

Regional Homeland Security Program in West Michigan Successful

The Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) have successfully completed the first regional Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) covering thirteen counties in West Central Michigan.

The Michigan Department of State Police (MSP), acting on recommendations from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Congress, regionalized the delivery of homeland security programs to local governments in 2007. In West Michigan, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board, consisting of emergency management directors and other first responders, provide policy direction and guidance for the implementation of its HSGP. National and state objectives are set respectively by DHS and MSP. The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission is responsible for the management and administration of the program and is the designated fiduciary.

The first Homeland Security Grant Program awarded to the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board, involving \$3.6 million in DHS funds, has been fully completed. Important homeland security activities in the area of regional planning, training, exercises, equipment purchases, law enforcement and others have been implemented. A second grant is presently being administered and a third grant is about to be announced.

For more detailed information regarding the region's HSGP , please log on to the WMSRDC's website www.wmsrdc.org. or call Nan Emmer, Planning Director, (231) 722-7878x14, nemmer@wmsrdc.org.