

DRAFT AGENDA
ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES
Thursday, March 28, 2013 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn

Auburn Hills
Beverly Hills
Bingham Farms
Birmingham
Bloomfield Hills
Bloomfield Twp.
Canton Twp.
Commerce Twp.
Dearborn
Dearborn Heights
Farmington
Farmington Hills
Franklin
Garden City
Henry Ford Community
College
Lathrup Village
Livonia
Melvindale
Northville
Northville Twp.
Novi
Oakland County
Oak Park
Orchard Lake
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Pontiac
Redford Twp.
Rochester Hills
Romulus
Southfield
Troy
University of
Michigan-Dearborn
Van Buren Twp.
Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport
Authority
Westland
Wixom

Cooperating Partners
Cranbrook Institute of Science
Friends of the Rouge
Rouge RAP Advisory Council
Southeastern Oakland
County Water Authority
Wayne State University

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|---|--|--|
| 1. Welcome –Kevin Buford, Chair
a. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum
b. Introductions of ARC guests
c. Additions or changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda
d. Approval of November 7, 2012 Meeting Summary
e. Resolution | Information

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| 2. Sewer Funding Law – Chuck Hersey, SEMCOG | Information | |
| 3. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report – Brandy Siedlaczek, Treasurer
a. 2013 A/R and A/P Reports
b. 2013 Budget Amendment
i. Organization Committee Amendment 1
c. 2013 ECT Contract Amendment | Information

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Action |

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| 4. Executive Director Report –Jim Ridgway
a. Grant Status Report
b. Legacy Project Update
c. Clarification on ARC Position on new NPDES Storm Water Permit
d. Executive Director 2012 Annual Report | Information
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Information |
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| 5. Standing Committee Reports – Kevin Buford
a. Organization Committee (K. Cave and J. Seymour, Co-Chairs)
i. ARC Bylaws
ii. Ban on texting while Driving Policy
iii. Funding White Paper
iv. Strategic Plan
b. PIE Committee (B. Siedlaczek, Chair)
i. Progress Report
c. Technical Committee (K. Mondora, Chair)
i. Progress Report |

Information
Action
Information
Action

Information |

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| 6. Report from Cooperating Partners | Information | |
| 7. Report from WCDPS – Kelly Cave | Information | |
| 8. Opportunity for Public Comment – Kevin Buford | | |
| 9. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance – Chris O’Meara | Information | |

10. Upcoming Meeting Schedule***Information***

- Organization Committee Meeting, April 23, 1:30 p.m., Farmington Hills
- PIE Meeting, May 23, location and time TBD
- PIE Meeting, July 11, Beverly Hills

11. Other Business**12. Adjourn*****Action*****13. Henry Ford Community College Green Roof Tour**

James W. Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director



Working together, restoring the river

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

November 7, 2012, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Civic Center, Novi

1. Welcome (Gary Mekjian)

- a. **Roll Call /Determination of Quorum** - Roll call was taken. The 22 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

ARC Member	Attended Y/N	ARC Member	Attended Y/N
Auburn Hills	Y	Novi	Y
Beverly Hills	Y	Oakland County	N
Bingham Farms	Y	Oak Park	N
Birmingham	Y	Orchard Lake	Y
Bloomfield Hills	N	Plymouth	N
Bloomfield Twp.	Y	Plymouth Twp.	Y
Canton Twp.	Y	Pontiac	N
Commerce Twp.	N	Redford Twp.	N
Dearborn	Y	Rochester Hills	N
Dearborn Heights	Y	Romulus	N
Farmington	Y	Southfield	Y
Farmington Hills	Y	Troy	N
Franklin	Y	Van Buren Twp.	N
Garden City	Y	Walled Lake	Y
Henry Ford Community College	N	Washtenaw County	Y
Lathrup Village	Y	Wayne	N
Livonia	Y	Wayne County	Y
Melvindale	N	Wayne County Airport Authority	N
Northville	N	Westland	N
Northville Twp.	Y	Wixom	N

b. Introduction of ARC guests

Gary Mekjian asked all guests in attendance to introduce themselves.

c. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the meeting agenda.

d. Approval of July 25, 2012 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Jim Murray, Dearborn, to approve the July 25, 2012 meeting summary. It was seconded by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, and passed unanimously.

e. Gary Mekjian announced the resolutions prepared for Janis Bobrin and Ed Bagale as they retire. He thanked them for their advocacy which has assisted the ARC in

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Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport Authority
Westland
Wixom

Cooperating Partners:

Cranbrook Institute of Science
Friends of the Rouge
Rouge RAP Advisory Council
Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority
Wayne State University

accomplishing its objectives. The Alliance of Rouge Communities extends its gratitude to Janis Bobrin and Ed Bagale and wishes them all the best in retirement.

