W. MI Ag Cluster Impact Analysis completed in September

3) West Michigan Agriculture Cluster Impact Analysis

- Annika Gacnik is an economic development fellow dedicated to increasing capacity for agriculture and food systems in the WMSRDC region.
- Project deliverables
 - [Summary Presentation Slides \(8/27/25\)](#)
 - [West Michigan Agriculture Cluster Impact Analysis \(2025\)](#)
 - [Mapping Agriculture Assets in West Michigan \(2025\)](#)
 - [Background Information on Fats, Oils, & Grease \(FOG\) Management in Muskegon County](#)
- Annika is leading a year-long “coalition” to support agriculture through implementation of the Analysis.
- To participate or stay informed, message Annika agacnik@economicrecoverycorps.org

4) CEDS Review: Economic Variety & Regional Integration

- Attendees reviewed and discussed Goal and Objectives outlined in the CEDS.
- No changes or additions were proposed

5) Roundtable Notes

- MEDC:
 - Less funding = more competition for funding
 - Pipeline-ready projects are important
- Newaygo
 - Utility scale solar project
 - Newaygo County Leadership Program
 - Hesperia acquires downtown property
 - The Right Place strategic plan refresh
 - County hosting 2026 connecting entrepreneurial communities conference May 29-30
- Fremont Area Community Foundation:
 - Newaygo County housing initiative is a collaboration between the foundation and the county to provide incentives to private housing development
 - Initiative has been successful, but activity appears to be slowing down as of late
- MSU Extension to hold “Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities” conference in Newaygo County, May-June 2026
- Oceana County held successful Developer Day on Friday, September 26
- Shelby State Bank: Interest rates expected to inch down, which may lead to economic activity

2026 Meeting Schedule:

January 30

April 24

July 31

October 30