

Analysis of Going Places Implementation Tools

Executive Summary

January 3, 2014

About Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Founded upon the principles of regional collaboration, cooperation, and consensus building, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) serves as the common ground where area partners come together to work toward a shared vision across the Region. The MVRPC Strategic Plan directs the agency's mission and goals. These goals include regional stewardship, vibrant communities, partnerships, and sustainable solutions and environment.

About Going Places

We live, work and play regionally and now it is time to plan regionally. We seek to offer more as a region in order for each community to prosper. MVRPC's Board of Directors recognized the need for and importance of developing a regional land use plan to serve as a resource and guide to assist in local land use planning and decision-making processes. This led to Going Places, a regional land use planning initiative.

Working with two committees (Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee) appointed by the Board of Directors, MVRPC has documented where the region is now through multiple studies and assessments. Community members, businesses, local governments and organizations across the region were asked to share what they want this region to look like in the future. The input gathered led to the identification of a regional vision. This vision is the *Concentrated Development Vision*.

Going Places committee members convened a monthly meeting in 2013 for the purpose of developing the resources and partnerships needed to make this vision happen.

Going Places Implementation Tools

This document is designed to present a draft collection of implementation tools for the consideration of MVRPC's stakeholders in preparation for completion of the final phase of the Going Places process.

After reviewing and analyzing the results of all of the feedback provided by the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee between August and November 2013, Wise Economy Workshop (WEW), a consulting team, has identified 11 primary tools that encompass all of the tools that demonstrated a relatively high level of committee support.

When compiled, the tools in turn reflected three priorities that had become evident throughout the initiative and provided a useful overarching organizational structure for understanding and evaluating the tools analysis. Priorities include:

- Priority #1: Better Information for Strong Decision Making
- Priority #2: Strengthen Regional Collaboration
- Priority #3: Build the Region's Capacity for Solutions

The following pages present the eleven (11) tools grouped by the three priorities.

Tool A: Build a Shared Geographic Information System (GIS) for the Region

Overview

Shared GIS for the region provides a web-based and publicly accessible data system. This system allows us for better understanding and visualization of data in many ways that reveal relationships and trends in the form of maps, reports, and charts. MVRPC would make available and aid with the use of regional data. Data would cover areas from statistics, demographics, zoning, land use, natural environment factors, built environment, infrastructure and regional assets. Data would be created by MVRPC or provided by local governments and organizations. MVRPC will maintain and update the data. MVRPC will aid with the use of the data by performing analyses upon request and developing training opportunities to help local government staff.

Local Benefits

- Increases the level of information and resources available
- Increases existing local staff capacity
- Reduces time and costs for projects
- Improves the quality of analysis
- Fast response to development
- Avoids duplication of efforts
- Resources for economic development

Regional Benefits

- Uniformity of information
- Analysis on a larger scale
- Enhances understanding of regional issues
- Improves coordination and cooperation
- Improves analysis and justification for funding requests
- Provides a platform for more advanced tools
- Makes the region more marketable
- Resources for agencies and organizations

Background

The Shared GIS for the Region tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Develop a shared GIS system as an information source for member jurisdictions (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool J, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- Conduct a training program in the use and application of GIS systems for local government staff (Local Government Theme, Tool C, reviewed on Sept. 10, 2013)
- Provide customized GIS-based data/analysis package to assist communities in local planning and development management (Assets Theme, Tool E, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)
- Develop a program of regional asset mapping (Assets Theme, Tool I, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead	Implementation Timing: Short term	Existing: MVRPC has in-house
development and	 This is a foundation tool 	capacity. This tool would require
management	Start-up Steps:	coordinating staff resources
Partners: MVRPC will	 Define GIS protocol 	Needed Resources: Future may
coordinate and partner with	 Identify GIS resources and information 	require additional support staff
local jurisdictions, agencies	gaps	Funding: Seek grant
and organizations	• Engage with jurisdictions to identify	opportunities and partnerships
	priorities	to expand GIS capacity and
		product

Tool B: Establish an Economic Development Site Selection Database

Overview

An economic development site selection database for the region would identify and analyze site options for new and relocating businesses. Such a tool would help businesses search for sites based on their operational requirements. This tool would also help local governments and property owners attract business. MVRPC would collaborate with local jurisdictions and regional economic development agencies to identify the type of information that these businesses seek. The database would be web-based. Several good models are available to use as a prototype across the nation.