2. Executive Director Services RFP Review Committee-Engineering Services (Mekjian)

a. Recommendation on Executive Director

Gary Mekjian reported that the Executive Committee is forwarding the recommendation that the Executive Director Services contract be awarded to ECT. The motion was made by Jeff Meuller, Lathrup Village to award the contract to ECT for Executive Director Services. The motion was seconded by Don Rohraff, Livonia and passed unanimously.

b. Engineering Services revisions to Purchasing Policy

Gary Mekjian discussed the options drafted for future ARC grants that require engineering services. The options that the Executive Committee is suggesting go to the Organization Committee to be incorporated into the ARC Purchasing Policy are:

- Select ECT to perform design and construction engineering services.
- Use one of the short listed firms (ECT, HRC, OHM team, or CarlisleWartman/CardnoJFNew) to perform design and construction engineering services with ARC staff grant administration.
- If the community/county involved wishes to, they may prepare an RFQ and select a consultant specific to their project as long as the process meets grant procurement requirements. This does not preclude any of the short listed firms from submitting. ARC staff would again provide the grant administration.

3. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (Don Rohraff, Treasurer)

a. 2011 A133 Audit

Don Rohraff reviewed the A133 Audit results which showed no instances of noncompliance and no significant deficiencies. The motion was made by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to accept the 2011 A133 Audit and Financial Statement as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Laura Gruzowski, Birmingham, and passed unanimously.

b. 2012 A/R and A/P Reports

Don Rohraff reviewed the A/R and A/P reports. The receivables report shows all dues outstanding at this date along with the Rouge Grant reimbursement request. He stated that the payables are all in the review process and are being scheduled for payment.

c. 2012 Membership Dues

Don Rohraff reported that those communities still owing their dues include Melvindale, Oak Park, and Pontiac. These communities have been sent reminders and Jim Ridgway will be following up with a phone call.

d. 2012 Budget Amendment

2012 Budget Amendments

Don Rohraff reviewed the PIE Committee Amendment 1 which uses \$5,000 from unused expenses from PIE1 and PIE2 to pay for:

- Green Schools: \$2,500 to buy 25 trees for the Green Schools program for new schools. This budget would be added to the Green Schools – Trees task in the PIE 2012 Budget, which is administered by Wayne County.

- Riparian Homeowners' brochure: \$2,500 for design of the brochure and collecting related content for the ARC website. This budget is lower than originally anticipated because we will be using existing materials (Waterfront Wisdom).

This request requires no budget increase to the overall 2012 ARC budget.

Don Rohraff reviewed the Finance Committee Amendment 4 which increases the FC1 budget from \$15,000 to \$17,640. The budget item, an increase of \$2,640, will cover the final invoice received by the accountant and will be paid with 100% ARC dues. This amendment covers additional work related to the increase in grants from the prior year and because this was the first A133 audit there was additional testing required for the audit and additional financial statement schedules prepared for the taxes that were not budgeted for in 2012. ARC staff have received confirmation that no further costs will be incurred this year for accounting services.

The motion was made by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve the 2012 Budget Amendments (PIE Amendment 1 and FC Amendment 4) as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills and passed unanimously.

d. 2013 Budget Preparation Schedule

Don Rohraff reviewed the 2013 budget preparation schedule with the Full ARC. This item was passed out for information. Don Rohraff stated that we are on schedule with email requests being sent out to the ECT along with the committee chairs to provide their draft budgets.

e. 2012 ECT GLRI Contract Amendment

Don Rohraff reviewed the contract amendment to the scope of services for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI2) Appendix B (revised) with ECT. This amendment increases the total compensation for the scope of services from \$95,000 to \$115,000 to increase the funding for the design, construction oversight and grant administration and reporting. This budget is covered by GLRI2: Danvers Pond Dam Removal and stream Restoration.

The budget adjustment has been approved by the U.S. EPA GLRI grant officer and is necessary because of the following reasons:

- Unanticipated increase in the design and permitting of the project. It was anticipated that only contract documents would be required due to the design having been completed previously. Some of this was due to the fact that the design was 3 years old by the time final permitting and construction were taking place therefore due to the dynamics of the stream updated field information was required (bottom profile and sediment samples) and subsequent redesign of portions of the project.
- MDEQ permit application and requirements for dam removals project information had been updated since 2008, so the Permit package was redone to accommodate these needs.
- Project was redesigned to accommodate work only on Farmington Hills property.
- Meetings with property owners and association to discuss project, outcomes, and resolve concerns.
- Channel alignments discussions and summary responses.

