



Thomas Biasell, Chair
Rouge River Watershed Local Management Assembly
City of Farmington Hills, 31555 Eleven Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

December 17, 2003

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

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor, State of Michigan
George W. Romney Building
111 South Capitol Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Governor Granholm:

On behalf of the thirty-nine cities, townships and villages, and three counties that are members of the Rouge River Watershed Local Management Assembly (Rouge Assembly), I am transmitting a resolution adopted unanimously by the membership at its meeting held on December 10, 2003, in the City of Southfield.

The Rouge Assembly is a voluntary organization of local governmental units lying partially or totally within the Rouge River watershed. The purpose of the Rouge Assembly is to encourage collaborative efforts among local agencies to restore the river and to optimize the expenditure of local funds required to meet state and federal water quality requirements.

On behalf of the Rouge Assembly, I urge your careful consideration of the request made in the enclosed resolution.

Sincerely,

Signed by Tom Biasell

Thomas Biasell, Chair
Rouge Assembly

cc: Honorable John Feikens, U.S. District Court
Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive
Robert Ficano, Wayne County Executive
State Senators and Representatives within Rouge River Watershed
Steven Chester, Director, Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality
Rouge Assembly Membership



RESOLUTION
ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED
LOCAL MANAGEMENT ASSEMBLY

ADOPTED DECEMBER 10, 2003
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

**Local Management
Assembly**

Recommended by the Organization Committee
Moved by: Renzo Spallasso representing Beverly Hills
Seconded by: Wayne Domine representing Bloomfield Township
Vote on Adoption: Unanimous Support

- 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

Whereas, the State of Michigan intends to cut State-shared revenues to local units of government by 5 percent in 2004, and;

Whereas, the expected revenue sharing cuts to the 42 communities in the Rouge Watershed will total at least \$4,557,351.00, (excluding cuts to County governments and the City of Detroit) and;

Whereas, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is currently mandating, implementing, and enforcing a Sanitary Sewer Overflow Policy which was created by the Engler Administration, and;

Whereas, this SSO Policy, in its current form, may cost many of the Rouge Watershed communities in excess of \$500 million to implement, and;

Whereas, this SSO Policy is an unfunded mandate, and;

Whereas, most if not all Rouge Watershed communities have been, and continue, to expend thousands of taxpayer dollars to study, comply with, and sometimes challenge the impact of this SSO Policy with no source of funding for these efforts, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Rouge River Watershed Assembly hereby calls upon Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to suspend the implementation and enforcement of the MDEQ SSO Policy for all communities in the Rouge River Watershed for a period of one year, commencing on January 1, 2004, to allow the communities to focus their limited resources, time and attention to the social impact of further cuts in State shared revenue, and to reduce their expenditures on consultants, engineers, attorneys, and staff on the impact of the State SSO Policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be distributed to all State Representatives and State Senators whose districts are within the Rouge Watershed, Federal Judge John Feikens, Wayne County CEO Robert Ficano, and Oakland County CEO Brooks Patterson.