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Serving Northeast Wisconsin since 1972

A Regional Center of Excellence (*National Association of Regional Councils, 2009*)

E-Newsletter

December 2012



Thank You Commissioners, Staff, and Member Counties

As the Executive Director of the Commission, I wanted to take a moment to thank the Commissioners and staff for all their support and hard work this past year. In these challenging political and economic times, I sometimes wonder how the Commission has been able to provide such comprehensive and diverse services for counties and communities throughout the region during the past 40 years. The answer is simple. It is the result of all the good people on the Bay-Lake team who have the desire to see that the Commission remains a viable resource for all its many partners. I also wanted to thank the member counties: Florence, Marinette, Oconto, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan for continuing to invest in the Commission and giving us the necessary resources that allow us to serve the region at a high level. 2012 was a good year for the Commission, and with your help, we look forward to providing quality professional planning services for the next 40 years!

An Economic Development District & Metropolitan Planning Organization serving Northeast Wisconsin for over 40 years.

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2013-2014 Work Program and 2013 Budget

The Commissioners approved the *2013-2014 Work Program and 2013 Budget* at its December 14th Commission meeting. As required by Wisconsin State Statutes, the Commission annually prepares and approves a budget reflecting the cost of its operation and services to the local governmental units within the region. The work program incorporates projects to be completed



or initiated within each of the Commission's five programs over the next two to three years. The maintenance of a current work program ensures the Commission has the resources to appropriately assist member counties and the local units of government with their various planning projects. In addition to the work program and budget, the Commissioners approved a four-year Strategic Plan to help ensure the Commission is addressing items such as staffing and staff training, as well as the integration of emerging technology and software in a timely and cost efficient manner. The Commission's goal is to be a valuable resource to federal offices, state departments, member counties and communities, and partner organizations for many years to come.

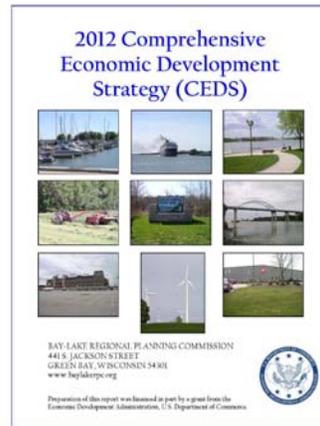
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 10-11, 2012
[Cultivating a Sense of Place: The Niagara Escarpment, the Great Lakes and Human Perception, UW-Green Bay](#)

2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

The *2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* (CEDS) was adopted by the Commissioners at their meeting December 14, 2012. Two copies of the approved CEDS were submitted to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for their review and comment. The CEDS is a requirement for the Commission to maintain its status as an Economic Development District of the EDA. The Commission has served as an Economic Development District since 1980 and the CEDS is a planning document guiding and promoting economic development initiatives at both the local and regional levels. Once EDA staff have approved the Commission's 2012 CEDS, a link will be provided on the [Commission's website to a PDF copy of the report](#).



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Available Grant Opportunities



The following is a list of upcoming grant opportunities and their due dates. Please contact the [Commission](#) if you need assistance with preparing or administering a grant, or if you are interested in partnering with the Commission on a project.

- [Great Lakes Area of Concern Land Acquisition Grants](#), January 28, 2013
- [Urban Waters Restoration Program](#), February 7, 2013

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