MEP Advisory Board

September 2020 FACA Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept 22, 2020

For the Full MEP Advisory Board Presentation, please contact Cheryl Gendron at Cheryl.Gendron@nist.gov

FACA and the Advisory Board

- The MEP Advisory Board is authorized under Section 3003(d) of the America COMPETES Act (Pub. L. 110–69), as amended by the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, Public Law 114–329 sec. 501 (2017), and codified at 15 U.S.C. 278k(m), in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.

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Welcome from Board Chair

- Matthew Newman
- MEP Advisory Board, Chair

MAB Meeting Details

- **Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020**
- Board Meeting Opening/Logistics
- Welcome and Introductions
- Opening Remarks
- Welcome from NIST Leadership
- Board and Audience Introductions
- NIST MEP Senior Management Update
- Presentation: National and State Economic Challenges and Opportunities, Data Trends
- Board Feedback and Discussion
- Discussion: Exploring Future Themes – NIST MEP Competitive Award Program's Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Board Feedback and Discussion
- Working Group Update: Supply Chain Development
- Board Feedback and Discussion
- Wrap Up/Public Comments

Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Walt Copan; NIST, Director
- Mojdeh Bahar; NIST, Associate Director
- Carroll Thomas; NIST MEP, Director
- NIST and NIST MEP Leadership, MEP Advisory Board

NIST MEP Senior Management Update

- MEP Program Budget Outlook / Spend Plan

- MEP National Network Update

- NIST MEP Operational Update

- MEP National Network Strategic Plan Update

MEP Program Budget Outlook (as of 9/22/2020)

FY 2020 Appropriation Status	FY 2021 Appropriation Status
Base funding: $146 million • **$6 million** increase over FY 2019. • No cost share requirement. **CARES Act** • MEP received **$50 million** to provide funding to all MEP Centers to assist manufacturers.	House mark is **$153 million**. **Awaiting Senate mark** and subsequent Congressional Conference Committee report. Or a **Continuing Resolution** so as not to have a lapse in appropriations.

NIST MEP FY 2020 Projected Spend Plan

Available Funding:	$ Millions
Full Year Appropriation	146.0
Carryover from FY 2019	4.7
Funding from Other Agencies*	0.3
CARES Act Supplemental Funding	50.0
Total Available Funding	**$201.0**

Planned Expenditures:	
Center Renewals	111.7
Center Supplemental Funding (CARES Act)	49.1
Strategic Competitions	17.5
Contracts	3.8
NIST MEP Labor	10.0
NIST and Program Overhead	8.9
Total Planned Expenditures	**$201.0**

Estimated FY 2020 Efficiency Rate = 8.27%; actual FY 2019 Efficiency Rate = 10.74%.

* Funding from DoD for Contracts and Project Support

Legislative Update

- The $50 million appropriated in the CARES Act for MEP Centers was sent out in record time. While another stimulus bill is being talked about, no agreements have been reached as yet.

- The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY 2021 currently is in conference and could pass with two important amendments impacting the MEP National Network (MEPNN):

  1. Allows the DoD to provide funds to MEP Centers for cybersecurity assistance of SMMs.
  2. Would establish a database housed at NIST MEP:
     - Connect MEP Centers to minimize vulnerability to supply chain disruptions;
     - Enhance the ability of U.S. manufacturers to communicate and coordinate;
     - And ensure that the U.S. responds quickly and effectively during national disasters, including retooling for such items as PPE.

CARES Act Update

- All 51 awards were made by June 30.
- 85 days from the posting of the RFA!
- MEP Centers executing awards to provide critical assistance to manufacturers.
- First quarterly reports will be received at the end of October.

Competitive Award Funding Update

- **Advanced Manufacturing Technology Services –** Deploys advanced manufacturing technology services, emphasizing technology-based needs of small U.S. manufacturers.

- In June we reported 4 projects had been awarded.

- In early July, a 5th award was made:

  - NJ MEP - I 4.0 technical assistance to supply chains for biopharmaceuticals and biofabrication, targeting the supply chains associated with focus areas of the NIIMBL and BioFab Mfg USA Institutes.

(Rolling) Competitive Award Program (CAP): Awards Issued to Date

TN	Establish a MEPNN Advanced Technology Team	GA	CMMC Training Course Development and Delivery
VA	MEP Capabilities Expansion-MedMMAP Program Expansion	OR	I 4.0 Regional Development and Delivery
MO	America Works: Coordinating MEPNN Workforce Development Programs	MI	Enhancement of the MEPNN Cybersecurity Program
CT	Manufacturing Skills for Connecticut	CA	Enhancement of the MEPNN Cybersecurity Program
OH	Digital Maturity for SMMs	VA	Enhancement of the MEPNN Cybersecurity Program
FL	Industry Integration within a Baldridge Framework	NY	Manufacturing Readiness

MEP National Network Center Leadership Team (CLT)

- MEP National Network
  - Buckley Brinkman (WI)
  - Tom Bugnitz (CO)
  - Mike Coast (MI)
  - Bonnie Del Conte (CT)
  - Bill Donohue (VA)
  - Ethan Karp (OH)
  - Kathie Mahoney (MA)
  - Chuck Spangler (SC)
  - Jim Watson (CA)
  - Carrie Hines (ASMC/FORME)
  - Mark Schmit (NIST MEP)
  - Carroll Thomas (NIST MEP)

MEP National Network Center Leadership Team (CLT)

Regional Communications Nodes

Background
Need to create more **efficient** and **effective ways of connecting** Centers around the country to build relationships, provide support, exchange ideas and information, catalyze learning and improve communications. Better connections form the basis for a faster and more flexible National Network.

Objectives
- Establish one-to-one connections between Center Directors and a Center Director on the National Network CLT;
- Create Regional National Network Nodes (see map) to facilitate regular group conversations and create learning opportunities;
- Build closer and deeper relationships between and among Centers.

MEP National Network Center Leadership Team (CLT)

- Continuing to convene virtually to operationalize communication and collaboration "norms."

