

November 2021

Southeast Michigan Designated Management Agency Program Annual Report: FY 2020-2021



SEMCOG

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Mission

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is the only organization in Southeast Michigan that brings together all governments to develop regional solutions for both now and in the future. SEMCOG:

- Promotes informed decision making to improve Southeast Michigan and its local governments by providing insightful data analysis and direct assistance to member governments;
- Promotes the efficient use of tax dollars for infrastructure investment and governmental effectiveness;
- Develops regional solutions that go beyond the boundaries of individual local governments; and
- Advocates on behalf of Southeast Michigan in Lansing and Washington

Southeast Michigan Designated Management Agency Program Annual Report

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Abstract

As the designated water quality management agency (DMA) for Southeast Michigan, SEMCOG has been actively involved with water resource planning since the 1970s. To support DMA responsibilities and the Clean Water Act, SEMCOG developed the *Water Resource Plan for Southeast Michigan* in 2018. The plan builds upon two prior plans – the 1978 and 1999 Water Quality Management Plans for Southeast Michigan. SEMCOG has actively been working to implement the policies and projects in the water resource plan, and collaborate with stakeholders across the region to improve water quality. This report details the initiatives SEMCOG has worked on and developed over the past year, and highlights the importance of the DMA partnership in creating resilient water resource systems.

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- Ann Arbor
- Bedford
- Brighton
- Chelsea
- Detroit
- Dexter
- Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority
- Frenchtown Charter Township
- Great Lakes Water Authority
- Grosse Ile Township
- Grosse Pointe Farms
- Hartland
- Howell
- Ira Township
- Livingston County
- Lyon Township
- Macomb County
- Manchester
- Marine City
- Marysville
- MHOG Sewer and Water Authority
- Milan
- Milford
- Monroe County
- Monroe Metro Sewer Authority
- Mount Clemens
- New Baltimore
- Oakland County
- Port Huron
- Richmond
- Romeo
- Saline
- South Huron Valley Utility Authority
- South Lyon
- St. Clair
- St. Clair - Algonac
- St. Clair County
- St. Clair Sewer & Water Authority
- Sterling Heights
- Trenton
- Village of Holly
- Warren
- Washtenaw County
- Waterford Township
- Wayne County
- Wixom
- Wyandotte
- Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority

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Executive Summary

Background

As the designated water quality management agency for Southeast Michigan, SEMCOG has been actively involved with water resource planning since the 1970s. The federal Clean Water Act required the completion of the *Water Quality Management Plan for Southeast Michigan* in 1978 and established the Designated Management Agency (DMA) program. The DMA program continues to support regional water resource planning activities and is partially funded through our local agency partners. A DMA is an agency or community with responsibilities related to the goal of achieving clean water in Southeast Michigan.

The 2018 Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan builds upon the two prior plans – the 1978 and 1999 Water Quality Management Plans for Southeast Michigan. The 2018 plan builds on regional initiatives and focuses on integrated water resource management, including advancing the blue economy, natural resource protection and enhancement, and water infrastructure systems. It also includes a recommended action to: *Evaluate and review the structure of SEMCOG's Designated Management Agency program that supports regional water planning efforts.*

While the historical DMAs primarily included those that construct, operate, and maintain wastewater treatment facilities, this program was subsequently updated in 2019 to more broadly encompass agencies and facilities responsible for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater, and supports a more integrated water resource planning process.

Since adoption of the updated water resource plan three years ago, SEMCOG has worked to implement the plan through a series of projects and regional initiatives. From coordinating with local partners and stakeholders on water policy issues, to finalizing the Huron-to-Erie Drinking Water Monitoring project, forecasting water infrastructure condition and investment needs, to implementing the One Water campaign for Southeast Michigan, SEMCOG is committed to improving water quality throughout Southeast Michigan. This report details these initiatives and future priorities recognizing the importance of the DMA partnership in creating resilient water resource systems.

How does the DMA program work?