- Seawall concern investigation and response.
- Contract documents were redesigned from only City of Farmington Hills property to include the required floodplain work on adjacent properties.
- Developing a project QAPP, conducting mid-project and final Quality Assurance reviews as required by the QAPP.
- Increased grant administration and technical advisory group activities, based on the extended time of the project and contract closeout requirements provided by EPA during the project.
- Development of IAAs for ARC and Farmington Hills.

The motion was made by Jim Murray, Dearborn, to approve the 2012 ECT GLRI2 Contract Amendment as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village and passed unanimously.

f. 2013 Budget Recommendations

ARC Staff reviewed the 2013 budget recommendations. Chris O'Meara reviewed the Finance Committee budget recommendations as follows:

- FC1 – Accounting/Legal Services, \$17,000 - These funds will be used for the preparation of the 2012 taxes, preparation of the financial report and the required A133 audit. These funds would also cover any legal issues that may arise related to the ARC. This line item has increased from previous years due to the costs involved with the A133 audit. This budget item will be paid with 100% ARC dues.
- FC2 – ARC Insurance, \$4,000 – These funds will cover the directors and officers insurance that is required by the ARC Bylaws.
- Executive Director Services, \$178,421 - The Executive Director Staff oversees the day-to-day affairs of the Alliance of Rouge Communities, including fiduciary and budgeting services. Additional duties for 2013 include:
 - Staffing and facilitation of the full ARC (3 meetings); the Executive Committee (6 meetings); the Organization Committee (2 meetings) and the Subwatershed Advisory Groups (SWAGs) (1 meeting for three combined SWAGs).
 - Distribution of meeting materials and FOIA services
 - Serving as the Primary Liaison and Advocate for the Rouge River Watershed
 - Quick Books Monthly Tracking and Reporting
 - Facilitation of the Finance Committee meetings (4 meetings)
 - Administrative Oversight/Contractor Management/Ongoing Support
 - ARC Marketing & Communications
 - Annual Report

This request includes the budget for facilitation and oversight of the Technical Committee (4 meetings) and the Public Involvement and Education Committee (4 meetings) as well as preparation of the 2013 committee budgets.

This request also includes the Grant Preparation budget for up to five grants. This represents \$20,000 in non-federal ARC monies to pursue grants in 2013.

- The 2013 PIE budget reflects a substantial decrease (\$40,180) in cost from the 2012 budget due to the fact that accommodations had to be made to find budget to pay

for the benthic macroinvertebrate sampling that had been paid for by the GLRI grant and ERB foundation for 2011 and 2012. (The ARC paid for this in previous years) Because of ARC budget constraints, the PIE budget was reduced to pay for the sampling, which is the foundation of the ARC's monitoring program. 2013 PIE Committee highlights are:

- (PIE 1) The *Green Infrastructure Activities* task budget is about \$20,000 lower, primarily because the ARC will not be creating new grow zones in 2013, instead choosing to monitor the existing 31 grow zones created by this program since 2009. We have also reduced the budget for rain barrel sales, because not as much ARC staff time is required to hold rain barrel sales since our vendor (Great Lakes Rain Barrels) conducts most of the logistical activities ARC staff once did. We have added a Collaborative PEP activity to develop a Collaborative PEP for ARC members that should reduce the amount of time spent reporting to the MDEQ. Finally, there is a PIE Initiatives subtask to provide budget for activities not described here that we may want to conduct as the year progresses, which will be subject to approval by the Finance Committee
 - (PIE 2) The *Public Education Materials* task has decreased budget for printed materials and giveaways and decreased budget for distribution (Wayne County). This task supports the purchase and distribution of seedlings at local events, such as community events, rain barrel sales and HHW collection days. The printing budget will pay for seedling packaging, bookmarks and magnetic clips.
 - (PIE 3) The *Website Maintenance* task budget remains the same and supports design, writing and maintenance fees for the ARC website.
 - (PIE 4) *Septic System Maintenance Workshops* which were part of previous PIE Committee budgets are being re-instituted to support the findings of the water quality monitoring activities in Main and Upper subwatersheds (CMI grant-funded), which is showing that there could be failing septic systems in some areas. In 2013, two workshops will be held in Franklin/Southfield and Farmington Hills.
 - (PIE 5) The *Watershed Stewardship and Reporting* task supports Friends of the Rouge presenting (with assistance from the ARC and Wayne County) four hands-on workshops for homeowners to design native plant gardens and a grow zone maintenance workshop for participants in the ARC's grow zone project from previous years (2009-12). Additionally, FOTR is working with ARC staff, Wayne County and PIE Committee members to facilitate a Grow Zone maintenance subcommittee to investigate ways to provide for ongoing maintenance of grow zones installed by the ARC, FOTR and Wayne County. *FYI, FOTR will provide \$2,500 match for the workshops that can be used by the ARC against the grant it receives from Wayne County.*
- Technical Committee Budget Recommendations include:
 - TC1 Rouge River Watershed Monitoring Activities, \$153,000 (including \$20,000 in volunteer time)**
 - No Cost Items:**
 1. Continuous stream flow monitoring at six USGS sponsored sites (US1 – US5, US7).
 2. Geomorphology assessment may be funded by other sources.

