

**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 February 17, 2022**

**Present:** Chris Miller, Madeline DeMarco, Mark Haag, Randy Yagiela, Lynne Punnett, Dave Maxwell, Sue Lewis, Joe Williams, Don Taylor, Tim Robinson, guests Paula Holtz and Caleigh Ringkvist (intern)

**Welcome** to Paula Holtz from the MEDC and Caleigh Ringkvist a Siena Heights intern.

### **Celebration of the good things we've accomplished since our January meeting:**

- There was an article in the Daily Telegram regarding Housing Lenawee.
- The Housing Lenawee request is still in the queue for ARPA funds.
- Joe shared the LCF is partnering with ProMedica and the East Side Coalition to address social determinants of health as part of the Ebeid Neighborhood Promise and the strategic planning process will be starting soon.
- Mark shared that he is now one of four new board members of the local ProMedica Board.

### **Public Transportation**

No significant news to report. There was discussion regarding the removal of this topic from the standing agenda, however no concrete decision was reached. (Hope to reach a consensus on what to do with this topic at the March meeting).

### **Grant Opportunities for Lenawee County (RAP) and role of OL**

Joe reported how the following entities discussed how they could work together to make one ask. This group included One Lenawee, Lenawee Now, City of Adrian, and the City of Tecumseh.

Paula shared that this could include a \$20,000,000 ask for a couple of shovel ready projects in Adrian and Tecumseh as part of the Federal Government Revitalization Program. She volunteered to bring all partners together. This is a very competitive funding round but also a great opportunity.

Another opportunity that may be coming up through the MEDC will be trying to link housing with businesses and large employers. The application came out yesterday as a pdf; the actual application will come out in March with a request for a letter of interest, and then it will be due a month later.

## **Attainable Quality Housing for All**

Randy voiced concern in making the connection with major employers and the importance of acting now because these grant opportunities will be gone in a couple of years. Demonstrating collaboration in funding is key, to do what is best for housing in Lenawee County.

Chris wants to make sure that everyone's voice is represented.

At the recent ARPA funding committee meeting the group decided not to fund anything related to personnel. They are denying our request to fund a housing coordinator, but they will probably fund the Housing Total Market Analysis. Some funding may be added to the "old" housing investment, but the question was raised as to who would manage the housing repair funds.

We will go back to them with edits, including our dollar amount. The coordinator position is critical, so we may have to look at it as a consulting firm to possibly do a strategic plan for housing. Fortunately, the process has not yet moved beyond the committee level.

Housing Lenawee will next meet with area realtors.

The Phoenix Project in Tecumseh will receive most of the funding.

## **Strategic Vision**

Joe shared that the housing initiative will be a great **pilot** to bring OL under the LCF. This is a "test run."

**Next meeting date: Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am. Facilitator - Joe**