Under the DMA program, SEMCOG collects a fee/financial contribution from DMAs to support regional water resource management planning activities. These activities are part of SEMCOG's annual Work Program and Budget, which is approved by SEMCOG's Executive Committee and General Assembly. In 2019, consistent with actions prescribed in the Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan, the DMA allocation formula was revised to reflect SEMCOG's work on behalf of the DMAs.

How are the DMA fees calculated?

The methodology for the new fee allocation is based on the continued annual budget of \$290,000 that was established in the 1980s. The fee includes an equal distribution (one-third each) of the annual budget across wastewater, drinking water, and stormwater – reflective of SEMCOG's work program. Service area for wastewater and drinking water is defined as the estimated area within

each county that has publicly available sanitary sewer or drinking water. Stormwater service area is derived from the 2010 Census-defined urbanized area. Fees for major wastewater treatment plants and Type I water treatment plants are based on permit information, including average daily flow (WWTPs) and design capacity (WTPs) from the State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

DMA program activities and benefits

The DMA program helps support SEMCOG's water resource and environmental work program activities. It also leverages SEMCOG staff capacity for grant applications and match for federal and state grant funds. Additionally, it facilitates outside stakeholder participation opportunities for SEMCOG staff. Participation in the program helps direct SEMCOG's work and supports each county's capacity and work to meet its own permit requirements and obligations. Activities that the DMA program supports are also directed towards supporting member compliance activities related to stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater requirements:

- Developing the regional One Water public education campaign;
- Updating the *Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan*;
- Participating in various stakeholder groups locally or statewide addressing water resource topics. Stakeholder group topics have included addressing the new lead and copper rule, evaluating MS4 permit conditions, reviewing and commenting on the draft collection systems permit, and responding to new statewide asset management requirements.
- Reviewing and commenting on proposed legislation at the state and federal levels; coordinating with partner agencies on common approaches and feedback.
- Participating in regional watershed management planning groups;
- Coordinating stormwater management and technical assistance services to local agencies, including road agencies, and the challenges associated with stormwater permit requirements;
- Facilitating the Southeast Michigan Partners for Clean Water work group meetings;
- Developing and contracting for stormwater training activities, such as Illicit Discharge Elimination and Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping;
- Developing and promoting water-related educational materials, videos, social media messages, and other related topics;
- Coordinating infrastructure activities, as well as developing the infrastructure asset management program to meet new state requirements;
- Facilitating the Huron-to-Erie Drinking Water Monitoring Network and seeking opportunities to increase drinking water collaboration opportunities; and
- Participating in Great Lakes Water Authority activities, including workgroups and committees.

This report provides further detail and background on fiscal year 2020-2021 water resource planning activities.

Watershed-related committees and activities

SEMCOG's focus on integrated water resource planning requires partnerships with many local communities. From 2020-2021, SEMCOG participated in multiple meetings with local governments, state and federal agencies, academic institutions, not-for-profit organizations, foundations, and other stakeholder groups to assist in watershed planning. The following is a list of organizations in which SEMCOG is an active partner:

- Great Lakes Water Authority
- Friends of the St. Clair River
- Friends of the Rouge
- Clinton River Watershed Council
- Huron River Watershed Council
- Huron to Erie Real Time Drinking Water Monitoring Network
- Friends of the Detroit River
- Alliance of Rouge Communities
- Alliance of Downriver Watersheds
- Great Lakes Commission
- University of Michigan
- Michigan State University Extension
- Lake St. Clair CISMA
- Oakland County CISMA
- Land Information Access Association (LIAA)
- Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
- Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)

Water Quality-Related Assistance and Services to Local Governments

Huron to Erie Corridor Water Monitoring

Throughout the year, SEMCOG staff continued to facilitate the Huron to Erie Corridor Drinking Water Monitoring Stakeholder group. Grant funding from the State of Michigan resulted in 14 facilities getting new source water monitoring equipment and real-time monitoring capabilities. The consulting firm, Environmental Consulting and Technology (ECT) continues to coordinate equipment maintenance and calibration. This year's efforts were focused on regular maintenance, calibration, and troubleshooting with the equipment at each plant.

