

One Lenawee is...a collaboration of concerned people dedicated to the **Vision of making Lenawee County a Great Place to live, work, learn, worship, play, and invest.**

We bring attention and action to important community issues.

Uniting and Connecting partners and committed people, we identify, support, and develop initiatives and projects that optimize community resources to **The Vision.**



2021 OBJECTIVES

- * **Continue to work on the seven Focus Areas**
- * **New priorities:**
 - **Public Transportation**
 - **Attainable Housing**
 - **Communications**

OUR PROCESS:

- **Evaluate**
- **Educate**
- **Engage**

Steering Committee Notes March 18, 2021 Zoom Meeting

Present: Don Taylor, Chris Miller, Dave Maxwell, Joe Williams, Madeline DeMarco, Kim Murphy, Lynne Punnett, Mark Haag, Sue Lewis, Randy Yagiela, Dan Swallow

ONE LENAWEE STRATEGIC VISION PRIORITIES 2021 AND BEYOND:

Public Transportation:

This group is continuing to press forward in pursuing a pilot route between Tecumseh and Adrian with First Student, hopefully starting this summer.

Attainable Housing: (Please refer to the white paper that went out to all committee members prior to the meeting)

There has been a change in the workforce over the past year due to Covid and employers are seeing that more people can work from home. In Lenawee County we may not have sufficient housing to accommodate this new workforce. We are however, in a unique geographic area, in close proximity to Toledo, Ann Arbor, and Detroit. The problem seems to be, we have a lot of people working on the problem, but not strategically or holistically and that is where One Lenawee can add assistance. We have a prime opportunity to act, but there is a small window of time to do so. It was suggested that a small coalition be formed of key players of each group to start looking from bottom up, from blight to the top of the housing market. All levels should look at a 5-10-year plan with a focus on workforce housing. Current challenges were identified as the need for more suppliers and a housing developer. The last housing study was done in 2017 with a cost of roughly \$35,000.

Question to the Steering Committee...do we want to be involved?

- Madeline asked if this issue should be added to the existing Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC would not have the same focus as what OL is looking at, although low income and the homeless need to be part of the conversation.
- Joe shared that we may need to get the whole group together (every group working on housing) first to see where we are at and identify the gaps.
- We need to attract young professionals.
- Randy – we do not need to be embarrassed to address the creation of wealth. Lenawee Now wants to be a part of this. How are we going to bring people here? We need to look to

the future and how we can strategically do this and get a jump on putting a plan together to get funding. We may need a new housing study that OL and Lenawee Now can be involved in, it must be countywide, with a strong backbone organization.

- Kim shared that we have a problem with the age of our housing stock, we have a lot of older homes and this is a problem all over the county. What is different now is Covid and how it has forced us to look at things differently. She agrees that in some way we need to look at housing and the County will assist if they have the resources to do so.

Communications/Marketing:

Lynne and Chris will be on WLEN Saturday to discuss housing.

Randy shared that Molly will be providing examples of the new OL web site next week.

Daily Telegram – We may want to look a housing as the topic for our next article.

Other:

Madeline shared a PowerPoint presentation on *Resilience and Trauma* demonstrating the impact of trauma from the individual level to community level to policies and systems levels.

ONE LENAWEE STRUCTURE AND SUCCESSION: This topic needs more discussion and will require a special meeting.

Next meeting date: Thursday, April 15th, 7:30am. Facilitator – Randy