ARC Funded items:

1. Macroinvertebrate monitoring at 35 locations in the spring and fall of 2013, plus stonefly monitoring in the winter beginning in January of 2013.
2. Flow monitoring on the Lower Branch at two sites (US9 and L05D).
3. Dissolved oxygen monitoring on the Lower Branch at L05D.
4. Summarizing the 2012 water quality monitoring effort in a brief report for the Technical Committee and communities.
5. Development of a new 5 year monitoring plan for 2014-2018.

TC2 Storm Water Reporting System: Operation and Maintenance, \$12,400

The main purpose of this initiative is to assist ARC members in the permit required storm water reporting by focusing on efforts that can be completed on a watershed-wide basis, thereby reducing workload and costs to individual ARC members. This will be accomplished by operating and maintaining the Reporting System previously developed.

This effort will include the following:

1. Oversight and assistance to ARC members on system use, as requested;
2. Maintenance of the reporting system including code refining, modifications to web interface and minor content modifications as found to be necessary;
3. Administration of the reporting system including setting up user names, passwords, and troubleshooting any problems; and
4. Troubleshooting and repairing programming issues as they arise.

Individual ARC members will be responsible for 1) input their community's information into the Reporting System, 2) printing their community's report from the Reporting System to create an individual report, 3) adding a cover letter and submitting their report to MDEQ, and 4) saving copies of individual reports for their records and audit purposes.

TC3 IDEP Investigations and Training, \$62,500

The tasks addressed under this initiative are A) illicit discharge elimination field investigations, B) IDEP training, and C) Collaborative IDEP plan. We anticipate that the new Phase II permit will allow for collaborative approaches. This watershed-wide approach to IDEP implementation is proposed in lieu of completing the more prescriptive IDEP requirements.

The motion was made by Brandy Siedlaczek, Southfield, to approve the 2013 Budget Recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills and passed unanimously.

4. Executive Director Report

a. Grant Status Report

Jim Ridgway reported all grants continue to move forward. The Danvers project is close to completion. The Wayne Rd. Dam project continues with the dam removal complete. The Forest Service Emerald Ash Borer project has begun with the first phase of tree plantings started this fall.

Jim Ridgway reported that the Henry Ford Estate Dam removal project will be resubmitted under the next round of GLRI funding as all parties work to prepare a proposal that ARC staff hopes will be funded.

b. Legacy Project Update

Jim Ridgway report that ARC Staff have been working on the match element of the project. Marathon has donated their legal team to look at the match issues. ARC Staff has worked with DWSD to collect a great deal of data. The preliminary assessment suggest that the Green Infrastructure activities will, in fact, become eligible as match. If DWSD's efforts are deemed "eligible" as match, the matching issue for the RIFS is solved. The ARC communities will not be asked to provide any match. The ARC's current efforts are being funded by a grant provided by the ERB Foundation. ARC staff continues to work with all parties, including EPA and MDEQ, to gain further commitments from the private industries to assure that once the full scope of the remediation is identified, the industries will take responsibility for matching to "real work." More importantly, the ARC and/or any ARC communities will not find themselves responsible for any aspect of this remediation.

c. Permit Update

Jim Ridgway reported that the EPA is likely to have a new storm water permit out next year. We continue to work with MDEQ, the MWEA/SEMCOG comments that were prepared were not included in the latest draft, a second set of comments have been sent.

Laura Gruzowski stated that the new permits were supposed to be out last week. They told the work group that they will be having training sessions for those that will be due first. For those that are issued in 2017, permit applications will be due by April 1, 2016.

Jim Ridgway reported that the contested case is still on-going. Attorneys are waiting for the new permit to come out which is expected to be similar to the 2008 permit. The MDEQ has requested a stay but continue to move ahead. It is expected that communities will be expected to pay for things like failing septic.

