



Working together, restoring the river

James W. Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director

DRAFT AGENDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 1:30 p.m.
44405 6 Mile Road
Northville, MI 48843
SW corner of 6 Mile and Sheldon Road

1. **Welcome** – Tim Faas, Chair
2. **Roll Call of Members** (ECT) and record of others present.

<i>Alliance of Rouge Communities</i> <i>Executive Committee</i>		
Officers		
Chair	Tim Faas	Canton
Vice-Chair	Gary Mekjian	Southfield
Treasurer	Jennifer Lawson	Troy
Past Vice-Chair	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Township
Counties		
Oakland Co. – Rep.	John McCulloch	OCDC
Oakland Co. – Alt.	Phil Sanzica	OCDC
Oakland Co. – Alt.	Joseph Colaianne	OCDC
Washtenaw Co.- Rep.	Janis Bobrin	WCDC
Washtenaw Co.- Alt.	Michelle Bononi	WCDC
Wayne Co. - Rep.	Kurt Heise	WCDOE
Wayne Co. - Alt.	Kelly Cave	WCDOE
SWAGs		
Main 1 & 2 - Rep.	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield
Main 1 & 2 - Alt.	Meghan Bonifiglio	Bloomfield Township
Main 3 & 4 - Rep.	Jim Murray	Dearborn
Main 3 & 4 - Alt.	Eric Witte	Melvindale
Upper - Rep.	Tom Biasell	Farmington Hills
Upper - Alt.	Jim Zoumbaris	Livonia
Middle 1 - Rep.	Jill Rickard	Northville Township
Middle 1 - Alt.	Aaron Staup	Novi
Middle 3 - Rep.	Jack Barnes	Garden City
Middle 3 - Alt.	Kevin Buford	Westland
Lower 1 - Rep.	Bob Belair	Canton Township
Lower 1 - Alt.	Dan Swallow	Van Buren Township
Lower 2 - Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Wayne
Lower 2 - Alt.	Tom Wilson	Romulus

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
Oak Park
Oakland County
Orchard Lake
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Pontiac
Redford Twp.
Rochester Hills
Romulus
Southfield
Superior Twp.
Troy
Van Buren Twp.
Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport
Authority
West Bloomfield Twp.
Westland
Wixom
Ypsilanti Twp.

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 3. Summary of December 4, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting | Action |
| 4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda | |
| 5. Executive Director Report (Ridgway) | |
| a. St. Clair River-Detroit River Drinking Water Monitoring Network | Information |
| b. Contested permit update | Information |
| c. Stimulus Monies | Information |
| d. WMP Update: Stream Classification/Modeling | Information |
| e. ARCommunication quarterly newsletter | Information |
| f. Friends of the Rouge Funding Request for 2010 | Discussion |
| g. MI Earth | Information |
| h. SWAG meetings | Information/Discussion |
| i. Review of NRC Urban Stormwater Management | Discussion |
| 6. Standing Committee Reports (Faas) | |
| a. <u>Finance Committee</u> (Lawson, Treasurer/O'Meara) | |
| i. 2008 Budget Status Report (final) | Information |
| ii. 2009 Budget Status Report | Information |
| iii. 501 (c)(3) designation | Information |
| b. <u>Organizational Committee</u> (Heise/Payne – Co-Chairs) | |
| i. Status Report | Information |
| c. <u>PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee</u> (Siedlaczek, Chair) | |
| i. Status Report | Information |
| ii. Recommended Green Infrastructure projects | Action |
| d. <u>Technical Committee</u> (Zorza, Vice Chair) | |
| i. Status Report | Information |
| ii. CMI grant | Information |
| iii. Land Cover RFP/Proposed Contractor | Action |
| 7. Report from WCDOE (Cave) | |
| a. Status Report | Information |
| 8. Report from SWAGS
(Comments, Concerns, and/or Recommendations) | Information |
| 9. Summary of Executive Committee Actions (O'Meara) | |
| 10. Upcoming Meeting(s) | |
| • Full ARC, 1:30 p.m., May 5, 2009, Troy | |
| • Finance Committee, 1:30 p.m. June 4, 2009, Wayne County Commerce Court | |
| • PIE Committee Meeting, noon, July 9, 2009, Beverly Hills (Howard Knorr's house) | |
| 11. Adjourn | |



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY DRAFT

December 4, 2008

City of Southfield Parks and Recreation Building

1:30 p.m. ~ 3:30 p.m.