SEMCOG facilitated the stakeholder group meetings approximately quarterly throughout the year. The group discussed various topics including equipment troubleshooting and maintenance, alarm levels for various contaminants monitored by the new equipment, and any trending issues in the water industry. ECT provided regular updates on the calibration and maintenance of the equipment.

SEMCOG also presented to various interest groups like the St. Clair River Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) and facilitated discussions with Canadian drinking water operators to enhance coordination.

A final [project report](#) was developed in the last fiscal year, titled Lake Huron to Lake Erie Real Time Drinking Water Monitoring. This report examines the benefits, challenges, and lessons learned in rebuilding this real-time drinking water monitoring network. The report recommends next steps to refine that program into a sustainable and coordinated system that will:

- Improve the network to ensure consistent monitoring, maintenance, and calibration;
- Enhance communication and public awareness; and
- Protect public health.

In addition to the next steps highlighted above and in the report, SEMCOG is:

- Working with Wayne State University and GLOS to provide public access to the drinking water monitoring data;
- Researching additional funding opportunities for the drinking water monitoring network;
- Coordinating with Canadian facilities to improve water quality monitoring; and
- Providing input on legislation that would allow funds to be utilized for drinking water monitoring.

One Water Campaign

SEMCOG has always been involved in public education related to water resources. In 2019, SEMCOG, in partnership with Great Lakes Water Authority and the Cranbrook Institute of Science, launched the One Water Campaign for Southeast Michigan. The goal of this campaign is to attain a greater awareness and mutual shared responsibility for water resources and to create public support for investments in water resources and infrastructure asset management.



The One Water Campaign is a unique style of public education campaign, running as a one-week media blitz, in conjunction with Michigan's Great Lakes and Fresh Water Week. Campaign messaging largely focuses on the connection between stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater. For 2021 the campaign focused on the story of Southeast Michigan's water resources, and the importance of partnerships in protecting and restoring water quality.

[Great Lakes and Fresh Water Week](#) and the One Water Campaign ran from June 5-13, 2021. SEMCOG staff held a webinar on June 7 in partnership with EGLE and GLWA to talk about water investments, water recreation, and water infrastructure in Southeast Michigan.

The 2021 One Water Campaign was led by 10 new regional videos that highlight several watershed organizations and local partners and the work that they do in restoring and protecting water quality. Four shortened videos were developed this year for TV advertisement. In addition



to the development of new video content, SEMCOG developed new social media content, that used memes to highlight important water quality actions. Two blogs were written this year, [Our Water History Part 1](#) and [Our Water History Part 2](#), that capture regional water history stories and discuss the success regional partners have made in restoring water quality over the past 50 years. Television advertisement using our One Water videos reached nearly 3.5 million people.

To view One Water materials and find other helpful information on wastewater, stormwater, and drinking water, visit mionewater.com. This website contains educational videos, social media posts, tip cards, an interesting blog series on all three topics, and more.

Southeast Michigan Partners for Clean Water



The [Southeast Michigan Partners for Clean Water](#) group is comprised of SEMCOG members, including representatives from local communities and counties, in addition to representatives from watershed councils, not-for-profit agencies, the private sector, and water resource professionals. The purpose of this group is to facilitate information sharing to coordinate public education and to leverage resources on water quality, stormwater management, and green

infrastructure implementation. The Southeast [Michigan Partners for Clean Water Annual Report](#) (September 2019-October 2020) was produced to summarize SEMCOG's public education activities.

A Southeast Michigan Partners for Clean Water meetings on December 3, 2020 provided an opportunity for SEMCOG to share updates on SEMCOG-related projects, including the Climate Resiliency project and the National Wetland Inventory Update. In addition, SEMCOG partners were able to connect with one another to share project updates and resources.