- Working on Network structure and governance.

- Regional communication nodes created and currently being implemented.

- During the past few months Centers looking inward out of necessity…simultaneously… the urgency of times exacerbated the imperative   to communicate more among the Network.

MEP National Network Center Leadership Team (CLT)

- Information about CLT priorities, business issues and strategy is quickly disseminated throughout the National Network.

- As each CLT member works with their Regional National Network Node, they bring information back to the CLT, keeping everyone in touch with all of the Centers and abreast of what is happening across the Network.

- The structure improves access directly to CLT members and ensures that everyone in the National Network has a voice.

- All regions have met and several have met multiple times.

NIST MEP: National Network Support

MEPNN Food Industry Services / Food Safety

- 2017-2020.
  - **4,087** Center projects.
  - **2,649** food manufacturing clients addressing many technical assistance areas, including food safety.
- MEPNN Working Group facilitated by NIST MEP.
  - **51 MEP Centers** participate.
- MEPNN staff w/food safety credentials.
  - Approximately **two dozen** Preventive Controls Qualified Individuals.
  - More than **one dozen** Lead Instructors.
- Strong ongoing MEPNN partnership with FDA relating to food safety.

NIST MEP: National Network Support

MEP-Assisted Technology and Technical Resource (MATTR)

- Connecting MEPNN, MEP Center clients w/NIST lab expertise, resources.
  - 70 MATTR requests submitted by 22 Centers; 6 NIST labs/offices engaged in these requests.
  - 23 offers of assistance to MEPNN made by 5 NIST labs in 2020.
  - NIST lab staff providing webcasts to MEPNN addressing various technical topics.
- 15 MEP Centers participating in MEPNN MATTR Working Group.
- NIST MEP facilitating CRADAs between MEP Center clients and NIST labs; also compensating NIST labs, as warranted by MATTR opportunities.

NIST MEP: National Network Support

Advanced Manufacturing Industry 4.0 for End-to-End Cyber-Physical Connectivity

Activities Across the Network

- Adv. Mfg. Tech Services: funding awards made in May and July for multi-Center projects led by Centers in CA, IN, MI, NJ, TX to accelerate MEP Center Industry 4.0 (I 4.0) service delivery; additional projects among recent CAP awards.

- CAP project led by OMEP, involving multiple Centers, sharing useful foundational I 4.0 info across MEPNN; also working closely w/CLT; concluding in Dec. 2020.

- MEPNN I 4.0 Working Group sharing best practices and highlighting Center work; facilitated by NIST MEP; dozens of Centers participating; also introducing emerging topics to Centers.

- MEP Centers utilizing user/demonstration facilities and continuing to collaborate with Manufacturing USA Institutes.

NIST MEP: National Network Support

Cybersecurity Practice Developing Across the Network

- MEPNN Cyber Working Group sharing best practices among all 51 Centers.

- Cyber for Def. Mfg Special Award from NIST MEP to MMTC (MI MEP Center) providing awareness, assistance for >1,000 defense contractors; participation from >30 MEP Centers, 2 NIST labs; health crisis tasking delays ongoing.

- NIST MEP issuing program guidance to MEP Centers relating to DoD CMMC.

~228	~1,000	>3,400	~95,000	~185,000
Awareness/ training events	Projects conducted since 2015	SMMs served	NIST Handbook 162 downloads since 2017 publication	NISTIR 7621 downloads since 2016 publication

NIST MEP: National Network Support Center Reviews: 2020

Annual Reviews

- All 51 Centers.

Panel Reviews

- Third and eighth-year.
- Currently processing three eighth-year reviews.

Secretarial Reviews

- One time at the fifth-year mark.
- Currently processing reviews of eight Centers.

NIST MEP and MEP Centers: National Network Collaboration

NIST MEP and the MEPNN are hosting roundtable-style conversations with manufacturing executives from across the country.

- This series began on July 30 with six panelists and over 70 observers. Ten sessions have been scheduled.

- Discussions focus on the current state of manufacturing during these unprecedented economic times, predictions for the future state of U.S. manufacturing and recommendations for the MEPNN.

- The program will continue through early October.

- Results will be aggregated and reported.

Strategic Plan Update

- **Empower Manufacturers**
- **Champion Manufacturers**
- **Leverage Partnerships**
- **Transform the Network**

18 Month Measures of Success

9/2019-3/2021 Progress to Date

1. **Consensus Within Integrated National Network**

   - Reach Network consensus on definition of Project and CME (client manufacturing establishment) interaction.

2. **Center and Program Office Operational Excellence**

   - Operationally improve reporting via measurement of on-time and accurate reporting.

3. **Increased Visibility**

   - Amplify and measure Network brand awareness by at least 10%.

4. **Increase Projects and New Clients**

   - Increase reported projects by 10% and reported new clients by 5%.

18 Month Measures of Success Progress to Date

Measure 1:
Consensus Within Integrated National Network

Define:
- Client/project.
- Client manufacturing establishment interaction.
- Working Group of Center Directors established.

Center Working Group is identified and is on hold. Will reconvene in the fall of 2020.

Measure 2:
Center and Program Office Operational Excellence

Four Elements Measured:
- Progress plan.
- Progress data.
- Success story.
- Survey confirmation.

Baseline (Q2 2019):
- 40 Centers reported on time with the first three elements.
- 24 Centers reported on time across all four elements.

Progress to Date (Q2 2020):
- 45 centers reported on time with first three elements.
- 23 Centers reported on time across all four elements.

18 Month Measures of Success

Measure 3: Increased Visibility by Amplifying Network Brand Awareness by at Least 10%.

*Progress to date for April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020.