James W. Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director

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
Oak Park
Oakland County
Orchard Lake
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Pontiac
Redford Twp.
Rochester Hills
Romulus
Southfield
Superior Twp.
Troy
Van Buren Twp.
Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport
Authority
West Bloomfield Twp.
Westland
Wixom
Ypsilanti Twp.

1. Welcome – Tim Faas, Chairperson

T. Faas opened the meeting by thanking Gary Mekjian who has served as interim Chairperson since Kurt Giberson resigned in May 2008. Tim also welcomed the opportunity to continue to serve with Gaery and now Jennifer, the ARC's first female officer.

2. Roll Call of Members

ECT took roll call of members and others present. A quorum was present.

In Attendance:

Chair.	Tiim Faas	Canton Twp.
Vice-Chair	Gary Mekjian	Southfield
Treasurer	Jennifer Lawson	Troy
Past Vice-Chair	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Township
Oakland County Alt.	Joseph Colaianne	OCDC
Wayne County-Rep.	Kurt Heise	WCDOE
Main 3-4 Rep.	Jim Murray	Dearborn.
Upper Alt.	Jim Zoumbaris	Livonia
Lower 1 Rep.	Bob Belair	Canton
Lower 1 Alt.	Dan Swallow	Van Buren Twp.
Executive Director	Jim Ridgway	ECT

Not In Attendance:

Upper Rep.	Tom Biasell	Farmington Hills
Middle 3 Rep.	Jack Barnes	Garden City
Middle 3 Alt.	Kevin Buford	Westland
Main 1-2 Rep.	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield
Main 1-2 Alt.	Meghan Bonfiglio	Bloomfield Twp.
Wayne County Alt.	Kelly Cave	WCDOE
Oakland County Alt.	Phil Sanzica	OCDC
Oakland County Rep.	John McCulloch	OCDC
Lower 2 Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Wayne
Lower 2 Alt.	Tom Wilson	Romulus
Middle 1 Rep.	Jill Rickard	Northville Twp.
Middle 1 Alt.	Aaron Staup	Novi
Washtenaw County Rep.	Janis Bobrin	WCDC
Washtenaw County Alt.	Michelle Bononi	WCDC
Main 3-4 Alt.	Eric Witte	Melvindale

Others Present: Gary Zorza, Vice-Chair – Technical Committee; Zachare Ball – ECT Staff and Kelly Karll – ECT Staff

3. Summary of September 11, 2008, Executive Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Jim Zoumaris to accept the September 11, 2008 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair. Motion passed.

4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

The following additions were made to the agenda: Under Executive Director's report, item (d) WMP presentation and (e) Draft 2009 Calendar of ARC meetings, and (f) DWSD status.

5. Executive Director Report (Ridgway)

a. Contested Case Update

J. Ridgway reported there has been no action on the contested permit case. He said the designated attorneys continue to request information from the ARC and communities. Kelly Karll reported that Beth Kudla, one of the five attorneys representing the communities in the administrative law hearing, asked for copies of the document ECT created that shows the discrepancies in what the EPA rules say about the permit and what the State is actually requiring in the permit. K. Heise indicated that Charlie Dunn, who represents Oakland and Wayne counties, come to the full ARC meeting and give an update to ARC members.

b. 501(c)3 designation

J. Ridgway reported that ECT staff is working on a 501(c)3 designation for the ARC, but that J. Colaianne questioned if the ARC is 501(c)3 eligible. J. Murray said the importance of getting the 501(c)3 designation is to solicit donations, but J. Colaianne said the ARC could start a foundation to solicit donations and get the not-for-profit designation for the foundation.

c. MDEQ Response on grant eligibility

J. Ridgway reported that based on a letter shown to him by Betsy Nightingale from MDEQ, MDEQ has decided that the ARC *is* eligible to apply for 319 grants. However, the ARC has not received that letter, which would be in response to a letter sent to MDEQ questioning its opinion that the ARC is not eligible.

d. Watershed Management Plan Update

Kelly Karll gave a powerpoint presentation overview of the draft Watershed Management Plan. The same presentation will be made to the full ARC on December 16 in Novi.

