



Alliance
of Rouge
Communities

Working together, restoring the river

ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

Draft Meeting Summary

Full Alliance Meeting

Friday, January 6, 2006 at 1:30 P.M.

Southfield Public Library,

23600 Evergreen Road, Southfield, Michigan

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

1. Welcome - Mr. Robert Beckley, of Livonia, Alliance of Rouge Communities Chair, welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Alliance and thanked Southfield for hosting the meeting.

a. *Roll Call /Determination of Quorum* – Mr. Beckley took roll call at the meeting. He asked all attendees to identify themselves and the organization they represented. The 31 voting members identified below were sufficient for a Quorum.

The following members were in attendance at the meeting:

Auburn Hills	Farmington Hills	Plymouth Township	Westland
Beverly Hills	Garden City	Rochester Hills	Wixom
Bingham Farms	Inkster	Salem Township	Wayne Airport Authority
Birmingham	Lathrup Village	Southfield	Ypsilanti Township
Bloomfield Hills	Livonia	Troy	
Bloomfield Township	Melvindale	Walled Lake	
Canton	Northville Township	Wayne	
Dearborn	Novi	Wayne County	
Farmington	Plymouth	West Bloomfield	

The following members were not in attendance at the meeting:

Allen Park	Northville	Redford Township	Van Buren Township
Commerce Township	Lyon Township	Romulus	
Dearborn Heights	Pontiac	Superior Township	

A number of guests were in attendance at the meeting. The guest attendance list is shown in Attachment 1.

Mr. Beckley recognized Jack Bails, Kurt Heise, past officers and other members for their efforts towards the formation of the Alliance. Dale Iman, City Administrator of Southfield, welcomed everyone to the facility on behalf of the Mayor of Southfield and the City Council.

b. *Approval of June 9, 2005 Assembly Meeting Minutes* – Minutes were distributed and a motion was made to approve the minutes, the motion was approved unanimously.

c. *Additions or changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda* – A request was made to include a Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council (RRAC) update to the agenda. The Chair offered to include this item during the public comment period.

d. *Chair's Report*

- i. *Alliance of Rouge Communities Status* – As of January 2006 36 communities and counties have joined the ARC. All eligible communities in the watershed have been invited to join.
- ii. *Meetings with MDEQ concerning SWPPI updates* – There have been two meetings with the MDEQ since our last General Assembly meeting with some progress towards the MDEQ recognizing the watershed-wide efforts of the ARC as a component of regulatory compliance. Significant discussion has focused on matching specific activities to specific goals and how to assemble a tracking list to measure compliance. At the November 21, 2005 meeting, MDEQ offered to review our subwatershed management plans and SWPPI actions tables in an effort to assist us with streamlining the process. This information was provided in December and the ARC is awaiting their formal response.
- iii. *U.S. EPA grant freeze status update* – Wayne County reported on the status of the U.S. EPA grant freeze that has delayed the review of Round VII grant applications. The ARC sent a letter to USEPA Region V in September requesting immediate release of these funds indicating the severe impact the freeze would have on ARC activities. This along with a campaign led by congressional delegates and others to release some of the grant dollars was successful with \$5.1 million released. Efforts continue to get the remaining dollars released as they directly impact the ability to fund Round VII subgrants. Round VII subgrant proposals were accepted in 2005, but are pending review until further information is obtained from the EPA regarding the release of funding. Wayne County suggested that since significant time has passed since their application, an update to the proposals would be helpful prior to beginning the review process, noting that the original end date of 2007 for projects may need to be amended. Some options included updating previously submitted tasks and schedules or submitting a new proposal. If as a result of the updating process some previously submitted proposals are withdrawn, then there is a possibility that more proposals could be accepted. There were a variety of opinions on the merits of each with some members voicing concern that original submittals should get preferential consideration to new proposals. The ARC agreed that the most equitable approach would be for Wayne County to solicit updates on the current proposals first and re-visit the possibility of accepting additional proposals after it is better understood how many submittals will be withdrawn. With regard to the status of ARC funding and the grant freeze, Wayne County indicated that funding to the ARC for 2006 was in place, but 2007 funding is still in jeopardy as a result of the funds still frozen by EPA.

