



Economic Development In Your Place  
Fall Conference  
October 30, 2025  
The Delamar, Traverse City, MI

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## Onsite Agenda

**8:00 a.m. Registration Opens**

**8:45 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Amy Shamroe**, Mayor, City of Traverse City

**9:00 a.m. Aligning State Priorities for a Lasting Impact in Your Region**

Moderator: **Nate Scramlin**, Director, Redevelopment Services, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Panelists: **Susan Corbin**, Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

**Luke Forrest**, Director, Engagement, Community and Worker Economic Transition Office

**Sarah Lucas**, Director, Office of Rural Prosperity

**10:00 a.m. Networking Break**

**10:15 a.m. Community Coordination of Shared Water and Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure**

**Robert Carson**, AICP, Regional Director of Community Development, Networks Northwest

**Zach Vega**, AICP, Community Planner, Networks Northwest

**11:15 a.m. Networking Break**

**11:30 a.m. The Economic Impact of Health Care and the Michigan Impact of OBBBA**

**Adam Carlson**, Senior Vice President, Advocacy, Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Jim Lee**, Senior Vice President, Data Policy & Analytics, Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**12:30 p.m. Lunch/Membership Meeting**

**1:15 p.m. Guiding a Successful and Vibrant Environment for Small Businesses**

Moderator: **Kelli Saunders**, *Vice President of Policy and Engagement, Small Business Association of Michigan*

Panelists: **Michael DeBruyn**, *President, Great Lakes Stainless*

**Russ Knopp**, *Owner, Comfort Keepers*

**Courtney Lorenz**, *Founder & Idealist, Cultured Kombucha*

**2:15 p.m. Networking Break**

**2:30 p.m. Blue Tech at the Water's Edge: The Freshwater Research & Innovation Center at Discovery Pier**

Moderator: **Nick Posavetz**, *Vice President, Plante Moran Realpoint*

Panelists: **Warren Call**, *President and CEO, Traverse Connect*

**Matt McDonough**, *Chief Executive Officer, Discovery Center and Pier*

**Jason Slade**, *Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Northwestern Michigan College*

**Craig Wesley**, *Executive Director, 20Fathoms*

**3:30 Adjourn**