

Year in Review

2025-2026

Data Tools and Analysis

NEW

Four New Applications



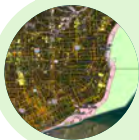
Transportation Access to Core Services

This interactive tool allows users to explore transportation access to core services and jobs by county, community, travel mode, and various demographic groups.



Shared Prosperity

SEMCOG's Shared Prosperity application provides an overview of how economic gains and losses are distributed geographically and by socio-economic groups.



Eco-Planning Tool

Provide early environmental planning indicators for potential development, transportation, and green infrastructure implementation projects.

RICH

Infrastructure Coordination Hub

This tool allows communities in the SEMCOG region to feed their capital improvement data into a regional map that supports coordination of infrastructure projects between agencies.



IMPROVED

Toolkits

State of Michigan Community EV Toolkit

Updates and enhancements to the the Community EV Toolkit include integration of the State's EV Registration Dashboard, updated funding opportunities, and Michigan-based examples to support community EV readiness.

Building Resilience through Green Infrastructure

Major developments have been underway to update the GREEN Dashboard and expand our planning tools for growing tree canopy, restoring wetlands, protecting green spaces, and mitigating flooding with nature-based solutions.

14 MAPS AND APPS UPDATED

- Bridge Condition
- Community Explorer
- Community Profiles
- Demographic Emphasis Areas
- 20 new Datasets in Open Data Portal
- Pavement Condition
- TIP
- Crash Locations
- Planning Assistance Program
- GREEN Dashboard
- Traffic Volume
- ParkFinder™
- High-Frequency Economic Dashboard
- Socio-Economic Indicators

Maintaining ADA: We are developing a guide to make maps and apps consistent with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines before migrating SEMCOG resources to follow these guidelines.

Engaging and Educating

New Groups and Committees

Peer Group Committees

Encourages collaborative planning efforts to develop local strategies, build strengths, and address challenges.

Urban | Suburban | Rural | Small

Civic Advisory Committee

Facilitates meaningful and intentional public involvement—particularly around transportation and mobility— in Southeast Michigan.

32

hosted educational workshops, webinars, and implementation team meetings or roundtables



Member Meetups



Auburn Hills

Downtown Development



Detroit

Joe Louis Greenway Greenway



Plan Adoption and Approval

ADOPTED

Comprehensive Economic Development Plan

ADOPTED

SEMCOG Work Program

ADOPTED

Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan

APPROVED

Public Participation Plan

APPROVED

ADA Transition Plan

2055 REGIONAL FORECAST

Outreach Meetings

228

communities contacted by SEMCOG staff

193

communities responded

62

communities participated in-person and virtual meetings

959

future development site plans collected



River Raisin National Battlefield Park



Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park



Economic and Community Vitality

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The 2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) focuses on three main, interrelated pillars as well as supporting policies and actions for recovery and resiliency. The three pillars are: Great Places, Regional Prosperity, and Economic Resilience.



Main Street Handbook

The **Main Street Checklist** and **Main Street Handbook** support effective implementation of main street features across the region.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SEMCOG UNIVERSITIES

- *A Guide to SEMCOG's Shared Prosperity Application*
- *Introduction to the Main Street Checklist and Handbook*
- *The Impact of Tariffs to Southeast Michigan's Economy*
- *Supporting Small Business and Innovation on Main Street*





EVALUATING SHARED PROSPERITY APPLICATION

SEMCOG's Shared Prosperity in Southeast Michigan, 2018–2024 application shows how prosperity is distributed geographically and across socio-economic income groups. Working with the latest census data, this application creates a consistent and comparable dataset to analyze income groups across geographies and over time. This application displays data for the total population, as well as by disability status and educational attainment.



SEMCOG toured the 123NET Data Center in Southfield to learn about key data center design elements and industry trends.



SEMCOG's Education Peer Group met in March 2026 to collaborate on issues surrounding higher education in Southeast Michigan



Guiding Investment

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

\$18.2 MILLION AWARDED TO 28 COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING:

WARREN | \$1.25M

Chicago Road Bridge and Connector

TROY | \$1.28M

Wattles to Long Lake Trail

HOWELL | \$918,000

Sidewalk Modernization and Accessibility

BELLEVILLE | \$552,890

Pedestrian Safety Improvement

Completed Projects

VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS - \$1.5M



Sidewalks, crosswalks, and safe access to schools

CITY OF BRIGHTON - \$329,500



Sidewalks and safety crossings in critical locations



PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

\$496,500 MILLION AWARDED TO 13 PROJECTS, INCLUDING:

\$40,000 | Stephens Road Greenway Project

\$40,000 | Oakland County Stormwater Framework

\$34,000 | Westland Norwayne Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan

ROAD SAFETY AUDITS

11 Road Safety Audits conducted across the region:

- Port Huron | Gratiot Ave, multiple locations
- Clawson | 14 Mile from Crooks Rd to Rochester Rd
- Bedford & Whiteford Twps | Sterns Rd from Memorial Hwy to Telegraph Rd

CITY OF DETROIT - \$1.47M



Bicycle and pedestrian connections to Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park

MONROE COUNTY - \$1.45M



Monroe County Heritage and Loop Trails

Transportation and Mobility

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

2025 Transportation Access to Core Services



Report

The report evaluates how well people across the region can reach key destinations by walking, biking, fixed-route transit, and driving.