Local Benefits

- Businesses get information more quickly
- Central knowledge of sites available
- Improved awareness of local strengths/needs
- Enhanced self-image
- Increase competitiveness
- Long-term influx of revenue and economic development

Regional Benefits

- Increased regional competitiveness
- More business friendly
- More marketable
- Brings funding to the region
- Accurate knowledge of sites available
- Accurate knowledge of skill sets available
- Shared awareness of regional needs
- Improves analysis and justification for funding requests
- Provides a platform for more advanced tools

Background

The Economic Development Site Selection Database tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Develop a comprehensive searchable database for the region to help businesses identify the most relevant sites and buildings for their needs (Workforce Theme, Tool C, reviewed Oct. 10, 2013)
- Support the creative repurposing of underutilized regional infrastructure resources (Assets Theme, Tool B, reviewed Nov. 13, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Support	Implementation Timing: Short term	Existing: MVRPC has in-house
development and	 Coordinate with GIS system 	technical and facilitation
management	development	capacity. This tool may require
Partners: MVRPC will	Start-up Steps:	reallocating staff resources
coordinate and partner with	Identify funding	Needed Resources: Future may
local jurisdictions, economic	 Scope content and economic 	require web design/hosting
development, utility and	development priorities	assistance
planning and development	 Design database 	Funding: Seek grant
agencies and organizations	Wireframe site	opportunities and partnerships

Tool C: Build a Return on Investment/Impact Analysis Tool

Overview

A return on investment/impact analysis tool helps a community seek high return on investments and manage projects. These projects could include development, redevelopment, preservation, and brownfield remediation. This tool would evaluate a wide variety of factors to predict the potential impacts, costs and benefits of a proposed project. Factors may include, but are not limited to potential tax revenues, infrastructure costs, short and long term maintenance costs, local and regional economic impact and environmental impact. MVRPC will partner with local jurisdictions, agencies and organizations to identify factors. The analysis tool would be web-based for ease of access and maintenance.

Local Benefits

- Enable communities to analyze project proposals more objectively
- Promote careful analysis
- Provide sound justification for decisions
- Save money
- Improved competitiveness in state and federal grants

Regional Benefits

- Better use of limited resources
- Avoid redundancies/overspending
- Decrease lag time
- Improved workforce opportunities across the region
- Better decision making across region
- Provide measuring stick
- Improve economic development
- Smarter decisions on infrastructure

Background

The Return on Investment/Impact Analysis tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Create a tool that allows local governments to predict the potential impacts of a proposed development on such issues as tax revenue, public safety, road maintenance, etc. (Local Government Theme, Tool G, reviewed on Sept. 10, 2013)
- o Develop a return on investment analysis tool (Assets Theme, Tool A, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)
- Support an acceleration of brownfield remediation to the region (Assets Theme, Tool C, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead	Implementation Timing: Medium term	Existing: MVRPC has in-house
development and	Commence after GIS system outline	capacity for analysis and
management	determined	maintenance
Partners: MVRPC will	Start-up Steps:	Needed Resources: Outside
coordinate and partner with	• Develop scope of project in partnership	resources needed to create the
local jurisdictions, planning	with jurisdictions	tool
and development and	 Identify funding strategy 	Funding: Seek grant
research agencies and	Retain assistance as needed	opportunities and partnerships.
organizations		Membership fees could be used

Tool D: Prepare, Distribute and Publicize Regular Series of Regional Assets and Economy Analyses

Overview

This tool helps communities and the region identify and build on our unique assets. This tool would document and analyze regional assets to help with planning, coordination, service delivery, and project development. Interactive mapping of related assets will help identify opportunities to improve, strengthen and connect assets. Assets may include, but are not limited to, the built environment, natural environment, transportation, infrastructure, employment, education, public and private institutions and other regional features. MVRPC will coordinate and partner with local jurisdictions, and regional agencies and organizations to identify assets. MVRPC would manage the data and mapping.

