

MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING NOTES

May 12, 2017 | 12:00–2:00 PM

Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
200 N. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Santer, Ann Arbor SPARK
Sue Smith, Hillsdale Economic Development Partnership
Tim Lake, Monroe County Business Development Corporation
Ryan Buck, Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
Jim Van Doren, Lenawee Now
Bill Sleight, Michigan Works! Southeast
Steve Duke, Region 2 Planning Commission
Mike Overton, Jackson County
Ken Hinton, Livingston County Administration
Ron Griffith, Spring Arbor University
Michelle Mueller, Washtenaw Community College
Rachel Kuntzsch, Public Sector Consultants (PSC)
Kristin Hofman, PSC

WELCOME AND UPDATES

Rachel Kuntzsch kicked off the meeting by welcoming new management team members Mike Overton, Michelle Mueller, and Ron Griffith. She also provided a review of the meeting agenda, which included items related to the release of the 2017 challenge grants request for proposals and review of the Five-year Prosperity Strategy for potential updates.

Kristin Hofman provided updates related to the progress of 2016 challenge grants. The Livingston Career and College Access Network (LCCAN) will be wrapping up their scope of work within the next month. PSC will work with Laura Hoehn at LCCAN to ensure that final reporting requirements are met. PSC will share the organization's final report and sustainability plan once it is received.

The Workforce Intelligence Network for Southeast Michigan (WIN) anticipated that they will need to extend their work through December of this year. They have fully deployed MI Bright Future in Lenawee and Livingston Counties. The remaining four counties, Hillsdale, Jackson, Monroe, and Washtenaw, will require additional training, and WIN will meet with the appropriate stakeholders over the next few months to develop plans for training. The network anticipates full deployment in the remaining counties by early fall, with a promotional push at the beginning of the school year. WIN is also working with Ann Arbor SPARK on using funds toward business recruitment activities, which will occur in late summer and early fall. The licenses purchased with grant dollars for all four counties will not expire until March 2018.

The management team would like to receive a more detailed activity report from WIN that breaks down activities executed within each county over the course of the grant period. The team would also like WIN to come and present this information at the next in-person management team meeting. Michelle Mueller recommended that it would be valuable for Monroe, Washtenaw, and Jackson Community Colleges to come together and discuss how they can support these efforts.

2017 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROCESS

Ms. Hofman provided an overview of the updated challenge grant request for proposals that was drafted based on management team feedback during the March 10 conference call. The new process includes an online submission portal to streamline management team review. Proposal review will occur in-person after the submission deadline of July 12, 2017. The management team requested that additional emphasis be put on what types of projects will be prioritized, stakeholder collaboration requirements, and regional impact and outcomes that must be mentioned within the proposal narrative.

The RFP will be released to the Greater Ann Arbor Prosperity Region's email list on May 17. Management team members are encouraged to send additional contacts to PSC for inclusion in the announcement. Management team members were also encouraged to send the announcement through their organization's communication channels on a semiregular basis while the grant submission period is open.

FIVE-YEAR PROSPERITY STRATEGY UPDATES

Ms. Kuntzsch facilitated a discussion around potential updates to the region's Five-year Prosperity Strategy. As a result of this discussion, the management team determined that action areas in the strategy could use adjustments to factor in changes over time. For example, the region has dedicated grant resources to ensure community preparedness for connected and automated vehicles, but the strategy did not include any goals or objectives related to advanced mobility in the "advancing a high-quality and diverse regional transportation system" action area. Phil Santer and Ryan Buck will meet outside of a management team meeting to discuss transportation-related strategies so they reflect technology advancements and greater focus on equity and access. Ron Griffith, Michelle Mueller, and Bill Sleight will address updates that need to be made to talent and industry strategies. Bill Sleight also recommended that the Michigan Works! Southeast Workforce Development Board be involved in the discussion so the management team can understand what strategies have been executed and what strategies still need implementation support. PSC will provide the management team with an easily editable matrix that outlines current goals, objectives, and strategies for each focus area. Additionally, PSC will create a timeline for strategy update completion. The strategy will also receive stylistic updates to reflect new regional branding.