e. Draft 2009 Calendar

J. Ridgway distributed the draft 2009 ARC calendar for review.

f. DWSD Update

K. Heise reported that there was a hearing in Judge John Feikens' courtroom Tuesday (12/2). Attendees included the judge's representatives, Tom Lewand and Tim O'Brien, and Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. K. Heise said the parties are very close to ending the 1977 DWSD lawsuit, which had included all the Rouge River Watershed communities. He said if the lawsuit ended, that would mean Judge Feikens would no longer have oversight of the activities in the Rouge River Watershed. It would also end any possible appeal the ARC communities could make to Judge Feikens about the contested storm water permit. He said if everyone agrees to the stipulations of the lawsuit, there would be a six month due diligence period. He said one result would be that a Directors' Council would be created to handle any water disputes through a dispute resolution process to avoid litigation. The members would be the Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County drain commissioners and DWSD. He said there is also a model sewer contract on the table that Wayne and Oakland counties could use for their sewer systems. He stressed that these negotiations are continuing.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee

- i. 2008 Budget Status Report: J. Lawson directed the Executive Committee's attention to the attachments regarding the 2008 Budget report.
- ii. Final ARC 2009 Budget: J. Lawson reported that the attached 2009 Budget was approved at the September 23, 2008 ARC meeting. Wayne County is in the process of completing the 2009 dues invoices.
- iii. 2009 Interagency Agreement Update: The IAA has been signed transferring the fiscal responsibility from Wayne County to the ARC.
- iv. Fiscal Year 2010 DEQ Fee Proposal Storm Water Fees: J. Lawson reported that T. Faas wrote a letter to MDEQ on behalf of the ARC requesting the 50% fee increase proposed by delayed.

b. Organization Committee

K. Heise reported that there has not been an Organizational Committee meeting. He suggested that it might be a good time to re-approach the City of Detroit about becoming an ARC member. J. Ridgway said he would write a letter to the Mayor of Detroit inviting the City to become a member. K. Heise said that Kelly Cave had drafted a letter several years ago that could be used as a template. T. Faas said he is trying to compile materials to give to the full ARC that would be helpful in reaching out to potential members including the City of Detroit.

c. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee

T. Faas announced that Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield, was appointed as the PIE Committee Chair, replacing J. Lawson, who became Treasurer. B. Siedlaczek was unable to make the meeting, so J. Lawson gave the PIE report. She said that the PIE Committee had its last meeting for the year in October in Southfield. She said the Nutrient Reduction Media Campaign has been ongoing since the fall with ads on local cable television and in the newspaper. Z. Ball reported that a request for projects for the PIE Committee's 2009 Grow Zone initiative has been drafted and will be sent to ARC members the week of December 8, 2008. Proposed projects are due to the PIE Committee at the end of January. The Main 3-4 Measuring Our Success Poster is done and was distributed at Rouge 2008 on October 24, 2008. The WMP video was completed and distributed to about 15 communities. The rest will be distributed at the full ARC meeting.

d. Technical Committee

G. Zorza reported that the Technical Committee is creating an RFP for the CityGreen initiative for 2009. W. Domine made a motion for the committee to move forward with the RFP. J. Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed. The RFP will be advertised on the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network.

e. Grants Subcommittee

There was nothing to report

f. Nominating Committee (Heise)

K. Heise reported that the Nominating Committee has completed its work this year and asked that the committee be removed from the standing agenda.

7. Report from WCDOE

K. Heise said there was nothing to report.

8. Report from SWAGS

There was nothing to report.

9. Summary of Executive Committee Actions

- Approval of 9/11/08 Executive Committee Meeting Summary.
- The full financial package is to be sent to the full ARC.
- The WMP presentation will be made to the full ARC.
- A press release will be prepared to announce the public comment period has started for the WMP.
- A letter will be prepared inviting the City of Detroit to become a member of the ARC.
- The tree canopy RFP can proceed.
- The Executive Director will prepare a letter to the MDEQ regarding the proposed increase in storm water fees.
- The meeting summary for the Dec. 4, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting will be prepared.

10. Upcoming Meeting(s)

2008

- ARC Meeting: December 16, 2008, 1:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center.

2009

- PIE Committee Meeting, Canton Township, 1:30 p.m. January 15, 2009
- Technical Committee: City of Farmington Hills, 1:30 p.m. January 21
- Finance Committee, Location TBD, January 23
- Organizational Committee, Location TBD, February 3
- Executive Committee, Location TBD, February 15
- SWAG Meetings, Week of Feb. 9

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K. Heise. Seconded by J. Zoumbaris, Motion passed.

