

# Put Your Town On The Map

## Consumers Energy Foundation Pitch Competition

The Consumers Energy Foundation is offering grant opportunities to help put your community on the map. We are seeking innovative ideas that will energize your town and create momentum that builds a stronger sense of community. If you are selected, you will be invited to submit a video to be presented to a panel of judges during the Small Town & Rural Development Conference. The top three presentations will be awarded one of three grants:

**First Place:**  
\$25,000

**Second Place:**  
\$15,000

**Third Place:**  
\$10,000



### Sample Topics to Put Your Community on the Map

- Downtowns – store vacancies, attracting visitors, housing, etc.
- Social – housing, education, employment, etc.
- Placemaking
- Tourism
- Youth community engagement
- Community pride
- Unifying or strengthening the community
- Business acceleration, retention, attraction

### How to Submit Your Idea

Visit <http://cedamichigan.org/rpm/conference-rpm> Complete the online form and click submit. Grant winners will be selected and announced at the Small Town and Rural Development Virtual Conference. Funds will be presented to winning communities at a scheduled time following the conference.

For more information, contact [acmoody@cedam.info](mailto:acmoody@cedam.info)

### Who is Eligible?

- Rural municipalities with a population up to 10,000
- Could be local government, non-profit (501c3), chamber of commerce or a type of similar group.
- This competition is community-focused; no individuals, businesses, corporations or LLCs
- Idea presented must be conceptual or in the startup phase; previously attempted projects not allowed
- Community must be in the Consumers Energy natural gas or electric service territory
- One submission per community/municipality

### Pitch Competition Schedule

- February 24: Submissions due to CEDAM by 11:59 p.m.
- March 4: Finalists selected and notified
- March 26: Video presentations due to CEDAM
- April 13: Pitch presentations shared at conference