Jim Ridgway reminded members that ARC staff shared a copy of the watershed-wide permit for the Milwaukee area. Jim stated that this may be good or bad but some are doing it.

d. White Paper – Funding Mechanisms for Correcting Illicit Connections

Jim Ridgway reviewed the draft white paper that was prepared by the ARC staff. The paper reviews funding options for private vs. public lands and what the funding options are. The ARC staff requests members to review the white paper and provide comments to Annette DeMaria.

5. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee (Kelly Cave, Co-Chair)

Revisions to ARC Bylaws

Kelly Cave reported that the Organization Committee worked very hard to finalize the changes to the Bylaws and she commended all involved. Kelly Cave reviewed the document that was passed out that explained the major changes in the document. Most

changes were moving items around to more appropriate places in the document and removing those things that no longer apply. She explained that once these Bylaws are approved they will need to go to the member councils for approval. One of the major changes made was that any future edits to the Bylaws could be made with a 2/3 vote of the ARC member without having to go to councils. This would not apply to changes to the dues calculations, any changes to the dues would have to be approved by the member councils. The motion was made by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, to approve the revised ARC Bylaws as presented by the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

Membership Policy

Kelly Cave reviewed the Membership Policy that focuses on the assessment of costs to members being set proportionately based on the quarter of the year they join, the designated representatives for Primary and Associate members being from the community and allowing the alternate to be the communities consultant if they choose, and the requirement of Primary and Associate Members being in good standing in the ARC and having paid their annual dues to participate in ARC grant-funded programs. The motion was made by Jim Murray, Dearborn, to approve the Membership Policy as presented by the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Kathy Hagaman, Bingham Farms, and passed unanimously.

Kelly Cave requested that an email be sent when you know that the resolution is going to your council and when it has been adopted please mail a copy of your community's resolution to Chris O'Meara at the ARC's address.

Revised Grant Eligibility Requirements Policy

Kelly Cave reviewed the revisions to the Grant Eligibility Requirements Policy which included provisions in any subgrant award and/or interagency subgrant agreement to require that any ARC member awarded a subgrant shall remain an ARC member in good standing throughout the term of the subgrant award. It also includes text to terminate a subgrant and retain any unpaid portion of the subgrant if a community chooses to terminate its membership during the term of a subgrant. The motion was made by Don Rohraff, Livonia, to approve the revised Grant Eligibility Requirements Policy as presented by the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

Kelly Cave informed the ARC that Organization Committee will be working on updates to the Purchasing Policy in addition to the strategic plan. Primary goals include securing and sustaining additional funding for the ARC. The Organization Committee will also be doing a white paper on the ARC as a whole.

b. PIE Committee (Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair)

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the PIE Committee distributed 2,000 seedlings to Green Schools and they hosted a green infrastructure workshop for golf courses in Southfield and Farmington Hills. The PIE Committee's next meeting is scheduled for January 16 at 1:30 p.m. in Southfield.

c. Technical Committee (Karen Mondora, Chair)

Karen Mondora reported that the ARC SWPPI Reporting System continues to move

forward, we have continued to work on correcting program glitches that have come up as communities start using the system. She reported that IDEP work is wrapping up. The Technical Committee is working with MDEQ on finding Tier 1 areas that would fit for 319 funds. They will be looking at preparing a collaborative IDEP plan along with a 5-year monitoring plan in 2013.

d. Nominations Committee (Tim Faas, Chair)

Tim Faas reported that he contacted several members for possible officer positions for the 2013-2014 term. The recommended slate of officers is Kevin Buford, Chair; Jim Murray, Vice Chair; and Brandy Siedlaczek, Treasurer. Tim Faas asked if there were any nominations from the floor, there were none. The motion was made by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, to approve the recommended slate for the 2013-2014 term. The motion was seconded by Don Rohraff, Livonia, and passed unanimously.

Gary Mekjian stressed the importance of membership that is ready and willing to step up in 2 years when called upon. He thanked the new officers for volunteering their time to the ARC's.

6. Report from WCDPS

Kelly Cave reported that they are working through the Round XII Subgrants and the IAAs are moving forward. She also stated that they do have an end date for the Federal Grant that needs to be considered when planning your projects.

Kelly Cave stated that they are starting to prepare the 2012 progress report and asked that communities forward their success stories for inclusion.

