

Special Community Input

STEP I

As a sub-committee please identify **issues** of strategic importance that are certain to have an impact on the future of Pittsfield Township and the region. Solutions to the issues are not necessary at this time, moreover, it is important for the sub-committee to identify issues that may warrant special consideration or further study throughout the planning process.

This step will give the Executive Committee direction for preparation of the 2010 Pittsfield Plan so that the issues of greatest importance to stakeholders like you are adequately addressed. Remember, no issue is too big or too small!

Charter

The focus of this subcommittee is to pull together specific members or groups within the community that have unique needs. The subcommittee should identify the various constituents' in the Township that may have specific needs, such as youth, elderly, people with disabilities, or the economically disadvantaged and how to incorporate these into our planning processes. It will be important to try to determine how the Township can continually maintain awareness of these groups and their needs in order to address them sustainably into the future.

Big Picture Issues:

- How do we get people excited about providing input for the Master Plan?
- With technology used as the mechanism to communicate with residents about the Master Plan, we need to focus on closing the technology gap.
- Finding useful venues to host community-wide information gathering sessions.
- Creating a communication plan that shows the youth and the disadvantaged how providing input on the Master Plan will benefit them.
- Transportation to the Master Plan input sessions and/or Town Hall meetings.
- Creating a communication plan targeting the elderly (i.e. letting this group know that can get involved as active participants).
- What type of incentives should be used to get residents to attend the Master Plan input sessions (i.e. consider hosting a resource fair that will allow residents the opportunity to provide input on the Master Plan but also connect with local service providers)?
- Addressing language barriers, providing interpreters and/or interpretation services to reach residents that do not speak English as a primary language.
- Getting valuable input from the local neighborhoods that will be impacted by the Master Plan, consider spreading the word to block captains and neighborhood watch groups.
- Develop an alternative communication strategy that does not incorporate technology (i.e. print, radio, cable).

Please email a copy of this form to Mandy Grewal at grewalm@pittsfield-mi.gov or drop off/mail hard copies at Township Hall by **Friday, November 27, 2009.**