Quick Facts

This resource provides a high-level overview of the key takeaways from the full report, including key findings, sample analyses, and planning implications.



Online Tool

The Transportation Access to Core Services Interactive Online tool provides a user-friendly platform for exploring accessibility analysis.



SEMCOG STAFF HIGHLIGHT

SEMCOG Planner **Ally Racisz** was recognized as Michigan Transportation Planning Association Junior Planner of the Year



SEMCOG's Safe Streets Campaign premiered a new video, "**Road Wizard**" as a part of roundabouts education efforts.

Road Wizard won a 2026 Michigan Emmy for Public Service Announcement

"Driving Store" Video

SEMCOG's PSA has received multiple awards for its excellence in raising awareness and public interest in transportation safety. In 2025, the video received:



- ★ 2025 Michigan Emmy Award for Public Service Announcement
- ★ Gold People's Telly Award in the General – Regional TV category
- ★ Silver Telly Award in the General – Public Service and PSA category



SEMCOG hosted a bi-national transportation border working group, continuing our 30-year engagement in cross-border transportation

Government Affairs and Advocacy



SEMCOG officers and policy staff met with the Southeast Michigan Congressional delegation, Governor Whitmer's staff, and other policymakers in Washington to advance SEMCOG's federal priorities.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

SEMCOG UNIVERSITIES

- *Crisis Management for Local Government Leaders*
- *Don't miss a beat! Ensuring Operational Continuity During Staff Turnover*
- *Legislative Lunch and Learn - the Importance of Local Zoning*





Housing

In 2026, SEMCOG worked to defend local voices against proposed legislation that would upend community authority in residential zoning.

In February, the Michigan Legislature introduced a package of bills that would significantly limit local decision-making authority. SEMCOG and partners from across the state immediately took action to voice concerns about the loss of community input on residential zoning decisions. Actions included: hosting a press conference for officials across the region and state; welcoming legislators to a legislative reception; and hosting legislators and local leaders for a lunch and learn on the importance of municipal zoning. SEMCOG remains actively committed to fighting for local control and opposing state overreach.



In August, SEMCOG hosted a press event celebrating a \$1.5 million Fiscal Year 2025 State appropriation to update drinking water monitoring equipment along the Huron-Erie Corridor. This appropriation will help protect the drinking water for nearly half the state's population.



Environment and Infrastructure

Partnerships

SEMCOG worked collaboratively with local members, regulators, consultants, and environmental organizations to strengthen environmental quality and infrastructure across Southeast Michigan. Key initiatives include:

- Launched the Flooding Task Force to address regional flood challenges
- Conducted three flooding workshops on planning, engineering, and emergency response
- Hosted the Recreation Leaders Summit
- Engaged EGLE in water infrastructure compliance stakeholder groups
- Delivered four municipal trainings to support improved stormwater compliance
- Initiated the \$4.2 million Green Infrastructure Community Grant Program
- Supported EGLE's ozone attainment request to USEPA
- Participated in more than 40 County Materials Management Planning Committee meetings and supported community MMP education with video and other materials.

ENVIRONMENT

SEMCOG UNIVERSITIES

- *Green Infrastructure Grant Program*
- *Pathways and Partners for a Healthy Climate*
- *Stormwater Utility Guidebook Seminar*
- *Eco Planning and Stormwater Planning Tools*





COMPLETED



Healthy Climate Plan

The Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan, serving as the region's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), outlines data-driven pathways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance natural systems, improve air quality, and build more resilient communities.



Stormwater Utility Guidebook

This guide provides a practical, process-oriented framework for municipalities considering a stormwater management utility. It summarizes the major steps involved in evaluating feasibility, determining whether to proceed, developing the utility program, adopting necessary documentation, and preparing for implementation.



SEMCOG STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Kelly Karll, SEMCOG's Manager of Environment and Infrastructure, was the recipient of the Regional Resiliency Hero Award.



Watch the Year in Review video for stories about local accomplishments throughout the SEMCOG region

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