



Mason County, Michigan

Monthly Update: May 2018

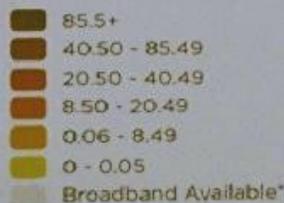
IMPACT DASHBOARD

			SUSTAINED IMPACT <i>(since 2015)</i>	
			\$50.3 Million <i>in Private Investment</i>	188 <i>New Jobs</i>
2018 IMPACT			\$3.5 Million <i>in Grant & Resource Assistance</i>	\$7 Million + <i>in New Payroll Annually</i>
15	64	12	\$15,000	\$5,000
<i>Retention Visits</i>	<i>Company Assists</i>	<i>Projects in Progress</i>	<i>in Placemaking Project Support</i>	<i>in Entrepreneurship Grant Support</i>

Michigan's Broadband Access

Density of Households Unserved at 10 Mbps/1 Mbps

Speed	Rural	Non-Rural
10 Mbps	91.3%	98.2%
25 Mbps	75.3%	93.7%
100 Mbps	70.4%	91.6%



Governor's Office Hosts Broadband Info Session at WSCC

The Michigan Consortium of Advanced Networks (MCAN) held a listening session at West Shore Community College and four other locations across the state to gather feedback on the best ways to strengthen broadband access in Michigan.

Governor Rick Snyder created the MCAN to provide recommendations for improving broadband throughout Michigan in order to create economic opportunity through its digital platform. These listening sessions allow the community to learn more about broadband and to see the potential of integrating broadband within areas of the state where internet capacity is currently lacking.

Broadband access has the potential to increase commerce and small business opportunity across the state, especially in rural communities.

"I think the work is just really beginning in terms of what we can do to provide economical and reliable broadband services for all of our home owners and our endpoint users," said, a member of the governor's consortium, Seth Earl. "That also ties in to a lot of our small businesses. The small businesses can reap the benefits as we move away from a brick-and-mortar society and move into an eCommerce society. People now have the opportunity to generate revenue right from their own household."

The listening sessions are a part of the process of formulating final recommendations for the state.

The MCAN report is due to Governor Snyder by August 31st. For more information on the MCAN, [click here](#).



Regional Trails Visioning Workshop Promotes Connectivity

On May 8th and 9th, the Leaders in Economic Alliance Development

(LEAD) Regional Recreation Trail committee hosted two Regional Recreation Trails Visioning Workshops in order to engage stakeholders in the development of a common vision for what a regionally integrated recreational trail system might look like across Lake, Mason, Newaygo, and Oceana counties. Facilitated by The Greenways Collaborative, these sessions took place in Hart and Ludington respectively, and included approximately 40 stakeholders from across the area.

The goal of these workshops was to present a draft concept of a regional recreational trails vision, gather feedback from local leaders and trail enthusiasts, and begin to identify priority projects for implementation. The visioning process intends to build upon the unique motorized and non-motorized trail resources in the region to outline a dynamic network of trails that will draw people from around the great lakes, fostering sustainable economic growth for the region. This vision balances large transformational trail projects with near-term, cost-effective investments that can make an immediate impact. The project team intends to use the results of these workshops to help refine and direct the region's next steps in trail development.

For more information on this project, contact Spence Riggs at spencer@ludington.org.

About the Mason County Growth Alliance:

The Mason County Growth Alliance was created in 2006 to support economic growth and community development in Mason County. Its mission is to nurture a more dynamic economy to support a vibrant quality of life in the community. The Growth Alliance believes its efforts must be devoted to building on its business base, encouraging entrepreneurship, and capitalizing on the local community assets.



Mason County Growth Alliance

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