Brand Measure	Goal	Baseline	Progress To Date*
Backlinks	114	104	112
Brand Mentions	138	125	247
Manufacturing Innovation Blog Subscribers	27,412	24,920	32,026
Social Media Followers	17,864	16,240	16,640
#MEPNationalNetwork Hashtag Occurrences	367	334	391

18 Month Measures of Success
Progress to Date

Measure 4: Increase Projects and New Clients

- Combined clients Q1 and Q2.
  - In July MEP Centers surveyed a combination of clients from the postponed Q1 survey with those up for survey in Q2.
  - Outstanding response given we doubled the number of clients surveyed which increased Center workload.
- Survey changes through 2021.
  - Survey response rate will be removed from the ten metrics used to measure Center performance until late 2021.
  - NIST MEP will give more weight to the two measures of market penetration in evaluating Center performance.
  - This is done to accommodate the expected increase in clients served from the CARES Act funding.

FY20 Surveys & Responses

> 5,200 clients surveyed (combined Q1 and Q2)

77% final survey response rate for the MEPNN

NIST MEP Operational Update

NIST Campus Locations Status

- All NIST staff including NIST MEP staff were on *mandatory* **telework** from **mid-March** until **early July,** and now on *maximum* **telework.**

- NIST phased re-opening emphasizes **employee safety** and focuses on laboratory staff having access to labs.

- NIST staff remain on *maximum* telework; **90% of all staff** for an extended period returning in later phases.

- NIST MEP Move Back In Committee has met **twice** and 301 office **construction has resumed**.

NIST MEP Org Chart FY20

486
Finance Management & Center Operations Division
Kevin McIntyre, Chief
Adrienne Montague

Finance/Administration
Tony Gomez (AO 486, 487)
Autumn Hernandez (AO 481, 489)
Heather Mayton, XO

486.01
Center Operations Group
Nadine DeJesus, Group Manager
Mellissa Ayala
Sekou Johnson
Andrew Nobleman
Julia Shriner
Hope Snowden
Gloria Solomon

487
Regional & State Partnerships Division
Mark Schmit, Chief
Carol Shibley

Anthony Diaz
Dimitrios Meritis
Kim Pinckney

Anita Balachandra
Jose Colucci-Rios
Tony Mastalski
Gerson Santos-Leon
Phill Wadsworth
Tom Williams

488
Extension Services Division
Dave Stieren, Chief
Robert Barnes

Doug Devereaux
Brian Lagas
Celia Paulsen *(Detailee)*
Andrew Peterson
Michael Taylor
Dileep Thatte
Pat Toth
Marlon Walker
Samm Webb

489
Network Learning & Strategic Competitions Division
Mary Ann Pacelli, Chief

Wiza Lequin
Mike Simpson *(On Detail)*
Michael Wilson

481
External Affairs, Performance & Support Division
Chancy Lyford, Chief

Team IT Security & Support
Kathy Martin
Justin Mocca
Bryan Wade

481.01
Marketing & Communications Group
Ben Vickery, Group Manager
Nicole Ausherman
Cheryl Gendron
Katie Rapp
Jennifer Rosa

481.02
Program Evaluation & Economic Research Group
Ken Voytek, Group Manager
Megean Blum
Stephen Campbell
Kim Coffman
Missy Davis
Diane Henderson
Holly Jackson
Megan Spangler
Nico Thomas

Rob Ivester
Deputy Director

Staff Resource Management
Monica Claussen
Monyelle Mingo (AO 480, 488)
Michele Montgomery

480 **Carroll Thomas** MEP Director

Last Updated September 14, 2020

National and State Economic Challenges and Opportunities, Data Trends

Dan Berglund

SSTI

Executive Director

Overview

- Uncertain economic future

- Uncertain state budget future

- Past as guide to the future

- Higher education's particular risks

- Opportunity for MEP centers

Uncertain economic future

- V, W or K recovery?
- Unemployment by the end of 2021
  - 6.5%, per June 2020 Federal Reserve forecast
  - 5.5%, per September 2020 Federal Reserve forecast

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, August 2018 – August 2020

Percent
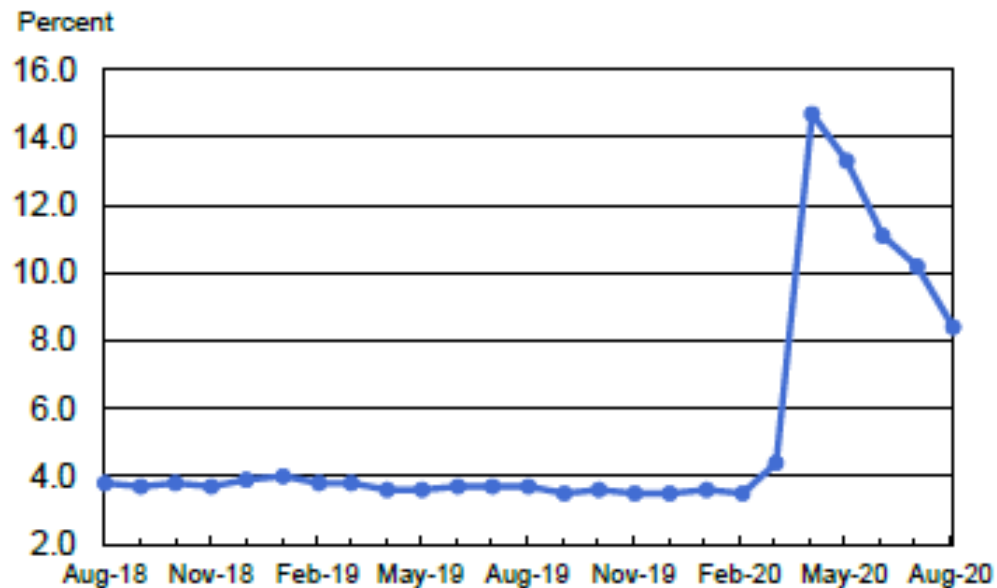
Uncertain economic future

- What if a vaccine isn't effective? Or distributed rapidly?
- Difficult to get clear measurements
  - Questions about unemployment measures
  - How many businesses going out of business

Systemic racism and the economy

"Systemic racism is a yoke that drags on the American economy. A commitment to an inclusive society also means a commitment to an inclusive economy."

