

SEMCOG REGIONAL UPDATE

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SEMCOG releases 2035 Forecast Overall forecast is one of slow growth

Southeast Michigan's forecast is one of slow growth from 2005-2035, according to the *2035 Forecast for Southeast Michigan: Population, Households, and Jobs for Counties, Cities, Villages, and Townships, 2005-2035*, just published by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

The region is currently experiencing an extended period of decline in jobs and population, led by significant decrease of manufacturing jobs and increasing out-migration of working-age population. However, in the long-term to year 2035, Southeast Michigan's overall forecast is one of slow growth:

- 3.5 percent population growth by 2035 (to 5.1 million people);
- 9 percent household growth; and
- 7 percent increase in jobs.

Households will increase faster than population because the average number of persons per household will decline, and all the increase in households will be in households without children. Nearly four in 10 households will have at least one person over age 65 in 2035, this due to the aging of the baby boom generation (who will all be age 70 or older in 2035) as well as longer life spans.

Job growth will be less robust than in the 1990s. Future job growth depends on more older people staying in the labor force, with many in part-time jobs.

"There are both challenges and opportunities of a slow-growth environment and an increasingly older population," noted SEMCOG Executive Director Paul Tait. "This forecast will help local governments understand and shape the brightest future possible."

The report, *2035 Forecast for Southeast Michigan: Population, Households, and Jobs for Counties, Cities, Villages, and Townships, 2005-2035* is available in PDF on SEMCOG's Web site – www.semco.org (under Reports on the home page). Also on the Web (under Programs and Projects, Planning, Regional Forecast) will be a list of total population, households, and jobs by community from 2005-2035 in five-year intervals. *Contact: SEMCOG Information Center to request a printed copy of the report.*

2008 Taubman Fellows selected

Jeffrey Yaraoch, Richmond Councilor, and Hubert Yopp, Mayor of Highland Park, have been named Taubman Fellows

and will attend the prestigious program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University this summer.

Administered through SEMCOG, Taubman Centers' Fellowship for Executive Excellence provides local public officials with demonstrated leadership an opportunity to improve their leadership skills and broaden their awareness of effective approaches to public sector problems. Since 1991, Taubman Centers has sponsored the fellowships and underscored its support for the development of effective leaders in local governments in Southeast Michigan. *Contact Amy Malmer, SEMCOG Membership Manager.*

SEMCOG consultant to help members improve local government effectiveness

Dave Boerger has joined SEMCOG in the newly created role of Consultant, Local Government Effectiveness and Collaboration. Dave will work directly with SEMCOG members to maximize services and minimize costs. He has a wealth of experience in the private, public, and academic sectors, including 27 years as an executive with Ford Motor Company; seven years of public service in Orchard Lake (as Mayor, Councilmember, on the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Fire Board, and as a public transit representative); and five years at Kettering University in Flint. He has also performed due diligence and turnaround consulting for private equity mergers and acquisitions. At SEMCOG, Dave will assist member local governments in enhancing service effectiveness, operating efficiencies, and intergovernmental cooperation. "I'm excited about Dave working with our members," said Paul Tait, SEMCOG Executive Director. "A fresh, business-oriented perspective can benefit our members both individually and working cooperatively with their neighbors." *Contact: Dave Boerger, SEMCOG Consultant.*

View highlights of General Assembly on Web

Highlights of SEMCOG's April 3 General Assembly can now be viewed on www.semco.org. From the home page, link to Podcasts in the upper right bar, then look for the General Assembly link in the center of the page. Highlights include the panel discussion on SEMCOG's 2035 Forecast, with local community leaders talking about positioning Southeast Michigan for a bright future. *Contact: Sue Stetler, SEMCOG Director of Communications.*

New on SEMCOG's Web site: A 40th anniversary message from Congressman Sander Levin

In 1968, Sander Levin was a state senator from Oakland County who was also a member of the Committee of 100 local leaders, formed to develop a proposal to create a voluntary organization of local governments in Southeast Michigan – SEMCOG. Now U.S. Congressman Levin (District 12) has taped a video message to SEMCOG. To view, click on the Members section (upper or left navigation bars) of SEMCOG's Web site, then scroll down to the "Members Speak" link. Past videos can also be found there, including those featuring Bill Roberts, SEMCOG Chair and Mayor of Walled Lake, and Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm. *Contact: Sue Stetler, SEMCOG Director of Communications.*

SEMCOG University: It's Easy Being Green: What can local governments do scheduled for April 24

SEMCOG University presents *It's Easy Being Green: What can local governments do?* on Thursday, April 24, 2008, from 9 a.m.-noon (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.) in SEMCOG's Buhl Building office in downtown Detroit.

The objective of this workshop is to learn about federal, state, and local actions to reduce our carbon footprint and discover what communities can do. Elected officials, local government managers, and other local officials addressing energy issues should attend.

Scheduled speakers include **Stanley "Skip" Pruss**, Governor's Advisor on Renewable Energy & Environment; **Skiles Boyd**, Vice President, Environmental Management & Resources, DTE Energy; **Kristin van Reesema**, Director of Energy Supply Strategy, Consumers Energy; **John Hieftje**, Mayor of Ann Arbor; and **Mark Bennet**, Senior Counsel, Climate Change Practice, Miller Canfield.

This SEMCOG University is free for SEMCOG members and partners. Seating is limited; please reserve yours by April 17. *Contact: Amanda Polanco, SEMCOG U Registrar.*

SEMCOG conducts Direction 2035 survey; encourage your residents to take survey online

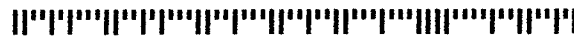
SEMCOG is conducting a survey to gauge the public's level of satisfaction with the region's transportation system and their attitudes toward prioritizing transportation improvements. Survey findings will be considered by SEMCOG and local elected officials as we explore transportation investment choices and establish a regional investment direction. The end result will be **Direction 2035** – a long-range plan serving the needs of the region's citizens and businesses by promoting a transportation system that is accessible, safe, and reliable.

The survey is available to take online. We ask our member local governments to help us inform citizens about this survey by publicizing it via your own Web sites; cable access channels; community newsletters; and at council, commission, and board meetings. Access the survey via SEMCOG's home page under "Hot Topics." SEMCOG is also available to meet with groups to talk about the region's transportation direction. *Contact: SEMCOG Information Center.*

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of governmental units serving 4.9 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan striving to enhance the region's quality of life. *Regional Update* is a publication of SEMCOG, financed through funds from state and federal grants and dues from member communities.

William T. Roberts, Chairperson
Mayor, Walled Lake
Paul E. Tait, Executive Director
Susan L. Stetler, Editor

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**SEMCOG helping members do more with less...
now and in the future**

**Washtenaw County Member Outreach Workshop
Wednesday, April 23, 2008
4:30-6 p.m.**

Please join your fellow local government officials from Washtenaw County for SEMCOG's Member Outreach Meeting and dinner on Wednesday, April 23rd at 4:30 p.m. at Weber's Inn.

Agenda

4:30 p.m. Registration

4:45 p.m. (promptly) Program and Elections to SEMCOG's Executive Committee

5:30 p.m. Complimentary Dinner

To register, please return the enclosed RSVP card, call Raymonia Dale at 313-324-3309, or register online at www.semco.org. Look for Member Outreach Workshops under Meetings on the home page.

**Weber's Inn
3050 Jackson Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103**

Weber's Inn is located off of I-94 (Exit 172; Jackson Ave.) in Ann Arbor; Jackson Ave. becomes Jackson Rd.

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