Chris O'Meara

From: Chris O'Meara [COMeara@ectinc.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2009 12:46 PM
To: NightingaleE@michigan.gov
Cc: 'zball@ectinc.com'; 'jackb@gardencitymi.org'; 'Bob.Belair@canton-mi.org'; 'tbiasell@fhgov.com'; 'mbonfiglio@bloomfieldtwp.org'; 'bononim@ewashtenaw.org'; 'dcalhoun@hrc-engr.com'; 'catalfioch@cdm.com'; 'Kcave@co.wayne.mi.us'; 'envirowhc@sbcglobal.net'; 'ademaria@ectinc.com'; 'Ddembiec@ci.birmingham.mi.us'; 'adombrowski@nowakfraus.com'; 'fadoirr@oakgov.com'; 'pfellrath@plymouthtwp.org'; 'lgruzwalski@hrc-engr.com'; 'opdir@therouge.org'; 'kheise@co.wayne.mi.us'; 'hughescl@cdm.com'; 'djanus@ectinc.com'; 'johnsonba@cdm.com'; 'karll@semcog.org'; 'kaunelis@ohm-advisors.com'; 'skeenana@auburnhills.org'; 'rkinney@rcoc.org'; 'kluitenberge@cdm.com'; 'MuzaffarLakhani@hotmail.com'; 'smalone@rcoc.org'; 'mangus@semcog.org'; 'tmeszler@villagebeverlyhills.com'; 'nmullett@co.wayne.mi.us'; 'nightine@michigan.gov'; 'OOlsztyn@bloomfieldtwp.org'; 'mayor@ci.dearborn-heights.mi.us'; 'monitoring@therouge.org'; 'ploofa@oakgov.com'; 'jrickard@twp.northville.mi.us'; 'jridgway@ectinc.com'; 'rschrameck@ectinc.com'; 'bsiedlaczek@cityofsouthfield.com'; 'dswallow@vanburen-mi.org'; 'elizabeth.thacker@ohm-advisors.com'; 'Leigh.thurston@canton-mi.org'; 'dtuomari@co.wayne.mi.us'; 'winekaj@oakgov.com'; 'gzorza@fhgov.com'; 'jzoumbaris@ci.livonia.mi.us'
Subject: Rouge WMP - ICM model question

ARC staff has reviewed the impact of rerunning the revised ICM, and determined that it would have no impact on the stream classifications included in the Watershed Management Plan. This is because the model was used as an aid in the streams classification along with actual stream data. Therefore, there is no need to re-run the ICM. Thank you for your inquiry. We look forward to receiving your comments on the Plan.

Jim Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director
Alliance of Rouge Communities
313-410-6504

>>> "Elizabeth Nightingale" <NightingaleE@michigan.gov> 2/10/2009 1:02 PM >>>
Hi,

We have begun reviewing the Rouge WMP. In the preliminary review discussions, I was notified that the Impervious Cover Model (ICM) has been revised as detailed below.

We wanted to notify the ARC of this revision, and ask whether the ARC plans to incorporate the revision into the final version of the plan. If it can be incorporated, it would be a better plan and will prevent the plan from looking dated almost immediately. However, DEQ is not going to require that the plan be revised to include the revised ICM; it is up to the ARC to decide whether to incorporate the revised model or not. Please let us know, within the next week or two if possible, whether the ARC plans to incorporate the revised ICM model, or stick with the prior version. DEQ comments on the plan will vary depending on the answer to this question.

Description of ICM Revisions:

Three refinements to the ICM were presented at the 2nd Symposium on Urbanization and Stream Ecology (www.rivercenter.uga.edu/research/urban/urban_meeting3.htm) by Tom Schueler, Chesapeake Stormwater Network, and Lisa Fraley-McNeal, Center for Watershed Protection in May 2008. The three refinements as described by Fraley-McNeal (2008) are:

1. The imperviousness/stream quality relationship is now a cone rather than a line. The cone represents the observed variability in stream quality and also the typical range in expected improvement that could be attributed to subwatershed treatment. The cone illustrates that most regions show a generally continuous but variable gradient of stream degradation as impervious cover increases.

2. The cone width is greatest for impervious cover values less than 10 percent, which reflects the wide variability in stream quality observed for these streams. This prevents the misperception that streams with low impervious cover will automatically possess good or excellent quality. The expected quality of streams in this range of impervious cover is generally influenced more by other watershed characteristics such as forest cover, road density, riparian continuity, and cropping practices.

3. The transition between stream quality classifications is now a band rather than a line. If specific values are used to separate stream categories, the values should be based on actual monitoring data for the ecoregion, the stream indicators of greatest concern, and the predominant predevelopment regional land cover (e.g., crops or forest).