Raphael Bostic, president of the Atlanta Fed

Comments echoed by presidents of Dallas, San Francisco and Richmond Fed

State & local gov't importance

"State [and] local governments amount to something like 13 percent of the labor force — they're one of the largest employers. So it can really weigh on the economy. It can be a drag. In fact, it was after the global financial crisis and during the Great Recession for a number of years. It's pretty well documented now: It was a drag on growth."
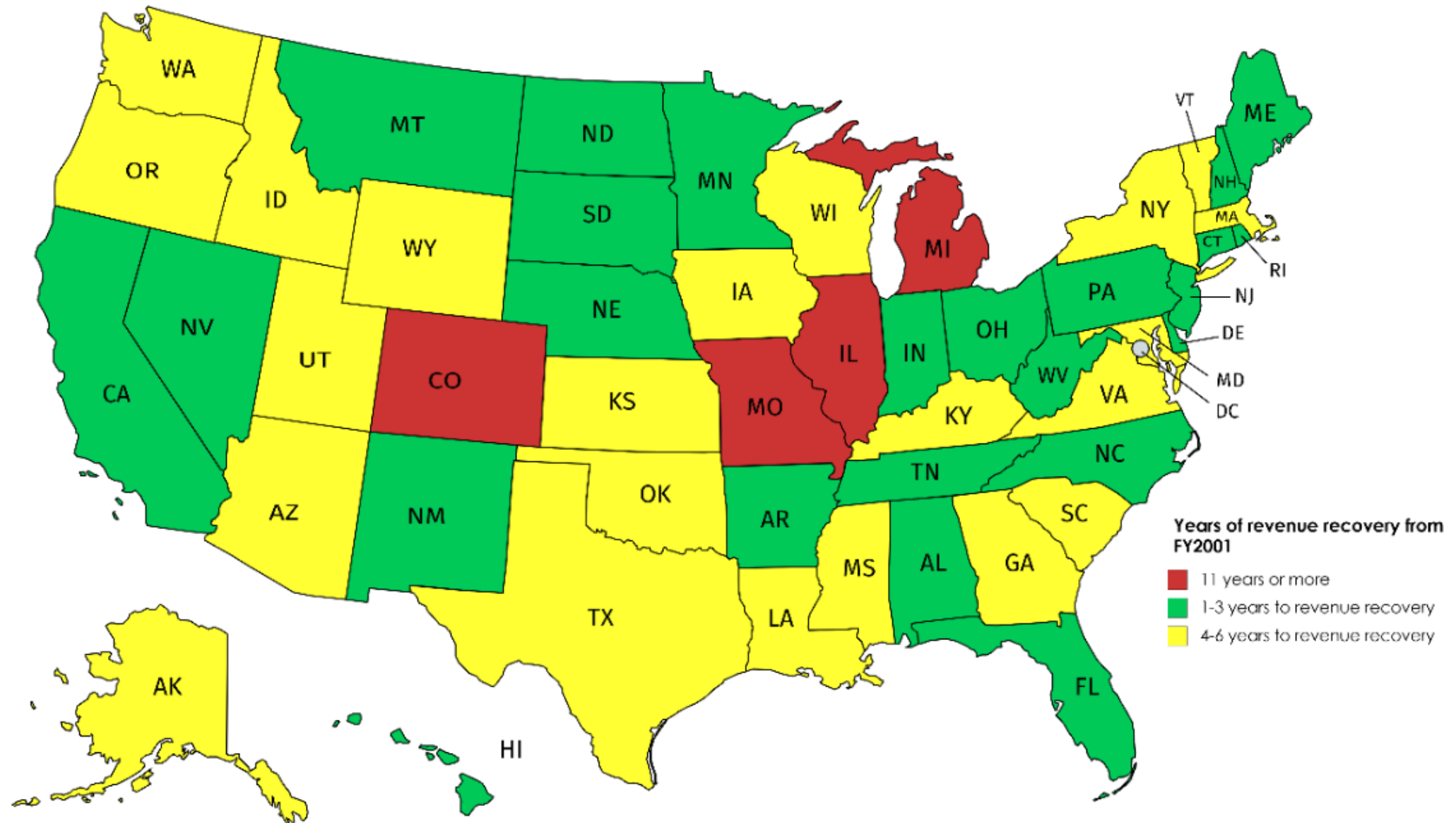
Jerome Powell, chair, Federal Reserve

State budgets

- Budget shortfalls of $555B for FY20-22, Center on Budget Policy and Priorities

- Decreased tax revenue
  - Income and sales tax
  - Oil/natural gas royalties or taxes
  - Fuel taxes as result of less traffic