Illicit Discharge and Elimination Program (IDEP)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SEMCOG and the IDEP Advisory group made the decision not to hold the full in-person Illicit Discharge program in 2020. Rather, SEMCOG, in partnership with ECT Consulting, held two [Illicit Discharge Alert Observer](#) and [Pollution Prevention](#) webinar trainings in November of 2021. These trainings were developed to help support MS4 Phase II Stormwater permit compliance for SEMCOG members and local communities. These trainings are shortened versions of SEMCOG's typical training, but they help public works staff understand how to identify and report sources of pollution. SEMCOG also provides training certificates to participants.

National Wetland Inventory Update Project

SEMCOG, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and Ducks Unlimited, is working to update the National Wetland Inventory for Southeast Michigan. This data update will be used to develop the Environmental Sensitivity Analysis, which helps support transportation planning. This data from the sensitivity analysis will be available for local partners in their respective planning, engineering, and water resource activities.

In the 2020-2021 year, SEMCOG continued to work with Ducks Unlimited and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources on the National Wetland Inventory update. SEMCOG had both

Ducks Unlimited and EGLE staff present at the December 3 Partners for Clean Water meeting to provide an update on the project and discuss the data that will be available upon project completion. The National Wetland Inventory is continuing to be updated, and will be delayed due to COVID-19. Currently, the mapping part of the project is complete, and the functions and values, are being updated by EGLE. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative



In fall of 2018, SEMCOG received a EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant, to implement a Green Infrastructure mini-grant program. SEMCOG funded six projects in total, and project planning for the individual communities began in fall 2019. The implementation of these green infrastructure projects will result in an estimated runoff reduction of four million gallons per year.

In 2020, SEMCOG staff asked for an extension for this project due to the pandemic, which was granted. The project deadline is now in the winter of 2021. Nearly all projects have been completed to this date and will be highlighted in an interactive map upon completion.

Coastal Sustainability Assessment

SEMCOG, in partnership with the Land Information Access Association (LIAA), is working to complete a Coastal Sustainability Assessment for all coastal communities in the SEMCOG region. The work is funded through Michigan's Coastal Zone Management Program. The project includes producing both heat vulnerability and future flooding scenarios for each coastal community. SEMCOG will replicate the process for each county beyond the coastal zone areas. LIAA staff will also work with the communities to complete a Community Sustainability Self-Assessment Tool to understand local planning challenges and initiatives. This work was already completed in St. Clair County under a separate grant, but with this funding, we can expand the project in the region.

Environmental Exchange



Environmental Exchange is a monthly newsletter highlighting environmental news, grants, and best practices for SEMCOG members to learn about and stay up to date. The following issues of Environmental Exchange were published in FY 2020.

- [July 2020](#)
- [August 2020](#)
- [September 2020](#)
- [October 2020](#)
- [November 2020](#)
- [December 2020](#)
- [January 2021](#)
- [February 2021](#)
- [March 2021](#)
- [April 2021](#)
- [May 2021](#)

SEMCOG Blogs

SEMCOG publishes blogs highlighting regional environmental successes. The following blogs were published during FY 20-21.

- [Our Water's History: Part 1](#)
- [Our Water's History: Part 2](#)
- [Creating a Circular Economy for Recycling in the Great Lakes Region](#)
- [Invasive Species in Southeast Michigan](#)
- [Water Infrastructure Update](#)
- [Explore Lake St. Clair restoration through SEMCOG's latest story map](#)
- [Rain Garden 101: Tips and Tricks for Your First Rain Garden](#)
- [Why you should care about rain](#)

Analysis of Legislative and Regulatory Proposals

SEMCOG participates in state workgroups on various environmental regulatory proposals (rules, policies, etc.) in addition to regularly reviewing draft environmental legislation. Examples of SEMCOG's legislative and regulatory support activities include:

