



*Working together, restoring the river*

*Robert Beckley, Chair  
Assembly of Rouge Communities  
Department of Public Works, City of Livonia  
12973 Farmington Rd  
Livonia, MI 48150-4202*

July 6, 2005

Allen Park  
Auburn Hills  
Beverly Hills  
Bingham Farms  
Birmingham  
Bloomfield Hills  
Bloomfield Twp.  
Canton Twp.  
Commerce Twp.  
Dearborn  
Dearborn Heights  
Farmington  
Farmington Hills  
Franklin  
Garden City  
Inkster  
Lathrup Village  
Livonia  
Melvindale  
Northville  
Northville Twp.  
Novi  
Oakland County  
Plymouth  
Plymouth Twp.  
Pontiac  
Redford Twp.  
Rochester Hills  
Romulus  
Southfield  
Superior Twp.  
Troy  
Van Buren Twp.  
Walled Lake  
Washtenaw County  
Wayne  
Wayne County  
West Bloomfield Twp.  
Westland  
Wixom  
Ypsilanti Twp.

Dear Assembly Member and  
Eligible Members of the Alliance of Rouge Communities:

I am pleased to attach a copy of the final bylaws to create the Alliance of Rouge Communities. The attached bylaws are those recommended for approval by the Assembly of Rouge Communities at its June 9, 2005, meeting in Farmington Hills. The Preamble has been revised as suggested at the meeting to indicate the date steps were taken to develop the bylaws. In addition, as recommended at the June 9, 2005, meeting, a new Article has been added that provides for indemnification of Alliance officers and committee chairs while acting on behalf of the Alliance. All other provisions of the bylaws are identical to those presented and approved at the Assembly meeting.

I have also attached for your information a copy of Act 517 Public Acts of 2004 signed by the Governor with immediate effect on January 3, 2004, that was drafted and supported by the communities within the Rouge River watershed.

Consistent with the statutory requirements, the attached bylaws must be approved by the governing bodies of the watershed public agencies that voluntarily agree to membership in the Alliance. Under the attached Preamble to the Alliance of Rouge Communities bylaws, the Assembly of Rouge Communities established by the 2003 Memorandum of Agreement will be dissolved and the Alliance of Rouge Communities created in its place once the governing bodies of at least twenty (20) of the eligible cities, villages, townships or counties adopt the attached Alliance bylaws. The Assembly will continue to function as it has for the past two and half years until the Alliance is formed.

Our goal is to have the Alliance established by the end of September 2005, in time to develop the budget for 2006. Wayne County has indicated that there are sufficient federal funds remaining from the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project to again provide a fifty percent match to assist the Alliance in its first year of operation.

I urge you to present the attached bylaws to your governing body (or appropriate elected official) for formal adoption as soon as practical. The bylaws are modeled

after the 2003 Memorandum of Agreement that has served the Rouge watershed communities and three counties well over the past two and a half years. It will authorize the members of the Alliance to continue the successful cooperative efforts to more effectively and efficiently meet state storm water discharge permit requirements, satisfy the U.S. District Court's concerns, and improve the management of the river to benefit all our residents.

If you have questions about the formation of the Alliance or the bylaws, please contact me or the other current officers of the Assembly of Rouge Communities.

**Robert Beckley** (Livonia), ARC Chair

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**Kurt Giberson** (Dearborn) ARC Treasurer

Voice (313) 943-2075; email [kgiberso@ci.dearborn.mi.us](mailto:kgiberso@ci.dearborn.mi.us)

Please advise me when your governing body has taken action on the bylaws and forward a copy of the official action as indicated in the Model resolution attached as an appendix to the bylaws.

Sincerely,

Robert Beckley, Chair

Assembly of Rouge Communities