Local Benefits

- Identifies resources that can be coordinated
- Provide accessible central clearing house
- Increased information to collaborate and work together
- Provide objective data to use and where things are
- Show what should be developed and preserved
- Showcases/builds upon our existing strengths
- Builds local service delivery

Regional Benefits

- Identify regional assets
- Identify gaps/disconnects
- Provide regional perspective of available assets
- Encourage interagency cooperation
- Be a source of neutral data for decision making
- Showcases our strengths
- Creates a bigger picture

Background

The Regular Series of Regional Assets and Economy Analyses tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Establish a center for regional economic data and analysis, in partnership with other agencies (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool G, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- o Create and share regional performance indicators (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool H, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- Create and share maps illustrating key assets and gaps. (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool I, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- Conduct geographic distribution study of workforce, education and training resources and economic centers of activity (Workforce Theme, Tool B, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013)
- Develop a program of regional asset mapping (Assets Theme, Tool I, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead	Implementation Timing: Medium term	Existing: MVRPC research
development and	 Initial design of strategy (in partnership with regional 	analysis and mapping capacity.
management	agencies) as soon as possible. Initial analyses conducted	Needed Resources: Regional
Partners: MVRPC will	as soon as analytical and online capacity permits	partners will be necessary to
coordinate and partner	Start-up Steps:	facilitate appropriately for
with local jurisdictions,	 Identify potential analysis themes based on MVRPC 	comprehensive analyses
research and other	priorities (CDV, Strategic Plan)	Funding: No significant
regional agencies and	• Consult with jurisdictions regarding priorities and data	additional funding needs
organizations	sources	anticipated
	 Create conceptual design of program. 	

Tool E: Conduct Regular Project Funding Competitiveness Analysis

Overview

Given increasingly stringent competition for state and federal funding, this analysis would identify opportunities to increase a project's competitiveness for funding awards. MVRPC would partner with and support jurisdictions and organizations to seek funding. MVRPC would analyze funding requirements and award trends, connect organizations where collaboration would be beneficial, help refine project scopes to increase competitiveness and help identify positive regional impacts.

Local Benefits

- Increase efficiency
- Spend less through shared resources
- Get more projects completed
- Tie into state and federal initiatives that enable funding
- Provides rationale for local decision making

Regional Benefits

- Improve regional collaboration
- Improve competitiveness for receipt of funding
- More regional impact
- Completion of projects in a timely manner
- Funds projects otherwise not obtainable by individual government agencies or organizations

Background

The Regular Project Funding Competitiveness Analysis tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Identify ways to increase a proposed project's funding competitiveness by increasing or highlighting its regional impact (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool A, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- Develop Matchmaker program to actively connect local agencies and develop regional projects that can compete for funding. (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool B, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)
- Support search and application efforts for regional funding, particularly for connecting transportation/land use coordination with economic objectives (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool F, reviewed on Aug. 15, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead	Implementation Timing: Medium term	Existing: MVRPC research and
development and	 Initial design of strategy (in partnership 	analysis capacity
management	with regional agencies) as soon as	Needed Resources: None
Partners: MVRPC will	possible. Initial analyses conducted as	anticipated
coordinate and partner with	soon as analytical and online capacity	Funding: No significant
local jurisdictions, and other	permits	additional funding anticipated
regional agencies and	Start-up Steps:	
organizations	 Identify potential criteria based on 	
	MVRPC priorities (CDV, Strategic Plan)	
	 Consult with jurisdictions regarding 	
	priorities and data sources	
	 Create and gain support for conceptual 	
	design of program	

Priority #2: Strengthen Regional Collaboration

Tool F: Establish a Regular Forum for Regional Transportation and Development

Overview

A forum with a broad cross section of leaders and stakeholders from the Miami Valley region would be convened on a regular basis to share perspectives on regional challenges, opportunities, and coordination efforts. The forum would occur at least once per year and would be designed and promoted to focus on important regional issues and the identification of regional priorities and initiatives.

Local Benefits

- Open interjurisdictional conversation
- Enable local jurisdictions to help establish regional priorities
- Broader understanding of regional issues
- Improved quality of decision making

Background

Regional Benefits

- Broaden support & understanding of local issues
- Facilitate more effective use of limited resources
- Improved quality of decision making

The Forum for Regional Transportation and Development tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Convene a regular, structured regional forum to collaboratively identify and prioritize regional infrastructure priorities (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool D, reviewed Aug. 15, 2013)
- Support inclusion of transportation and/or land use issues in existing regional forums through stronger partner roles (Acting Regionally Theme, Tool E, reviewed Aug. 15, 2013)