iv. *Summary of Executive Committee Meeting* – Chair Robert Beckley reported on the first Alliance of Rouge Communities Executive Committee meeting held December 8, 2005, noting that the Alliance of Rouge Communities was officially formed when twenty eligible members governing bodies approved the bylaws. The meeting focused on extending the fiduciary agreement with Wayne County through 2006, budget amendments for 2005, budget recommendations for 2006, and membership assessments and invitations to Associate members like the Wayne County Airport Authority. Mr. Beckley explained that the details of each item would be covered under corresponding standing committee reports to follow.

2. Treasurer's/Finance Committee Report (Kurt Giberson)

- a. *Status of Assembly Invoice Payments* – Treasurer Giberson reported that 99.9% of all 2005 assessments had been paid. Lyon and Salem Townships have unpaid assessments totaling \$316.
- b. *Status of 2005 Assembly Budget/Expenditures* – A expenditure report was distributed and the Treasurer indicated that he expected a year end budget balance in the tens of thousands of dollars.
- c. *2005 Budget Amendment Requests* – Three amendments were presented relating to PIE activities. The first was to transfer \$4,200 initially planned for printing banners to print other PIE materials such as fertilizer tips and household hazardous waste brochures. The second request was to transfer \$900 from the 2005 budget to 2006 to complete OSDS workshops not completed in 2005 due to staffing changes with partnering Michigan State University Extension Services. The third request from the PIE committee was to transfer budget from the ARC newsletter task not completed in 2005 to cover cost overruns in public education workshops. The City of Wayne motioned to accept all amendment requests. Wixom supported, and the motion was unanimously passed.
- d. *Fiduciary Services Agreement for 2006* – The status of the Fiduciary Services Agreement was summarized and the ARC concurred that the Chair should sign and execute the Agreement.
- e. *2006 Budget Recommendation* – Treasurer Giberson distributed a recommended 2006 budget that balances with anticipated funds available through membership dues (Attachment 2). The recommended budget includes activities similar to those approved for 2005, with some budget reductions. The hiring of staff is not included in the budget for this fiscal year with the plan to continue using the Rouge Program Office staff support. City of Melvindale motioned to approve the recommended budget, Livonia seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Standing Committee Reports (Robert Beckley)

- a. PIE (Chair Jennifer Lawson, Troy) – Ms. Lawson reported that a Public Education Workshop was held at Lawrence Technological Institute with 75 people in attendance, one-third of which were from outside of the watershed looking for guidance. Posters were designed, developed, and produced for the Main 1-2 and Upper SWMAs and are being distributed to all members of the ARC with multiple copies for communities in the focused subwatershed.
- b. Technical (Vice Chair, Gary Zorza, Farmington Hills) – Mr. Zorza summarized the monitoring program activities completed in 2005, highlighting that the sampling data is now online at www.rougeriver.com/database. Jack Bails pointed out that a MDEQ request for proposals using Clean Michigan Initiative funds was recently distributed and that the Technical Committee might consider applying for funds to support the 2006 monitoring program. There was a motion to approve the Technical Committee’s application using funds from the existing budget as a match. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- c. Organization/Membership (Co-Chairs Kurt Heise, WCDOE/ Dave Payne, Bloomfield Twp.)
 - i. *Status of ARC Insurance/Recommendation* – Mr. Heise reported that by PA 517 the ARC is now an independent governmental entity. Mr. Bails reported that he received an insurance quote for \$4,101 to cover the ARC officers. Mr. Heise made a motion that the Insurance Policy be adopted, the motion was seconded by the City of Livonia and the motion passed.
 - ii. *Recommendation on Associate Membership – Wayne County Airport Authority* - Wayne County presented the methodology recommended by the Organizational Committee and Executive Committee for assessing Associate member dues based on percentage of land area in the watershed. A motion was made adapt this assessment methodology and to invite the Wayne County Airport Authority as an Associate member. The motion was supported and approved unanimously. Mr. Heise reported recent discussions of membership with Ecorse and River Rouge and plans to begin discussion with Detroit. Mr. Heise also reported that Judge Feikens removed Mayor Kilpatrick as director of DWSD, but did not assign a replacement. A 16-page opinion was issued. Contracts now go through City of Detroit charter process.