- Increase in Medicaid enrollment
  - More than 10% increase in KY, MN and NV
  - Represented 19.7% of state general fund spending in FY2019
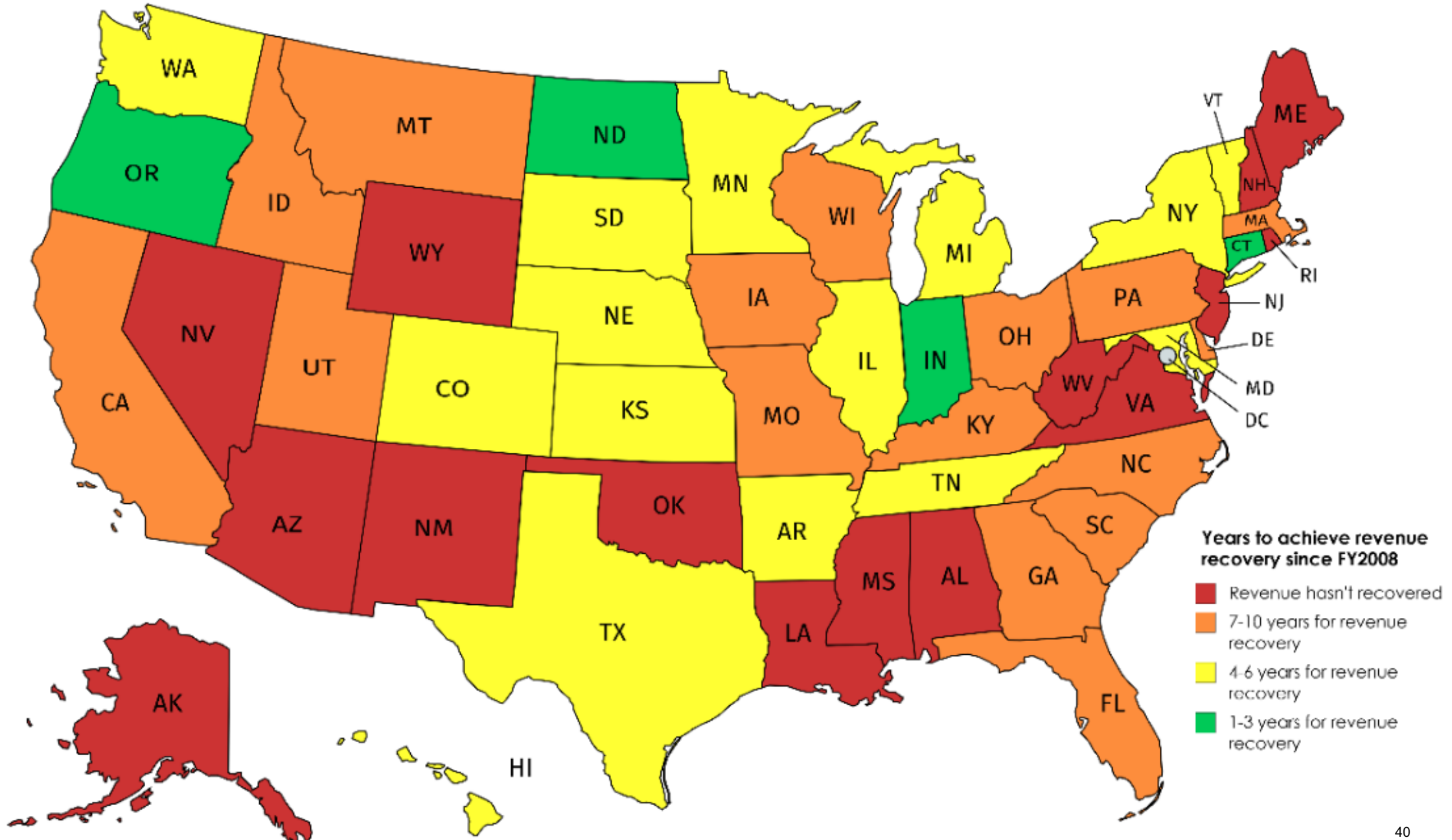
- Depletion of rainy day funds

Difficulties in talking about state budgets

- Year to year comparisons out the window as tax day moved from April 15 to July 15
- Extra $600/week federal unemployment helped keep spending and sales tax from cratering
- Press coverage reports, "Revenues better than expected," but revenue expectations were developed in April/May at bottom of trough
- Some states holding off doing updated revenue estimates
- Some states (e.g., CA, IL) built budgets assuming Congress would provide funds to states

Budget holes by state

	FY2021
AK	$946M
AZ	$82M
CA	$11B
CO	$1.4B
CT	$2.1B
FL	$3.4B
GA	$2.4B
HI	$2.3B over FY20-21
ID	2% growth
IL	$5B; $1B more if tax measure doesn't pass

	FY2021
IN	$3-4B over biennium
KS	$1.6B
KY	$1.1B
LA	10% cuts
ME	$520M
MD	$2B
MI	$1B
MN	$2.4B
MS	$113M
MO	$1B
NE	$50M
NV	$1.2B

	FY2021
NH	$500M
NJ	$5B
NM	$415M
NY	$14B
OH	$2.1B
OK	$1.3B
OR	$1.2B
PA	$5B
RI	$800M
SD	$40M
TN	$1.5B
TX	$870M
UT	$850M

	FY2021
VA	$2.7B over two years
VT	$55M
WA	$4.5B
WV	$59M
WI	$2B
WY	$1B

Years of revenue recovery from FY2001

- 🟥 11 years or more
- 🟩 1-3 years to revenue recovery
- 🟨 4-6 years to revenue recovery

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Years to achieve revenue recovery since FY2008