Implementation

development and management• Ongoing on annual basis Start-up Steps:planning expertiseNeeded Resources: No	e T	Resources
coordinate and partner with MVRPC priorities Funding: No significant	RPC Role: LeadIIelopment and•nagementStners: MVRPC will•rdinate and partner with•al jurisdictions, planning•I development and other•ional agencies and•	Existing: MVRPC regional

Priority #2: Strengthen Regional Collaboration

Tool G: Establish Targeted Subgroups to Address Specific Issues of Local Jurisdiction Coordination

Overview

MVRPC would help connect and convene key participants to identify shared solutions for local and regional challenges. Upon request, MVRPC would help organize and facilitate meetings between groups. The goal would be to improve coordination and cooperation while finding solutions. Groups may include local governments, businesses, public and private institutions, educational institutions, regional organizations and stakeholders. Topics may include comprehensive and land use planning, zoning regulations, infrastructure, transportation, development, preservation and natural resources.

Local Benefits

- Get all stakeholders to the table including non governmental organizations, ad hoc groups, individuals
- Help prioritize regional projects

Regional Benefits

- Create a culture of regionalism
- Focus resources
- Work regionally
- Improved cooperation

Background

The Targeted Subgroups tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Convene and facilitate a regulatory coordination committee to identify and develop shared strategies for addressing common regulatory issues (Local Government Theme, Tool E, reviewed on Sept. 10, 2013)
- Convene and facilitate targeted discussions between local government representatives and regional or subregional businesses and institutions to identify solutions to land use/transportation issues (Local Government Theme, Tool K, reviewed on Sept. 10, 2013)
- Facilitate conversations between school districts and local governments to improve awareness of and coordination around school/community land use and transportation issues (Workforce Theme, Tool F, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013)

Implementation

development and management• Can commence as soon as possiblefacilitation capacityPartners: MVRPC will coordinate, facilitate and• Survey jurisdictions to identify potential focus issuesfacilitation capacityNeeded Resources: None anticipated• Survey jurisdictions to identify potential focus issues• Can commence as soon as possible• Secondary	Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
planning and development • Extend invite to key and other regional agencies jurisdictions/participants	MVRPC Role: Support development and management Partners: MVRPC will coordinate, facilitate and partner with local jurisdictions, planning and development	 Implementation Timing: Short term Can commence as soon as possible Start-up Steps: Survey jurisdictions to identify potential focus issues Scope process Extend invite to key 	Existing: MVRPC research and facilitation capacity Needed Resources: None anticipated

Tool H: Establish a Regional Leadership Training Program

Overview

A regional leadership training program provides a curriculum for regional leaders and citizens to learn about our region's assets, initiatives, programs and organizations. The program will be developed in collaboration with local governments, regional agencies and organizations. Upon completing the program these leaders will build awareness of initiatives, services, communities and opportunities in their own communities. They can help focus on enhancing our economic growth and quality of life throughout the region. MVRPC would support the development and management of this program in cooperation with regional partners.

Local Benefits

- Help get people involved
- Understand government workings and their responsibilities

Regional Benefits

- Create a culture of regionalism
- Increase citizen participation
- Increase awareness of regional issues and challenges

Background

The Regional Leadership Training program tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Develop a regional citizen's government academy (Local Government Theme, Tool J, reviewed on Sept. 10, 2013)
- Establish regional leadership training model (Image Theme, Tool K, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013) *new tool proposed by committees

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead development and management Partners: MVRPC will coordinate and partner with local jurisdictions, other regional agencies and organizations, and high education institutions	 Implementation Timing: Short term Can commence as soon as possible Start-up Steps: Develop training curricula Coordinate with jurisdictions and organizations to identify potential participants Schedule and announce first class 	Existing: MVRPC research and facilitation capacity Needed Resources: None anticipated Funding: No significant additional funding anticipated

Tool I: Promote Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Development and Redevelopment

Overview

MVRPC would support sustainable development and redevelopment efforts at the local level by being a resource for local jurisdictions and regional partners. MVRPC would manage data resources for mapping and analysis, research best practices for sustainability and help with funding opportunities. This initiative could focus on sustainable design, vacant properties, brownfields, water and air quality, transportation and existing infrastructure.

