

COMMERCE

Main Street Program/Manufacturing Extension Grants

Motion:

Move to delete \$100,000 GPR annually in funding for the Main Street program. Create a separate GPR appropriation for manufacturing extension grants and transfer the \$100,000 in annual Main Street program funding to the new appropriation to make grants to the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

Note:

The Wisconsin Main Street program provides technical assistance to help communities plan, manage and implement programs to revitalize their downtown business areas through comprehensive economic redevelopment and historic preservation. Up to five municipalities are selected annually for the program based on review and ranking of applications. The Main Street program has base level funding of \$434,000 GPR and 4.5 GPR positions.

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP). is operated by an organization, the Wisconsin Center for Manufacturing and Productivity, Inc., that includes the Department of Commerce, University of Wisconsin System and Extension, Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS), Marquette University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, labor and business. WMEP provides process improvement and technology transfer services to small and medium-sized manufacturers.

This motion transfers \$100,000 GPR annually from the Main Street program to a new GPR appropriation to make grants to the WMEP.