- Support and collaboration regarding federal funding and legislative priorities;
- Comments on federal funding legislative priorities, including the American Rescue Plan Act;
- Participation in work groups about PFAS water quality standards, fire-fighting foam, and landfill pretreatment requirements;
- Work on water asset management topics and providing input on various infrastructure council initiatives;
- Convening county partners to review stormwater management criteria and application of future precipitation estimates;
- Convening partners and providing comments to EGLE on the draft Collection Systems Permit for those communities not currently part of the NPDES program;
- Participating in the Groundwater Table initiative and supported legislative efforts to fund recommendations from the Water Use Advisory Council;
- Partnership in the *Coalition for a Strong and Prosperous Michigan* with numerous other agencies recommending funding priorities for statewide ARPA funds;
- Participation in NOAA's climate equity roundtables; and
- Participation in Southeast Michigan's Aging Infrastructure Committee.

Coordinating legislative and policy reviews involves participating in numerous committees and associations that help establish water resource policies. These various groups are identified here:

- Michigan Section, American Water Works Association (MI-AWWA)
 - Asset Management Committee
 - Membership Council
 - Youth Education Committee
 - Young Professional Committee
 - Annual Conference Planning Committee
- Michigan Water and Environment Association (MWEA)
 - Asset Management Committee
 - WEF Stormwater Committee
 - Government Affairs Committee
- Great Lakes Commission
 - Green Infrastructure Champions

- Great Lakes Stormwater Collaborative
- Great Lakes Water Authority
 - Public Education and Outreach Work Group
 - Water Quality Monitoring Work Group
 - Watershed Hub Work Group
 - Wastewater Master Plan
- Michigan State University Extension/ Michigan Sea Grant
 - Water School Training Workshops
- Detroit Reforestation Group
- University of Michigan Tree Research Team
- Great Lakes Integrated Science Assessment
- City of Ann Arbor A2Zero Resilience Work Group
- Oakland County Trail, Water, and Alliance Work Group
- State of Michigan Council on Climate Solutions Workgroups

Engagement in Activities that Implement the Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan

The Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan guides much of SEMCOG's work and is supported and influenced by SEMCOG's members. Recent activities and initiatives that reflect priorities in the plan include the Huron to Erie Corridor Drinking Water Monitoring grant and program, the One Water public education program, the MDOT Climate Resiliency and Flooding project, and the Infrastructure Asset Management program. Additionally, environmental and water resource priorities are integrated into other SEMCOG regional plans and work program activities, including the Regional Transportation Plan, the Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan, and the Parks and Recreation Plan for Southeast Michigan.

Climate Resilience

SEMCOG recently completed a significant Climate Resiliency project for the region that includes a new Flooding Risk Tool for transportation assets and a detailed report on Current and Future Precipitation for Southeast Michigan. As severe flooding events persist, SEMCOG is working to understand vulnerabilities in the region's transportation and infrastructure networks and determine best practices to address these challenges. Products of a recently completed Climate Resiliency study can now be found on [SEMCOG's Climate Resilience webpage](#) and can help guide communities as the plan for these stressors.

