

REGIS Advisory Committee

Tuesday April 20th, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Virtual Meeting-Zoom

REGIS Advisory Members Present:

Paul Gerndt	City of Wyoming , REGIS Advisory Chair
Rick Sprague	Kent Count Road Commission , REGIS Advisory Vice Chair
Pete Elam	Plainfield Township
Travis Mabry	City of Walker
Jim Ferro	Ada Township
Sarah Steffens	City of Hudsonville
Jeff Oonk	City of Wyoming
Kelsey Sloan	City of Kentwood
Rachell Nagorsen	City of Walker
Robin Rothley	Grand Rapids Township
Dave Johnson	City of East Grand Rapids

REGIS DPW/Engineers Service Area Group Members Present:

Julius Suchy	Ada Township
Jim Kirkwood	City of Kentwood
Gary Posema	City of Walker
Scott Connors	City of Walker
Jacob Gardner	City of Walker
Peter Klooster	City of Wyoming
Wayne Harrall	Kent Count Road Commission
Rick Solle	Plainfield Township
Robert Miller	City of Hudsonville

Others Present:

Gayle Mccrath	GVMC
Steven Musch	GVMC
John Weiss	GVMC
Jason Moore	GVMC
Margaret Chappetta	GVMC
Mike Zonyk	GVMC
Brodey Hill	Kent County
Amber Hicks	Michigan Infrastructure Council

1. Meeting Opened

- a. Chair Paul Gerndt opened the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

2. Approval of the January 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- a. **MOTION – To Approve the Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2021. MOVE – Sprague. SUPPORT – Harrall. MOTION CARRIED**

3. Presentation by Amber Hicks, Program Specialist – Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) – MIC Public and Private Infrastructure ‘Dig Once’ Coordination Tool

John Weiss, GVMC Executive Director and Chair of the MIC, introduced Amber Hicks, Program Specialist. Hicks reported the system has been live for a few months. The Dig Once tool was developed due to the Infrastructure Pilot Single Point Resource to find out what projects in an area are being planned. It is anticipated 15-30% savings on projects can be realized if they are coordinated and built at the same time. To-date, over 10,000 projects have been loaded into the system.

Hicks demonstrated the MIC portal. The system displays a map with projects indicated throughout the area. Data that can be displayed and sorted by include:

- Project Name
- Project Owner
- Time frame (water, utility, transportation, etc.)
- Jurisdiction
- Type (water, utility, transportation, etc.)
- Contact information

This portal is only for asset owners to facilitate coordination and cooperation. The general public will not have access.

Security is being taken very seriously. Participant organizations must go through several steps of security before they are allowed access including a security agreement for the organization by the person with signing authority, as well as agreements for each individual who will ultimately use the system. Blanket authority for everyone within an entity will not be given. Authorizations will be audited by the State of Michigan every 180 days.

Regulating access in this way not only ensures security, but also builds the trust required to get asset owners to participate. Broadband is now beginning to take part. New relationships are being formed between the State and asset owners.

Although this is a statewide system, participants will only be able to see the info for their region.

Data can be filtered by various factors. Most of the projects are 1-3 years out, with some further.

Jason Moore reported REGIS will be here to assist in getting the info and files into the correct format and getting the work flow down. Everyone should know REGIS is here to help. Moore will follow up with an email to everyone to update and let them know what is needed.

Paul Gerndt stated that it is projects like this that really shine the spotlight on GIS and what its capabilities are. He asked how this compares to what was being done nationwide.

John Weiss indicated that through his work with the MIC, Asset Champions, and US / Canada discussions, Michigan is out front. Forbes says Michigan is leading.

Travis Mabry asked about updating information and downloading transportation data from the TAMC tool. Are we looking at other tools to download other types of information or reminders for those who are not on TAMC?

Moore indicated the monthly email call for information that goes out through REGIS could include this.

Hicks stated that a 6 month to 1 year update window would be good.

Weiss reported they are trying to facilitate easy ways to collect the data. REGIS will help gather and submit information on members' behalf. They also realize that project plans may not be set in stone and may change. Those things will need to be updated ongoingly.

Mike Zonyk reported GVMC Transportation has developed a construction map that is updated annually through coordination with their members. He asked if they can piggyback and upload this information to the State.

Weiss stated that can be done. We need to identify where we are duplicating our efforts and coordinate.

Moore added REGIS' main role is drinking water, storm water, sanitary & utilities. He will work with Zonyk on transportation.

Questions can be forwarded to the general portal email at mic@michigan.gov

Moore will send all REGIS members a follow-up email, updating them and giving them the portal email address.

4. Update on Usage of Service Hours

Jason Moore reported the fiscal year started October 1, 2020 and service hour allotments are starting to dwindle down. He reviewed the spreadsheet which will be posted on the GVMC / REGIS website. He will reach out to those running low and include the spreadsheet in his follow-up email.

5. eREGIS Enhancements/Project Update

Jason Moore reviewed the progress with the eREGIS document link tool which allows users to select and export multiple documents as a zip file. Previously each file had to be done individually. This is a great example of user driven ideas. This was requested by users and makes everyone more efficient. Keep the requests / ideas coming.

6. Round Table

- a. John Weiss reported that during the Covid crisis he has spent a lot of time finding out what others are doing around the nation. He recently participated in a video conference with the US & Canada municipal finance officers. REGIS is a model for both the US and Canada and everyone should be congratulated on their willingness to participate and share.
- b. Paul Gerndt reported the next meeting would be July 20th.