7. Opportunity for Public Comment

Sally Petrella, Friends of the Rouge, informed the ARC that FOTR has hired a part-time voluntary monitoring program coordinator. The monitoring program reported 38 sites. Johnson creek scores are down a little because of the summer drought. Sally reported that a mayfly was found for the first time at Fordson Island. This was after the successful removal of abandoned boats through a NOAA/GLRI grant. Sally informed the ARC of the various FOTR fundraisers coming up.

Bill Craig, Rouge River Advisory Council (RRAC), informed the ARC that they received a GLC grant for ARC staff to support the RRAC administrative activities. He informed the Full ARC that the AOC's are preparing a letter to the Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC) on the possibility of an environmental bond.

Andrew Bahrou, MDEQ, informed the membership that online applications for permits are online now for FY13 for some communities in the Lansing area. He stated that trainings are planned for the communities that will apply in 2013 including Huron and St. Clair Rivers. The Rouge is not scheduled until 2017-with permit signup starting in 2015 and due in 2016.

Laura Gruzowski informed the ARC that MWEA will be hosting a watershed seminar December 6 in Lansing.

8. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance (Chris O'Meara, ARC staff)

- The July 25, 2012, meeting summary was accepted.
- The contract was awarded to ECT for Executive Director Services.
- The 2011 A133 Audit and Financial Statement were approved.
- The 2012 Budget Amednemtns were approved.
- The 2012 ECT GLRI2 contract amendment was approved.
- The 2013 budget recommendations were approved.
- The revised Bylaws were approved.
- The Membership Policy was approved.
- The revised Grant Eligibility Requirements Policy was approved.
- The 2013/2014 slate was approved.

9. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (C. O'Meara)

- PIE Committee Meeting, January 16, 2013, 1:30 p.m., Southfield

10. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Don Rohraff, Livonia, and seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills. The motion passed unanimously.

Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: 11/7/12

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Appel Lisa	Cranbrook Institute of Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Balint John	Pontiac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ball Zachare	ECT/Henry Ford Community College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ZB
Ballnik Dan	RRAC Chairperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Barnes Jack	Garden City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JBC
Barrett Robert	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Baumgarten Matt	Lathrup Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair Bob	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BAB
Beri Jim	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Beyer Lori	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bobrin Janis	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Borton Cory	HRC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buford Kevin	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buiten Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Carroll Terry	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Casari Tom	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	TAC
Cave Kelly	WCDPS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAC
Colaianne Joe	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Craig Bill	RRAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Cravens Jay	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cureton Lloyd	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Davis Paul	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dean Lillian	SOCWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DeMaria Annette	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AD
Domine Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WD

Meeting Date:

11/7/12

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eudy	Chuck	Farmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CE
Faas	Tim	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TF
Fellrath	Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BF
Gallooly	James	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gigliotti	Allen	Henry Ford Community College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski	Laura	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski	Laura	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski	Laura	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski	Laura	Birmingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Imag
Hagaman	Kathryn	Bingham Farms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14014
Hanna	Karen	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Howell	Michael	Wixom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hughes	Emily	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
James	Jay	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keenan	Shawn	Auburn Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SE
Ketai	Don	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kramarz	Kristina	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marshall	Ellen	SOCWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCallum	Gerry	Orchard Lake Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McClary	Darwin	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCulloch	John	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCusker	Benny	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McGill	Lisa	Walled Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mekjian	Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Melchert	Ron	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meszler	Tom	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 11/7/12

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Mondora	Karen	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>KM</i>
Moore	Roger	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mueller	Jeff	Lathrup Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mullett	Noel	WCDPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Murray	Jim	Dearborn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JM</i>
Nowicki	Anthony	Wixom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Olsztyn	Olivia	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
O'Meara	Paul	Birmingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ostling <i>Fuller</i> Erie <i>Fred</i>		Orchard Lake Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>RF</i>
Paletko	Dan	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Petrella	Sally	FOTR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>SP</i>
Pritchard	Jana	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Putala	Vicki	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Puuri	Steve	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rice	Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>HR</i>
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rohraff	Don	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>DR</i>
Ross	Cyndi	FOTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scappaticci	Roberto	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selmi	John	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>BS</i>
Sincock	Paul	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smrtka	Barb	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Snapp	Robert	Cranbrook	<input type="checkbox"/>	
St. Henry	Paul	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 11/7/12

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Striz	Stacy	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sullivan	Patrick	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sullivan	Amy	Village of Franklin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	as
Vandette	Steven	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wagoner	Bryan	Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wayne	Adam	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sh
White	Paul	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson	Tom	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wineka	Jim	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Witte	Eric	Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Yee	Kevin	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zoner	Tom	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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03/26/13

