



THE WESTERLY VIEW

NEWS & HAPPENINGS FROM THE WESTERN REGION

WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGION

Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall, 2008

Letter from the Executive Director...



WUPPDR celebrates its fortieth anniversary this year and looking back on all the changes we have seen in the world, the nation, and the region during these forty years is awe-inspiring.

Forty years ago, the majority of WUPPDR's current staff had yet to be born and cannot relate to the realities of 1968. They do not know what it was like to watch man take his first step on the moon. They have no concept of the realities of the Vietnam war, of witnessing the civil and women's rights movement, or watching in horror the assassinations of some of our country's great leaders.

Do you remember in 1968 that Lyndon B. Johnson was President and that the Green Bay Packers won Super Bowl II? Do you remember what life was like before cell phones, personal

computers and the Internet?

As an organization can we begin to sum up all of our accomplishments, setbacks, and achievements in the western region in the face of forty years worth of change?

As WUPPDR enters its fortieth year, I enter my second year as Executive Director, and I would like to take a moment to reflect. Have we done our predecessors proud? Do we continue to be mindful of our purpose and vision in our regional activities? Are we achieving what our founders set out to accomplish?

In order to better serve you, the western region, WUPPDR has committed to revisiting our past in order to successfully shape our future. Throughout the next year WUPPDR will take a step back to self evaluate. We will re-examine our mission, realign our vision, and assess our purpose. We like to think that WUPPDR is dynamic, progressing in response to ever-changing political, economic, and social climates.

Advancing technology accelerates change and we can only imagine

what the next forty years will bring. We do know that the WUPPDR Commission and staff are committed to ensuring our region's future success.

Holding the position of WUPPDR Executive Director has been and continues to be a privilege. I look forward to building on my 28 years with this organization and the region.

We are thankful for your continued support and I hope to see you at our annual commission meeting in Gogebic County on September 15, 2008.

Respectfully,

Kim J. Stoker
Executive Director

WUPPDR STAFF

KIM STOKER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LORI HAUSWIRTH
ASSOCIATE PLANNER

MEG PACHMAYER
ASSISTANT PLANNER

JIM LAMUTH
ASSISTANT PLANNER/
TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATOR

COURTNEY ARCHAMBEAU
HOUSING SPECIALIST

KEN MARSHALL
GIS SPECIALIST

STEVE ROUSER
GIS TECHNICIAN

MARY TADDEUCCI
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

SUE HARTER
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

AMY SPAHN
FINANCIAL AIDE



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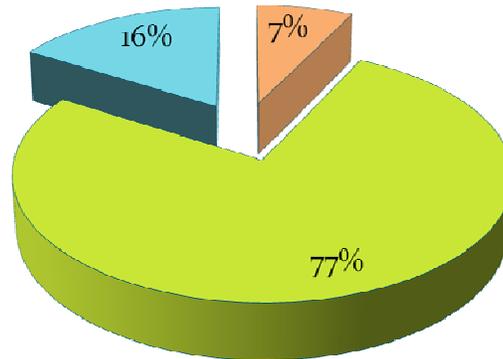
At a Glance: WUPPDR Funding Sources

Q & A

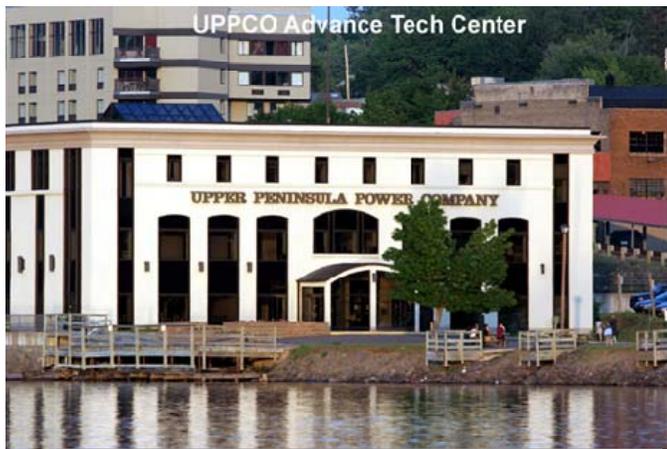
Q: WUPPDR's 2008 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET WAS \$734,972, SO JUST WHERE DOES ALL THAT MONEY COME FROM?

A: THE MAJORITY, ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS, COMES FROM GRANTS AND PROGRAMS. THE OTHER QUARTER COMES FROM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND OF COURSE MEMBERSHIP DUES. IF YOU EVER WANT BUDGET DETAILS DON'T HESITATE TO GIVE US A CALL.

Annual Budget of \$734,972 (2008)



- Membership (\$54,080)
- Grants & Programs (\$561,446)
- Technical Assistance Programs (\$119,446)



WHY HOUGHTON?

WHY HIGH TECH?

...AND WHY ANOTHER INCUBATOR?

WUPPDR staff has provided the catalyst to develop the fourth high-tech incubator in the City of Houghton at the former Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) building. Michigan Tech University purchased the building in July, 2008 and is leasing the entire first floor to the Michigan Tech

Enterprise Corporation (MTEC) to operate the Advanced Tech Center.

WUPPDR staff helped secure a \$500,000 grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and is currently working on securing a \$3.2 million grant from the Economic Development Administration. The project is in its tenth month and if it progresses accordingly, the building will become LEED certified after particular green renovations will be made. LEED is the acronym for *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design*.

You may be asking yourself, Why Houghton; why high-tech; and why another

incubator?