4. Opportunity for Comments by the Public (Robert Beckley)

Friends of the Rouge reported that they are gearing up for the 20th year of Rouge Rescue and have a goal to get each community to host a site on June 4, 2006.

RRAC Chair Bill Craig congratulated the group on the formation of the Alliance, noted the election of Brandy Bakita of Southfield as the new Vice-Chair and distributed the Rouge Report Card. RRAC also gave a presentation on the development of delisting criteria for the Rouge as an Area of Concern (AOC).

FOTR reported that they had recently received a Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) grant to perform a habitat assessment.

Amy Mangus of SEMCOG recommended that developed AOC delisting criteria should be consistent with subwatershed management plan goals. She also mentioned that a State Revolving Fund workshop would be offered free of charge to SEMCOG members.

MDEQ reported a restructuring of the Non-point Source (NPS) program that includes a new initiative to help communities meet good housekeeping practices.

Lillian Dean made an announcement for a lawn care seminar in Southfield sponsored by Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority, Wayne County, and Oakland County.

5. ARC Accomplishments Presentation (Kelly Cave)

Ms. Cave gave a slide presentation originally presented at Rouge 2005 highlighting projects and improvement in Rouge Watershed ecosystem health.

6. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance (Robert Beckley)

Chair Beckley summarized the actions of the meeting noting that four motions were passed:

- 2005 budget amendments,
- 2006 Budget,
- ARC officers insurance policy,
- Invitation to Wayne County Airport Authority to join ARC as Associate member.
- Support for Technical Committee's application for CMI grant funding on behalf of ARC.

7. Meeting Schedule (Robert Beckley)

Chair Beckley solicited opinions on how future Alliance meetings should be structured with regard to length and function. A number of comments were provided indicating that the Executive Committee should deliberate planned actions with the Full Alliance serving the function of a ratification committee. Full Alliance meetings should be limited to 2 hours beginning around 1:00 P.M. A suggestion was made to make handout packets available prior to the meeting, possibly on the website with members only accessibility.

8. Adjourn

Attachment 1: Guest Attendance List

Alliance of Rouge Communities
 January 6, 2006 Meeting
 ATTENDANCE LIST - GUESTS

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Name	Representing	Please provide phone and e-mail address if you would like to be noticed of future meetings.	
		Phone	E-mail
BILL CEASIS	R.R.A.C.	248 476 5127	ENV120UTC@SBCGLOBAL.NET
Mike Howell	W:KOM	248 6240141	mhowell@ci.wikom.mi.us
AARON STUMP	Novi	248 347-3270	astump@a.novi.mi.us
Sam Smalley	Dearborn	313 943 2181	ssmalley@ci.dearborn.mi.us
JACKSON BIRSM	WILLIAMT TWP.	734 768-3173	jibkby@twp.ypsilant.mi.us
SCOTT PARKER	ECI		
Sirabeth Tracker	OHM & Ronulus	734 466-4477	tracker@ohm-eng.com
Demetra Janus	Stntc	734 761-1010	djanus@stntc.com
Dina El-Gamal	Stntc	''	delgamal@stntc.com
Kurt Giberson	Dearborn	313 943 2015	n/c
PATRICK FELLBAND	PLYMOUTH TWP?	313 354 8131	PFELLBAND@PLYMOUTH.TWP.MI.US
ROBERT WILLIAMS	SECF	248.771.4441	RADRWMS@W.W.WET.COM
Bryan Wagoner	W.C.A.A.	8 737 297 3628	bryan.wagoner@wcaa.vi
MARK KIRBY	Melvindale	313 429-1059	CKirby@melvindale.org