**Alliance of Rouge Communities
A/R Aging Summary
As of March 26, 2013**

	<u>Current</u>	<u>1 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 60</u>	<u>61 - 90</u>	<u>> 90</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bloomfield Township	16,006.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,006.00
Dearborn	24,214.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,214.00
Livonia	29,013.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,013.00
Melvindale	2,635.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,635.00
Northville Township	9,525.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,525.00
Pontiac	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	508.00	508.00
Redford Township	12,168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,168.00
Rochester Hills	1,875.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,875.00
Rouge River National Wet Weather Dem. Pro	0.00	42,564.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,564.64
Van Buren Township	6,326.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,326.00
Wayne County Airport Authority	2,266.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,266.00
TOTAL	<u>104,028.00</u>	<u>42,564.64</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>508.00</u>	<u>147,100.64</u>

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03/26/13

Alliance of Rouge Communities
A/P Aging Summary
 As of March 26, 2013

	<u>Current</u>	<u>1 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 60</u>	<u>61 - 90</u>	<u>> 90</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Anglin Civil	0.00	0.00	9,393.19	0.00	0.00	9,393.19
Cole, Newton & Duran CPA	0.00	794.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	794.00
Environmental Consulting & Technology, In	2,186.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,186.00
Peer 1 Hosting	0.00	0.00	199.00	199.00	0.00	398.00
TOTAL	<u>2,186.00</u>	<u>794.00</u>	<u>9,592.19</u>	<u>199.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>12,771.19</u>

**Alliance of Rouge Communities
Draft 2013 Budget**

Expected Revenues Available for 2013

2013 Dues from Communities	\$ 268,953
2013 Rouge Project Grant (estimated)	\$ 243,286
Rouge Project Grant Match	\$ 22,500
GLRI/FS Grants	\$ 315,289
GLRI Match	\$ 41,693
CMI Grant	\$ 19,137
NOAA Grant	\$ 138,888
SPAC Grant	\$ 15,735
ERB Foundation Grant	\$ 125,134
2013 Rain Barrel Sales (estimated)	\$ 1,400
Corporate Support	\$ -
Rollover Dues from 2012 Budget (estimated)	\$ 8,915
	\$ 1,200,928

Draft as of 3/26/13

20

Proposed ARC Budget Items	Committee Proposal	Funding Source								"Provider" Using Budget (3)
		ARC Dues	Rouge Grant	GLRI Grant	SPAC Grant	NOAA Grant	CMI Grant	ERB Grant	Other Source/Match	
Rouge Grant										
Organization Committee										
(1)(9)OC1 Executive Director Services	\$ 171,021	\$ 85,511	\$ 85,511							EDS
(2) Pursuing Grant Opportunities	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	-							EDS
Organization Committee Total	\$ 191,021	\$ 105,511	\$ 85,511							
Finance Committee										
(2)FC1 Accounting/Legal Services	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ -							outside purchase
(2)FC2 ARC Insurance	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -							outside purchase
Finance Committee Total	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000	\$ -							
Public Education and Involvement Committee										
PIE1 Green Infrastructure Campaign	\$ 59,000	\$ 29,500	\$ 29,500							EDS/WC/ARC
PIE2 Public Ed Materials	\$ 15,500	\$ 7,750	\$ 7,750							EDS/WC/ARC
PIE3 Website Maintenance	\$ 7,750	\$ 3,875	\$ 3,875							EDS/WC
PIE4 Septic System Maintenance Workshops	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250							EDS
PIE5 Watershed Stewardship and Reporting	\$ 13,500	\$ 4,250	\$ 6,750						\$ 2,500	FOTR
PIE Committee Total	\$ 100,250	\$ 47,625	\$ 50,125						\$ 2,500	
Technical Committee										
TC1 Rouge River Watershed Monitoring Activities	\$ 153,000	\$ 56,500	\$ 76,500						\$ 20,000	WC/EDS/FOTR
TC2 Storm Water Reporting	\$ 12,400	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200							EDS/ARC
(9)TC3 IDEP	\$ 49,900	\$ 24,950	\$ 24,950							EDS/WC/OC
Technical Committee Total	\$ 215,300	\$ 87,650	\$ 107,650						\$ 20,000	
Total Amount Requested by All Committees	\$ 527,571	\$ 261,786	\$ 243,286						\$ 22,500	
		ARC Dues	Rouge Grant	GLRI Grant	SPAC Grant	NOAA Grant	CMI Grant	ERB Grant	Other Source/Match	
GLRI Grant										
GLRI 1										
Transforming the Rouge AOC from Mowed Down to Grown Up	\$93,742			\$52,049					\$41,693	
GLRI1F Public Education	\$2,000	\$2,000								
Sub-total GLRI 1	\$95,742	\$2,000		\$52,049					\$41,693	
(6)FS 1										
US Forestry EAB Restoring Community Trees in Urban Watershed	\$263,240			\$263,240						
TOTAL GLRI	\$358,982	\$2,000		\$315,289					\$41,693	
		ARC Dues	Rouge Grant	GLRI Grant	SPAC Grant	NOAA Grant	CMI Grant	ERB Grant	Other Source/Match	
CMI										
(5)CMI1										
CMI1 Rouge River Monitoring for E.coli TMDL Implementation	\$19,137						\$19,137			
TOTAL CMI	\$19,137						\$19,137			
NOAA										
(4)NOAA1										
NOAA1 Wayne Road Dam Removal	\$138,888					\$138,888				
TOTAL NOAA	\$138,888					\$138,888				
SPAC										
(7)SPAC4										
SPAC4 RRAC Facilitation	\$16,874				\$15,735					
TOTAL SPAC	\$16,874				\$15,735					
ERB Foundation										
(8)ERB1										
Legacy Act Proposal	\$125,134							\$125,134		
TOTAL ERB	\$125,134							\$125,134		
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,186,586	\$263,786	\$243,286	\$315,289	\$15,735	\$138,888	\$19,137	\$125,134	\$64,193	
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,200,928									
Available Unallocated ARC Budget (total income minus total budget)	\$14,342									