- Revenue hasn't recovered
- 7-10 years for revenue recovery
- 4-6 years for revenue recovery
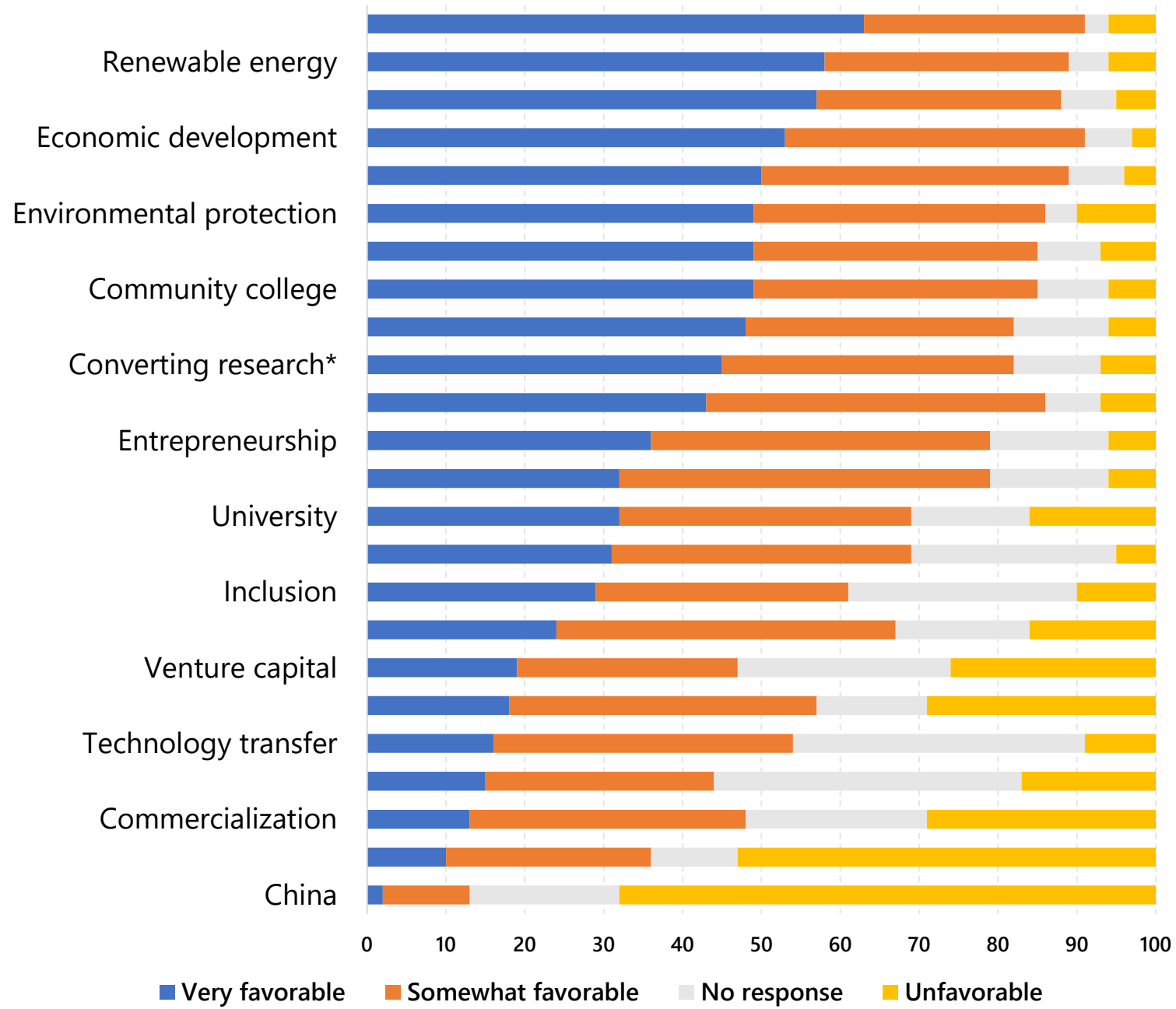- 1-3 years for revenue recovery

Higher education

- Typically a first target of state budget cuts
- Refunds from spring semester for housing costs
- Medical systems hit with revenue loss due to cancelled surgical procedures
- Extra expenses in preparing for in-person instruction
- Unclear enrollment picture as students take gap years or enroll in cheaper alternatives

Opportunities for MEP

- Pandemic exposed U.S. dependence on foreign manufacturing in starkest manner possible

- Pandemic provided opportunities for new dialogue between MEP centers and policymakers on PPE supply chain

- Both Biden and Trump campaigns have talked about importance of U.S. manufacturing

- Shift in public attitude toward manufacturing

Focus Group word association for mfg

	2015 Focus Group	2020 Focus Group
Definition	12	18
China or overseas	7	0
Jobs or stability	0	5
Negative	3 (lay-offs, waning, pollution)	3 (obsolete, job outsourcing, monopolies)
Bring it home	3	2
Adjectives	4 (changing, hard work, hands on, blue collar)	0
USA	2	0

Renewable energy

Economic development

Environmental protection

Community college

Converting research*

Entrepreneurship

University

Inclusion

Venture capital

Technology transfer

Commercialization

China

■ Very favorable ■ Somewhat favorable ☐ No response ■ Unfavorable

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Contact Information

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https://ssti.org

Exploring Future Themes: NIST MEP Competitive Award Program's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Michael Wilson

NIST MEP

Strategic Competitions Group

Competition Manager

Background

- Established under statutory authority   (15 U.S.C §278k-1).

- Provides MEP Centers additional resources to add capabilities to the MEP Program.

- Established in consultation with the MEP Director, the MEP Advisory Board, other Federal agencies and SMMs.

- Published Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) April 17, 2017.

- Themes for the NOFO derived from SMMs' input.

    - New manufacturing technologies/Industry 4.0.

    - Supply chain management technologies/practices.

    - Workforce intermediary and business services.

- 29 awards made to date (FY17 through FY20).

FY 2021 CAP NOFO

- Goal – To publish a new CAP NOFO no later than the end of the first quarter of FY 2021.

- New themes.

- Input from each of you!

FY 2021 CAP NOFO Theme – Things to Consider

Things to Consider

     1. Relevance of previous themes.

     2. Activities supported through previous awards.

     3. Challenges to manufacturers.

     4. Technologies and/or business models.

FY 2021 CAP NOFO Themes – Board Input to Date

- Supply Chain Resiliency Beta Test Program

- A.I. Application to Continuous Process/Chemical Process Industry

- Onshoring/Supply Chain Efforts

- Workforce Development (capturing knowledge from people exiting the workforce; reskilling of displaced/unemployed workers)