Alliance of Rouge Communities
 January 6, 2006 Meeting

ATTENDANCE LIST - GUESTS

Name	Representing	Please provide phone and e-mail address if you would like to be noticed of future meetings.	
		Phone	E-mail
Roy Schumack	EX	734-776-8524	rschumack@aol.com
MIKE BILTSRU	CITY OF HAYNES	734-721-9800	mbiltsru@ci.wayne.mi.us
KEALL SCHEIDT	Corp of Tracy	248-524-3585	SCHNEIDT@CI.Tracy, CA, US
Greg Means	WMA - Trum	734-979-9200	gmeans@wma-trum.com
MUZAFFAR LAKHANI	CITY OF INKSTER	313-563-7710	MUZAFFARLAKHANI@HSTMAIL.COM
Barry Johnson	CDM - RPO	313-230-5207	Johnsonba@adm.com
Joe Mantoy	Farmington Hills	248-442-4923	JoeMantoy@speakeasy.net
Stephen Remington	msd / Tetra Tech	517-594-5344	Steve.Remington@ttnps.com
Sally Petrella	Friends of The Rouge	913-993-9621	gpcos@nator@therouge.org
Howard Knorr	—	248-646-0619	HOWKNORR@aol.com
Nicole Alford	City of Livest	313-2943117	Nicole_alford@yahoo.com
TRACY SCINTAK	City of Farmington Hills	248-871-2860	tsintak@ci.farmington-hills.mi.us
SANDU SIMH	ECR	810-494-5057	SSIMH@ECTRO.CA.GY
Lillian Dean	SOCA	248-546-5818	LFD@ca1.com

Attachment 2: Executive Committee 2006 Recommended ARC Budget

**Assembly of Rouge Communities
Proposed 2006 Budget
Recommended by Executive Committee: 6 January 2006**

Revenue Available for 2006 Budget

2006 Dues from Communities	\$	294,971.00	*
2006 Rouge Project Grant	\$	284,971.00	
Rollover Budget from 2005	\$	15,781.00	
	\$	595,723.00	

*** Include Communities that Approved the By-Laws by 1-06-2006**

Requested Assembly 2006 Budget Items	Committees Recommendation	Committees Preferred	Finance Committee Recommendation	Staff
Organization Committee				
OC1 Staff Support	\$ 70,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 70,000	To be hired by ARC/RPO
OC2 ARC Insurance	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	outside purchase (NOF)
OC3 Subwatershed Advisory Group Facilitation	\$ 20,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 20,000	RPO
<i>Organization Committee Total</i>	\$ 100,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 100,000	
Public Education and Involvement Committee				
PIE1 Public Education Committee Support	\$ 30,000	-	\$ 30,000	RPO
PIE2 Five-Year Strategic Plan	\$ 2,000	-	\$ 2,000	RPO/SEMCOG
PIE3 Household Hazardous Waste Committee Facilitation	\$ 5,000	-	\$ 5,000	RPO
PIE4 Measuring Our Success Posters	\$ 36,000	-	\$ 36,000	RPO
PIE5 Fertilizer Education Pilot Program	\$ 24,000	-	\$ 24,000	RPO/SEMCOG
PIE6 Municipal Training Guidebook Printing	\$ 3,000	-	\$ 3,000	Wayne County
PIE7 OSDC Workshop Materials**	\$ 900	-	\$ 900	RPO
<i>PIE Committee Total</i>	\$ 100,900	-	\$ 100,900	
Technical Committee				
TC1 Baseline Sampling Program	\$ 290,000	-	\$ 290,000	RPO
TC2 Rouge Data Dissemination	\$ 4,000	-	\$ 4,000	RPO
TC3 Lab Services	\$ 12,000	-	\$ 12,000	Paragon/RTI
TC4 IDEP	\$ 48,024	-	\$ 40,000	TBD
TC5 Continuous Monitoring	\$ 45,976	-	\$ 45,976	USGS
<i>Technical Committee Total</i>	\$ 400,000	-	\$ 391,976	
Total Amount Requested by All Committees	\$ 600,900	\$ 640,900	\$ 592,876	
Available Budget	\$ (5,177)	\$ (45,177)	\$ 2,847	

** Budget carryover from the 2005 budget