To properly apply and interpret the ICM in a watershed context:

- Watershed scale matters. The use of the ICM should generally be restricted to first to third order alluvial streams.
- The ICM may not work well in subwatersheds with major pollutant point sources, or extensive impoundments or dams within the stream network.
- The ICM is best applied to subwatersheds located within the same physiographic region. In particular, stream slopes, as measured from the top to the bottom of subwatersheds, should be in the same general range.
- The ICM is unreliable when management practices are poor, particularly when impervious cover levels are low (e.g., deforestation, acid mine drainage, intensive row crops, denudation of riparian cover).

Thanks!

Betsy

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Betsy Nightingale  
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## 

- **CONCEPT:** Through a dynamic multimedia project, Detroit Public TV and its partners inspire people across Michigan to tackle environmental challenges and work for the preservation and restoration of the state's natural resources
- To reach a wide audience and allow mass participation, MiEarth involves two interrelated platforms – and multiple media partnerships:





- **WEBSITE:** As the “headquarters” of the project, the MiEarth website will allow people across Michigan to upload video – and it will be the home of all related DPTV video. Video will primarily be posted in three categories:



- **Green Team:** *If you're taking action to help the environment, you're part of the MiEarth Green Team. Show and tell the world what you're doing on camera and upload the video! DPTV will partner with schools, loan cameras, and conduct online contests to encourage participation.*





- **My View:** *Do you see an environmental problem in your neighborhood? Do you have a green message you want the world to hear?* Shoot the video and upload it. Your video could move the MiEarth community to take action and get involved.



- **Mi Heroes:** *Do you know someone taking extraordinary steps to help the environment?* DPTV will produce profiles of local heroes from all walks of life (business, non-profit, government) and celebrate them in this green Hall of Fame.





- **Other Website Features/Capabilities:** Beyond the three primary video categories, the following will also be part of the website:
- **Great Lakes Documentary:** MiEarth will be the online link to DPTV's documentary *Freshwater Seas* (airs in 2009) and related programming and promotional projects.



- **Green Resources:** The website will offer extensive educational resources and ways for people to get involved with organizations.
- **Featured Group:** The home page will always highlight a respected green organization – and encourage people to get involved
- **User Data Capture:** Video contributors enter email and contact information during the upload process. Data is captured for marketing.
- **Interactivity:** Each video will have an embed code to allow posting on sites like Facebook and help the MiEarth website spread virally.
- **Comments:** Anyone can post a comment under a particular video.





- **MiEARTH TV:** Beyond the website, MiEarth will also involve a substantial TV component as website videos will become news brief-style features on DPTV Channel 56.
- To maximize exposure on TV and drive website traffic, DPTV will produce three different news briefs each week...



- **MiEarth Green Team:** Two-minute profile of everyday hero taking action. Example... *Nathan Zack, a young man from Farmington Hills who launched an electronics recycling business in his mom's garage.*
- **MiEarth Heroes:** Two-minute profile of environmental leader. Example... *Mike Shriber, policy director for the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor, a group raising awareness of environmental dangers.*
- **MiEarth My View:** Two-minute report on an environmental issue. Example... *Update on efforts by residents of southwest Detroit to fight industrial pollution.*





**Highlights/key facts about news briefs...**

- DPTV will produce three news briefs per week (one in each category)
- Each news brief will air once per day Monday-Friday between 6-11pm
- Each news brief will be posted to the MiEarth website
- Viewers will be encourage to visit the MiEarth website for more info
- All news briefs will include underwriter recognition



- **MEDIA PARTNERS:** To help spread the MiEarth message across southeastern Michigan, DPTV will exploit the fact that media outlets are starved for environmental content and establish partnerships in newspaper, radio, and TV. The partnerships could include:





- **Newspaper:** Free and unrestricted rights to post Green Team and Mi Heroes videos on the newspaper's website. DPTV could also create print versions of the reports that could be posted online.
- **Radio:** DPTV would create 1-minute or 30-second audio versions of Green Team and Mi Heroes reports that could be played on air. The radio partner would also have rights to post videos online. WWJ, for example, would be an ideal MiEarth partner.
- **TV station:** Free and unrestricted rights to air Green Team and Mi Heroes videos in the news and post online.
- *News value:* All partners would get a first look at *My View* videos as potential news stories – before the videos are posted on MiEarth.
- **Social networking:** While Facebook and MySpace would not be considered MiEarth partners, DPTV has extensive experience promoting projects via these websites – and encouraging people to post videos on their personal pages. This experience will help drive MiEarth traffic and participation.

