MEP Advisory Board Working Group Updates

Supply Chain Development Working Group

- Committee Members
  - Board Leadership

    Don Bockoven

  - Board Members

    LaDon Byars, Mary Isbister, Matt Newman, Chris Weiser

  - NIST MEP Support

    Rob Ivester, Dave Stieren, Mark Schmit

- Deliverable
  - Guidance and perspectives on the MEPNN support and development of manufacturing supply chains with an emphasis on defense suppliers regarding Defense Industrial Base gaps; and expertise on who should be brought into the discussion to provide insight on defense supplier gaps.
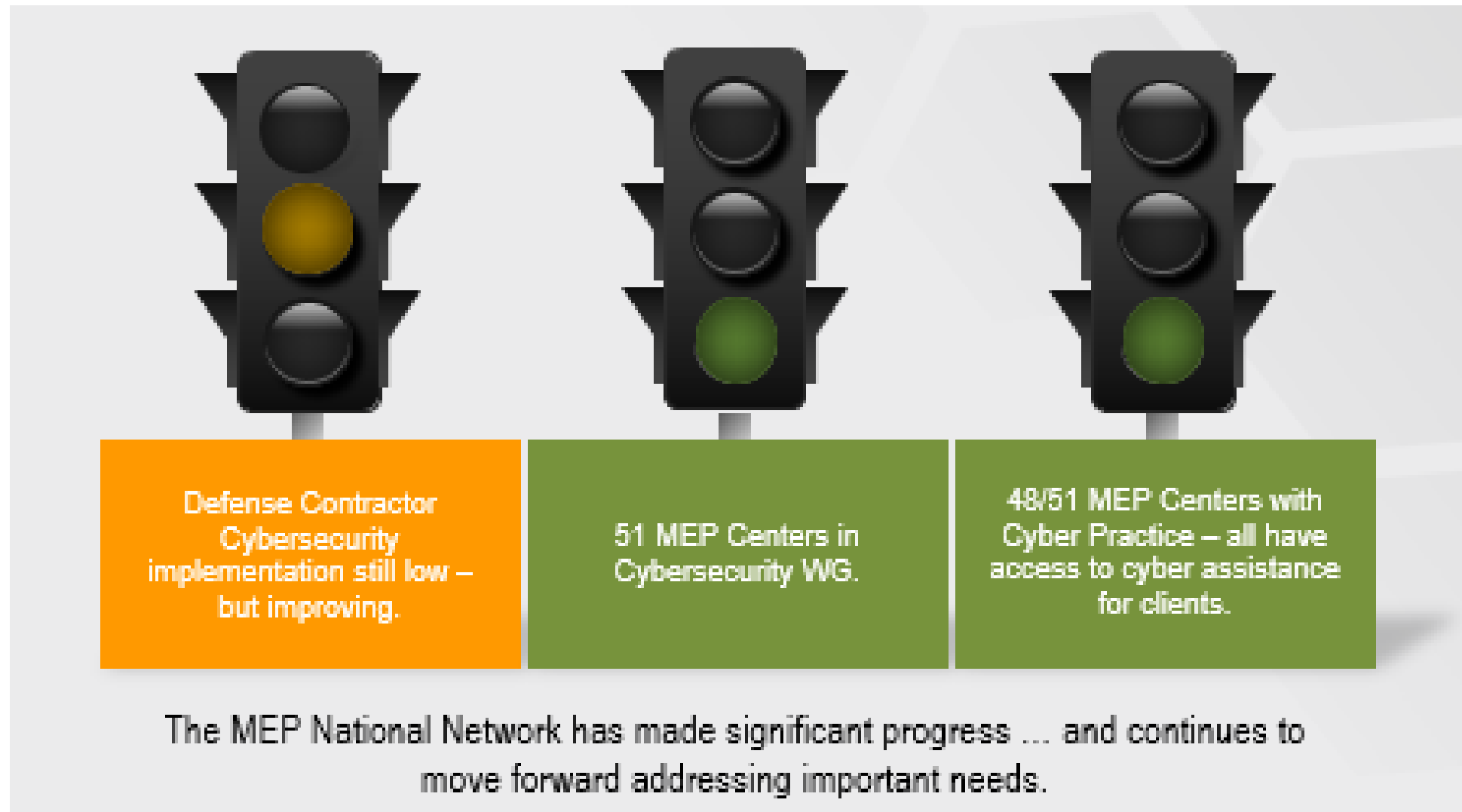
Discussion Topics for the Board

- The MEP National Network supports DoD Supply Chains in many areas, highlighted by:

- Cybersecurity awareness and assistance.

- Working in defense manufacturing supply chain technology transfer/transition and supply chain development.

- These efforts primarily focus on the MEP Strategic Plan pillar: Empowering Manufacturers across the Nation.

- NIST MEP seeks ongoing Advisory Board perspectives on these MEP National Network focus areas, approaches, challenges – and their alignment with MEP Strategic Plan.

MEP National Network Cybersecurity

MEP National Network cybersecurity assistance for small manufacturers continues to develop strong nationwide capabilities:

- Continues to be spurred by strong DoD partnerships.

- Continued MEP role with Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) requirements for defense sector.

- Emerging MEP Center role with DoD Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program.

- Continued emphasis on risk management for all manufacturing industries served by MEP Centers.

MEP National Network Cybersecurity Progress Summary

Defense Contractor Cybersecurity implementation still low – but improving.

51 MEP Centers in Cybersecurity WG.

48/51 MEP Centers with Cyber Practice – all have access to cyber assistance for clients.

The MEP National Network has made significant progress ... and continues to move forward addressing important needs.

2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

- Specifies DoD budget, expenditures, policies for FY 2021.

- House and Senate bills NDAA have passed; final 2021 NDAA in conference.

- Excerpt from Senate Bill:

  - **"1642. ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS IN THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CHAIN ON MATTERS RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY.**

    a) IN GENERAL. - Subject to the availability of appropriations, **the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, may award financial assistance to a[n MEP] Center for the purpose of providing cybersecurity services to small manufacturers**.

    c) USE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. - Financial assistance under this section -

    1) shall be used by a Center to provide small manufacturers with cybersecurity services relating to

      a) compliance with the [DFARS] cybersecurity requirements...; and

      b) achieving compliance with the **Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification** framework of the Department of Defense; ...

DoD Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC)

CMMC overview

- Future DoD acquisitions will include required certification levels for contractors; full implementation planned 2026.

- CMMC does not negate DFARS.

  - Centers continuing to provide awareness, assistance to small defense contractors, including via NIST MEP – OSD IAA, OEA partnerships.

NIST MEP providing guidance to MEP Center approach to serving CMMC needs of clients

- Centers serve as trusted advisors to clients to assist with CMMC without providing formal audit or certification functions – as with DFARS.

  - Ongoing relationship with DoD, CMMC Accreditation Body for policy alignment.

  - Ongoing NIST Lab interactions for alignment with NIST cybersecurity approaches, policies.

Additional MEP - DoD Tech Transition / Transfer, Supply Chain Development

NavalX /Tech Bridges

- Established in Feb 2019 as innovation acceleration systems for DoD.
- MEP Centers operating in Tech Bridge states are working with Tech Bridges to engage small U.S. manufacturers.
- NIST MEP, Office of Naval Research national relationship.