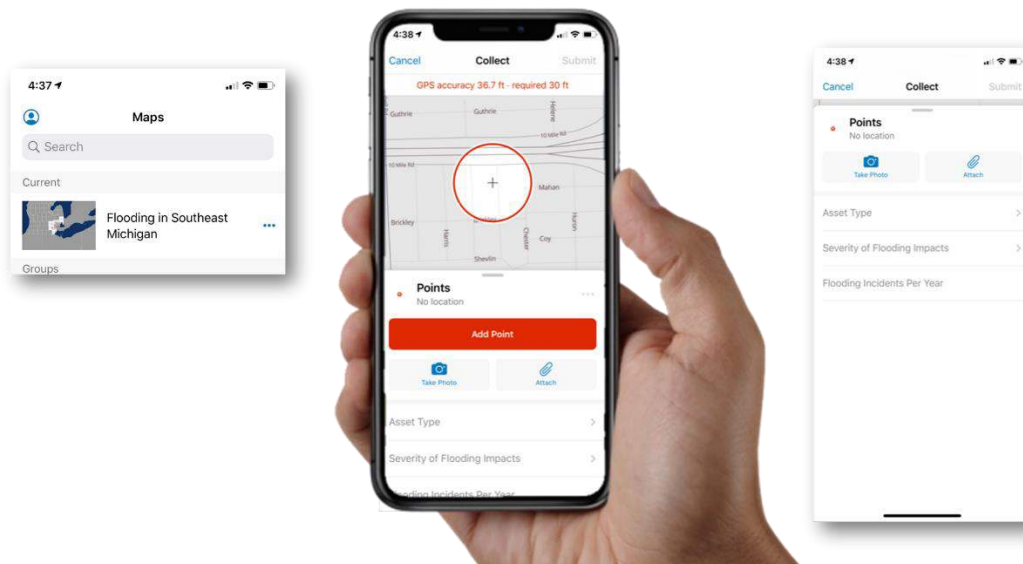
The first product of the resiliency work is the [Flood Risk Tool](#). The tool assigns a flood risk score to transportation assets in the region including bridges, culverts, pump stations, and roads. An interactive dashboard is now live on the SEMCOG website. Communities are able to view flood risk scores for transportation assets in their jurisdiction. Ideally, this information can be used in transportation and stormwater planning to identify potential stormwater challenges during the

project selection process. It can also be used to inform design of transportation projects by encouraging forethought of stormwater management.

The next product of the resiliency work is the [Southeast Michigan Current and Future Precipitation Report](#). This report analyzes changes to precipitation frequency estimates to update current precipitation estimates for use in stormwater design and management. The report also uses widely recognized climate models to estimate trends for mid- and end-of-century rainfall patterns. The results of this analysis predict that rain events will become more intense and more frequent in the future, which will cause our level of service to go down.

This fiscal year, a group of stormwater professionals gathered to discuss this report, the future precipitation estimates, and potential solutions for the region. This group convenes monthly and is working on preparing strategies for stormwater management in the region.

A new tool developed to enhance the Flood Risk Tool database is the [Southeast Michigan Flooding App](#). The app allows asset owners to record frequently flooded locations in their communities. The app uses GPS to record the location; it asks for a photo from the user of the flooding; and it requests a ranking of severity of flooding. Below are two screenshots of the app interface. This application is available for tablet or smartphone, and is available for download now. The results of the app will allow communities to build up their own frequently flooded location databases, which will allow for faster response times during heavy rain events. For example, if a community knows that a certain intersection always floods, they will be able to quickly install road blockades or sand bags. SEMCOG will use these collected data points to refine the flood risk tool analysis and scoring.



The precipitation estimates, Flood Risk Tool, and climate resiliency work were presented at:

- The Ohio Stormwater Conference on August 28, 2020
- Transportation Coordinating Council (TCC) on September 17, 2020
- SEMCOG General Assembly on October 15-16, 2020
- The Transportation Asset Management Council Conference on October 15, 2020

- SEMCOG University Webinar on October 22, 2020
- State Asset Management Conference on October 29, 2020
- Center for Watershed Protection November 16, 2020
- Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting on January 27, 2021
- Michigan Infrastructure Conference on May 13, 2021
- MWEA Annual Conference on June 29, 2021

Water Infrastructure Condition and Investments

In 2019, SEMCOG convened a working group of experts, the Southeast Michigan Asset Management Work Team and secured a consulting team to help develop this new regional program. SEMCOG represents the region on the Michigan Infrastructure Council and by attending both the Transportation and Water Asset Management Council meetings. SEMCOG also provided input and comments on the development of the state asset management template documents. Goals of this program included:

- Understanding the overall condition of infrastructure assets
- Strengthening coordination on infrastructure projects to improve cost efficiencies and reduce inconvenience to the public
- Sharing best practices for asset management programs
- Developing a clearinghouse to summarize regional infrastructure needs
- Communicating region-wide priorities at the state level

SEMCOG compiled the asset data, performed a quality control review of the data, and provided it to the consulting team. The consulting team analyzed the data to quantify condition of the assets and forecasted the findings out to areas in the SEMCOG region that did not provide data. The consultants expanded the condition forecast to the entire region to determine the investment need for drinking water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater systems. The findings were that approximately 30% of our systems are in poor condition.