The State and National economy is seeing a shift to the knowledge based industries, especially the high-tech industry. Michigan Tech University, located in the City of Houghton, is producing graduates and employing research staff and faculty who are dedicated to technological based endeavors. Gapping industry and education is an important aspect of MTEC's purpose.

These incubators attract local and national companies creating jobs that allow area residents to apply their education and knowledge locally instead of feeling the push to leave the Upper Peninsula.

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Recreation Plan Reminder

In our last issue of the Westerly View we gave you the top 5 reasons why to think about updating your recreation plan sooner rather than later. The most important rea-

son is that recreation plans must be submitted to the DNR no later than April 1, 2009. Prior to this you need to consider the preparation time and the mandatory 30-day review period. Time

flies quicker than you know it. If you are interested in WUPPDR's assistance for your 2009 recreation planning needs please contact the office by **October 1, 2008!**

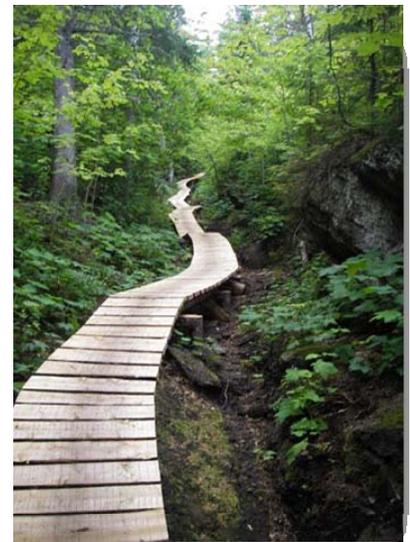
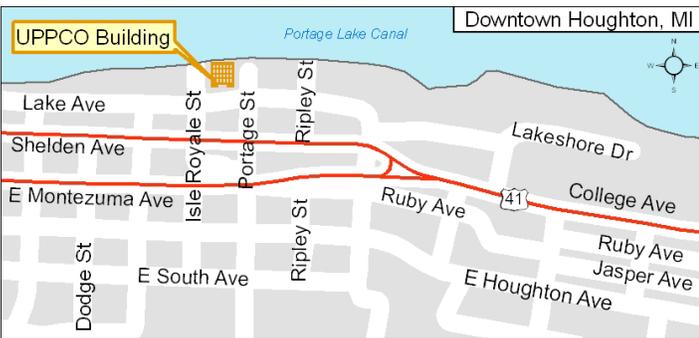
DID WE MENTION YOU MUST HAVE AN UPDATED AND APPROVED RECREATION PLAN IN ORDER TO APPLY FOR DNR TRUST FUND GRANTS?

Making the Connection: Non-Motorized Trail Summit

WUPPDR has been working with the Michigan DOT on a Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy for our region. The information gathered and prioritized for our six counties

will be incorporated into a U.P. wide strategy that will guide non-motorized improvements and funding in the upcoming years. Local community input is crucial to this planning effort therefore, the Western U.P. Non-

Motorized Trail Summit will be held on September 8, 2008. to gather input and begin identifying priority projects for the Region. The meeting will be held in Houghton from 1-4 PM at the UPPCO building located at 600 East Lakeshore Drive. If you would like to attend or have any questions please contact Lori Hauswirth at lhauswirth@wuppdr.org or 906.482.7205 ext 314.



WUPPDR Commission Meeting Schedule

THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH			
September	15	2008	Full Commission (Annual Meeting-Gogebic County)
October	20	2008	Executive Committee
November	17	2008	Executive Committee
December	15	2008	Full Commission
January	19	2009	Executive Committee
February	16	2009	Executive Committee
March	16	2009	Full Commission
April	20	2009	Executive Committee
May	18	2009	Executive Committee
June	15	2009	Full Commission
July	20	2009	Executive Committee
August	17	2009	Executive Committee

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT TULPPO'S RESTAURANT IN BRUCE CROSSING, MI EXCEPT THE SEPTEMBER ANNUAL MEETING. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FULL COMMISSION MEET AT 5:00 PM (ET) EXCEPT ANNUAL MEETS AT 4:30 PM (CT). MINUTES & RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE WUPPDR OFFICE.



WUPPDR
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Find us on the Web: www.wuppdr.org

WUPPDR to Hold 40th Annual Meeting in Gogebic County

Gogebic County will host WUPPDR's 40th Annual meeting on **Monday September 15, 2008** at the Lac Vieux Desert Resort Casino in Watersmeet, MI. We hope you will be able to join us in continuing our celebration of WUPPDR's 40th anniversary. The regular business meeting will be followed by a social hour and buffet dinner.



Annual Meeting Program

Business Meeting: 4:30 CST (5:30 EST)
 Social Hour: 4:30-5:30 CST (5:30-6:30 EST)
 Buffet Dinner: 5:30 CST (6:30 EST)
 Welcome and Introduction of Guests
 Introduction of WUPPDR Officers
 WUPPDR Annual Report
 Keynote Speaker: Ron Yesney, MDNR-Rails to Trails Initiative
 Oreste Chiantello Award Presentation

Dinner: \$16.50/person

WUPPDR Commissioners receive a complimentary dinner.

*You still have time to **RSVP!** Call the office at 906.482.7205 ext. 310 by **September 8.***

Keynote speaker Ron Yesney of the MDNR will present the Rails to Trails Initiative and you won't want to miss the Oreste Chiantello award presentation. We do look forward to seeing you there. Spouses/guests are of course welcome. Please RSVP to Mary by September 8, 2008 if you are interested in attending at mtaddeucci@wuppdr.org or 906.482.7205 ext. 310.