NIST MEP – NAVSEA IAA

- Funding MEP Centers to identify, insert leading-edge mfg. tech. into Navy shipbuilding.
- Initial efforts led by GENEDGE (VA MEP Center), working on Ford Class aircraft carrier production at Newport News Shipbuilding; discussions underway to expand.

Defense Mfg. Communities Support Program

- Runs through Office of Economic Adjustment; supports long-term community investments to strengthen natl. security innovation, expand defense industrial ecosystem capabilities.
- 6 consortia designated by OSD in 2020 – all 6 involve active MEP Center participation: AL, CA, CT, OH, PA , UT.

Discussion

- NIST MEP seeks ongoing Advisory Board perspectives on these MEP National Network focus areas, approaches, challenges – and their alignment with MEP Strategic Plan.

MEPNN Strategic Plan Working Group 2023-2028

- Committee Members
  - Board Leadership - **Kathay Rennels**
  - Board Members - **Don Bockoven, Kevin Heller, Mary Isbister, Willie May, Matt Newman, Chris Weiser, Jim Wright**
  - Ex-Officio Support

    Bernadine Hawes (Immediate Past-Chair)
  - NIST MEP Support

    Rob Ivester, Wiza Lequin, Cheryl Gendron
- Deliverable
  - To provide long-term, program direction, guidance and perspectives for the MEP National Network Strategic Plan for 2023-2028. The WG will consider feedback from Centers, stakeholders, partners, management and staff as the plan is developed.

MEP National Network 2017-2022 Strategic Goals

EMPOWER MANUFACTURERS
Objective - Assist U.S. manufacturers in embracing productivity-enhancing innovative manufacturing technologies, navigate advanced technology solutions and recruit and retain a skilled and diverse workforce.

CHAMPION MANUFACTURING
Objective - Actively promote the importance of a strong manufacturing base as key to a robust U.S. economy and for the protection of national security interests; create awareness of innovations in manufacturing; create workforce development partnerships to build a stronger and diverse workforce pipeline; and maximize market awareness of the MEP National Network.

LEVERAGE PARTNERSHIPS
Objective - Leverage national, regional, state and local partnerships to gain substantial increase in market penetration; identify mission-complementary advocates to help MEP become a recognized manufacturing resource brand; build an expanded service delivery model to support manufacturing technology advances.

TRANSFORM THE NETWORK
Objective - Maximize National Network knowledge and experience to operate as an integrated national network; increase efficiency and effectiveness by employing a Learning Organization platform; and create a resilient and adaptive MEP National Network to support a resilient and adaptive U.S. manufacturing base.

Where We Are Going

Strategic Plan Mapped To National Network
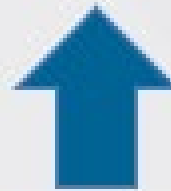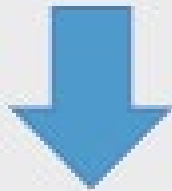
Empower Manufacturers

Primary
51 Centers
CLT

Support
ESD
Network Learning &
Strategic Competitions

Indirect Support
NIST MEP Leadership
RM
Network Learning
M&C
PEER
FM/Center Ops
Admin
IT/Security

Champion Manufacturing

Primary
NIST MEP
    ESD
    M&C
    RM
    NIST MEP Leadership
51 Centers
Advisory Board
Local Center Boards
ASMC/FORME
CLT

Support
Network Learning &
Strategic Competitions
PEER

Indirect Support
FM/Center Ops
Admin
IT/Security
Staff Resource Mgmt.

Leverage Partnerships

Primary
NIST MEP
    ESD
    M&C
    NIST MEP Leadership
    RM
51 Centers
Local Center Boards

Support
Advisory Board
ASMC/FORME
PEER

Indirect Support
Admin
FM/Center Ops
IT/Security
Staff Resource Mgmt.

Transform the Network

Primary
NIST MEP (All)
51 Centers

Support
Advisory Board
Local Center Boards
ASMC/FORME
CLT

64

Discussion Topics for the Board

- Where are we?
  - Metrics used to measure progress drive behavior throughout the MEPNN.

- Where we are going.
  - The 2017-2022 Strategic Plan serves to guide our current direction, and the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan will guide us moving forward.

- The four pillars.
  - Empower Manufacturers, Champion Manufacturing, Leverage Partnerships and Transform the Network – provide the structure for the current plan.

- The plan guides primary and supporting roles and specific actions within the MEP office, within the Centers, and with key stakeholders, including the MEP Advisory Board and local Center Boards.

- For each of these, where are our opportunities to improve?

Executive Committee Working Group

- Committee Members
  - Board Leadership

    Mary Isbister
  - Board Members

    Mitch Magee, Pat Moulton, Matt Newman, George Spottswood
  - NIST MEP Support

    Carroll Thomas, Cheryl Gendron, Phill Wadsworth, Wiza Lequin

- Deliverable
  - Provide guidance on future MEP Advisory Board leadership and membership recruitment, provide insights into cultivating strong Board governance as well as explore ways to expand the MEP Advisory Board's role in regard to the local MEP Center Boards.

Discussion Topics for the Board

NIST MEP seeks ongoing Advisory Board perspectives on these MEPNN focus areas, approaches, challenges.

- Center Board Outreach Program

- Succession Planning for Membership.

- NIST MEP staff is here to support you, our National Advisory Board; are there things we can do to better support you?

Future Meeting Schedule

- **Planning is Underway**

- *Details Coming Soon*

- **Early March**

  - Virtual or Gaithersburg, Maryland/Washington, D.C.

- **Middle of June**

  - Virtual or Tulsa, Oklahoma

- **Late August/Early September**

  - Virtual or Phoenix, Arizona

  - *In conjunction with the MEP National Network Update Meeting and FORME Best Practice Conference*

Thank You

For the Full Presentation, Please contact Cheryl Gendron at Cheryl.Gendron@nist.gov

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