Local Benefits

- Effective use of resources
- Promote redevelopment
- Improve Aesthetics
- Economic development tool

Regional Benefits

- Attracting new uses for resources
- Maximize return on current investments
- Bring funding to the region
- Enhanced attractiveness of communities

Background

The Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Development and Redevelopment tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Support and enhance regional economic development efforts to pursue economic gardening (Workforce Theme, Tool D, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013)
- Support the creative repurposing of underutilized regional infrastructure resources (Assets Theme, Tool B, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013)
- Support an acceleration of brownfield remediation in the region (Assets Theme, Tool C, reviewed on Nov. 11, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Support	Implementation Timing: Medium term	Existing: MVRPC research,
development and	 Can commence as soon as possible 	facilitation and planning
management	Start-up Steps:	expertise
Partners: MVRPC will coordinate facilitation and partner with local jurisdictions, planning and development and other regional agencies and organizations	 Identify three to five key issues to start with based on MVRPC and jurisdiction priorities Develop information sharing plan; Identify sponsor/funding for competition 	Needed Resources: Cash prize for competitions would be helpful Funding: Regional foundation or corporate sponsorship

Tool J: Promote Innovative Solutions for Natural Resources Preservation and Enhancement

Overview

MVRPC would help raise awareness of established and innovative solutions for natural resource preservation and enhancement issues. MVRPC would help manage data resources for mapping and analysis. MVRPC would research best practices for natural resources preservation. Given the issues identified to date, this effort would focus on strategies for low impact development, managing stormwater runoff, and groundwater quality management.

Local Benefits

- Saves money
- Promote natural resources protection
- Improve aesthetics

Regional Benefits

- Attracting new uses for resources
- Maximize return on current investments
- Bring funding to the region
- Conservation of important assets

Background

The Innovative Solutions for Natural Resources Preservation and Enhancement tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Research and share sustainable design/low impact development methods, particularly for water management (Assets Theme, Tool J, reviewed on Nov. 13, 2013) *new tool proposed by committees
- Increase support of watershed, groundwater and surface water issues in the region (Assets Theme, Tool F, reviewed on Nov. 11, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Lead	Implementation Timing: Medium term	Existing: MVRPC research, facilitation
development and	 Can commence as soon as possible 	and planning expertise
management	Start-up Steps:	Needed Resources: Cash prize for
Partners: MVRPC will coordinate facilitation and partner with local jurisdictions, preservation and conservation and other regional agencies and organizations	 Identify three to five key issues to start with based on MVRPC and jurisdiction priorities Develop information-sharing plan Identify sponsor/funding for competition 	competitions would be helpful Funding: Regional foundation or corporate sponsorship

Tool K: Support Efforts to Implement a Miami Valley Story Project to Facilitate More Meaningful Regional Marketing and Increased Local Tourism

Overview

This tool is designed to market the Miami Valley as a region, to residents and to outside interests. Since the region has such a wide variety of communities and resources, this would reveal and articulate a series of authentic statements and images that can be woven into regional marketing efforts of all types. This initiative provides a positive way to raise general public awareness of the region as a whole. This initiative would not be led by MVRPC, but should be led by regional marketing and economic development specialists. The key challenge of this initiative is in promoting it, which is why regional tourism agencies have been proposed to lead it.

Local Benefits

- Change conversation to positive aspects
- Bring more people to each locale
- Attraction/retention of talent
- Increased population
- Flourishing businesses

Regional Benefits

- Positive perceptions of region
- Awareness of opportunities
- Keep revenue circulating in the region

Background

The Miami Valley Story Project tool is a compilation of the following tools, as proposed by WEW, and identified for support from the Steering Committee and Planning Advisory Committee members during their review of these Tools for Consideration:

- Build partnerships with other agencies to develop an "authentic narrative" about the region as a means to build internal understanding of the area's uniqueness and support more meaningful marketing (Image Theme, Tool G, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013)
- Support development of a "Tourism for Locals" program (Image Theme, Tool H, reviewed on Oct. 10, 2013)

Implementation

Role	Timing and Start-up Steps	Resources
MVRPC Role: Support development and management Partners: MVRPC will coordinate and partner with local jurisdictions, tourism, marketing agencies and organizations and media	 Implementation Timing: Long term When partner agencies are prepared to undertake effort Start-up Steps: Identify and have open discussions with potential lead agencies 	Existing: MVRPC research and mapping expertise Needed Resources: no significant additional resources anticipated Funding: n/a