In order to address the poor pipes and prevent pipes in good or fair condition from deteriorating into poor condition, the investment need is approximately \$3.5 billion annually through 2045 for water infrastructure. This investment need does not include upsizing or right sizing to address stormwater capacity issues, nor does it account for treatment plant investment needs. This data will all be made available on the interactive Regional Infrastructure Plan story map, which is in progress.

As part of its data analysis process, SEMCOG invited several members from the original Work Team to create an Action Team to provide feedback on the analyses. The Action team met several times to provide feedback on the data analysis process, the forecasting methodology, the findings, and the next steps.

To complement the data acquired through the data collection process, SEMCOG also released an [infrastructure survey](#) to the region asking questions regarding planned investments with respect to drinking water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater infrastructure, as well as transportation assets. In addition, the survey asked questions regarding affordability. The survey results are being analyzed to determine current planned investments in the region. This will allow SEMCOG

to quantify the investment gap in the region by subtracting the planned investments from the overall investment need.

Another tool that will help to define current investments and encourage coordination between agencies in the region is the [Capital Improvement Project \(CIP\) Coordination Tool](#). This tool is an interactive map where asset owners can upload their planned Capital Improvement Projects. SEMCOG envisions this tool to be used as a 5-10 year project planning tool in the early phases of project planning. The CIP Tool already incorporates MDOT transportation projects, federally funded Transportation Improvement Projects (TIP), private utility CIP data from DTE, and CIP projects from various communities in the region. The tool is password-protected, allowing only those who participate and share data to be able to see the map. Users can contribute their projects in a shapefile format in the form of points, lines, or polygons, so as to only provide as much detail as each feels comfortable. The goal of this tool is to see where projects overlap between asset owners in order to start the conversation of collaboration.

Currently, the team is working to develop a Regional Infrastructure Plan, which will discuss the current condition and investment need of our underground water infrastructure and our transportation infrastructure. Additionally the Plan will cover the topic of broadband, coordination with private utilities, and future infrastructure needs as they relate to current needs. This plan will be developed over the course of the next fiscal year with input from an Infrastructure Task Force comprised of volunteers from local communities and agencies in the region. [The Infrastructure web page](#) was created featuring transportation, water, and broadband infrastructure. This page will be expanded to include regional actions and policies related to these topics as part of the Regional Infrastructure Plan.

Two staff members were selected to participate in the Michigan Infrastructure Council's Asset Management Champion program. The training occurred over the course of a few months, and included detailed information on how best to encourage asset management participation from asset owners.

These efforts associated with water infrastructure have been presented at:

- SEMCOG's General Assembly on October 15, 2020
- State Asset Management Conference on October 29, 2020
- SEMCOG University Asset Management Webinar November 5, 2020
- Center for Watershed Protection November 16, 2020
- Southeast Michigan GIS User Group on December 10, 2020
- Michigan Infrastructure Conference on May 13, 2021
- MI-AWWA/MWEA Asset Management Committee meeting on June 9, 2021
- MWEA Annual Conference on June 29, 2021

The New Future of Water Infrastructure

Following on the heels of recent flooding events in 2021, SEMCOG hosted a Community Conversation in August of 2021. The discussion centered on short-term and long-term priorities regarding stormwater management and addressing flooding in the region. Participants in this

Community Conversation discussed the investment gap in our water infrastructure and critical future needs for the systems.

As a result of the discussion, four regional priorities emerged:

- Funding
- Coordination
- Climate Resilience
- Education

SEMCOG's New Future of Southeast Michigan: Water Infrastructure StoryMap highlights the importance of investing in Michigan's water infrastructure systems and identifies regional priorities to address in the future. Moving forward, SEMCOG will coordinate with local partners to develop initiatives and policies surrounding these regional priorities.



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