

CAWS STEERING COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE CALL  
MEETING NOTES AND ACTION ITEMS  
January 19, 2021 AT 8:30 A.M.

Call Participants: Matt Doss, Robert Hirschfeld, Kay Nelson, Anna-Lisa Castle, Clark Kaericher, Jon Altenberg, Kathy Luther, Joe Exl, and Candice Eklund.

Discussion Items:

- Kathy Luther announced the PED agreement and the cost share agreement with the State of Michigan have now been signed.
- The USACE will release their work plan in the very near future. The committee discussed they will need to find out if the work plan includes funding for the PED and Brandon Road projects . Kay Nelson noted that the project is up against competition in a prioritization process.
- Kay Nelson stated a congressional letter was sent to the USACE to endorse the PED and Great Lakes Resiliency projects to be included in their work plan. There is a senate letter anticipated from Senator Baldwin to outline funding for the Great Lakes Resiliency study but did not reference the PED or Brandon Road projects. Anna-Lisa reminded the group that the USACE did prioritize the Brandon Road project in their work plan last year, but the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was a higher priority because the PED agreement had not been signed at the time. OMB is considering an affirmative funds agreement, which would allow the known funding budget and appropriations from local partners to fund the first full year of the PED.
- Kathy discussed possible dates for the next virtual meeting with the CAWS Advisory Committee. Matt Doss noted the Great Lakes week will be held the first week of March and the Cities Initiative will meet on March 16-17. Kay Nelson suggested the group meet with the USACE before an Advisory Committee if the PED and Brandon Road projects are not funded in their work plan.
- The USACE's work plan is anticipated to be released prior to the next CAWS Steering Committee on February 16. If the funding for the PED and Brandon Road are not in the work plan, a meeting with the Advisory Committee will need to be organized before Great Lakes week in March.
- Kathy informed the group that she received a call from the USACE regarding the GLRMIS letter that was sent last October, inquiring who a response should be sent to. As of today, NIRPC has not received any responses.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.