Notes

- (1) Includes fiduciary services, advocacy and administration
- (2) Not a Rouge grant eligible item; funded 100% from ARC dues
- (3) EDS - Executive Director Services, WC - Wayne County, OC - Oakland County Officers and committee members provide assistance to implement most of the ARC tasks. Cost for this assistance is not included in ARC budget.
- (4) NOAA grant amount of \$138,888 remains and is budgeted in 2013. Total award is \$1,033,536.
- (5) CMI1 grant amount of \$19,137 remains and is budgeted in 2013. Total award is \$49,895.
- (6) FS1 GLRI/USDA Forest Service grant amount of \$263,240.11 remains and is budgeted in 2013. Total award is \$374,980.
- (7) SPAC4 grant amount of \$15,735 remains and is budgeted in 2013. Total award is \$50,207.
- (8) ERB1 grant amount of \$125,134 remains and is budgeted in 2013. Total award is \$150,000.

Amendments drafted on 3/26/13:

- (9) OC Amendment 1: Financing options for the ARC after Rouge Grant is eliminated in June 2014, increase OC1 budget from \$158,421 to \$171,021, and a decrease in TC3 from \$62,500 to \$49,900.



ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES FINANCE COMMITTEE

2013 Budget Amendment Organization Committee – Amendment 1

REQUEST DATE: February 8, 2013

LINE ITEM OC1: Financing Options for the ARC

COMMITTEE MAKING REQUEST: Organization Committee

BACKGROUND:

- Historically, the ARC's budget has been supplement by federal funding on a 1:1 basis. However, federal funding for ARC activities will not be available after June 2014.
- It is clear from the new NPDES MS4 Permit Application that compliance with the stormwater permit will be more onerous than in the past.
- New stormwater regulations are expected to be released by the EPA in Summer 2013, which will require stormwater treatment and volume control.
- Most, if not all, of the ARC communities do not have a dedicated funding source for either ARC membership dues or stormwater treatment/control projects.
- Several communities in Michigan have successfully set up Stormwater Utilities: Ann Arbor (1984), Harper Woods (1992), Adrian (1993), St. Clair Shores (1993), Berkley (1994), Marquette (1994), Lansing (1995, since rescinded), Brighton (1996, on hold since 2004), Chelsea (1997), New Baltimore (1997), and Jackson (2011, but in litigation).
- Other communities have used the Drain Code to fund stormwater activities. One example is the Huron River Pollution Abatement District set up by Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office.

Survival of the ARC and compliance with new stormwater regulations are both dependent on identifying a dedicated source of funding.

DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES: The main purpose of this initiative is to identify the most feasible mechanism to fund the ARC in 2014 and beyond. This will be accomplished by reviewing the funding options available to local communities and counties in Michigan, selecting the more feasible options, and outlining the steps needed to implement the more feasible options.

To accomplish this, Executive Director staff will develop a white paper that describes the steps and data requirements for implementing the short-listed funding options. Based on direction from the Organization Committee in late 2012, ED staff will focus on the establishment of 1) stormwater utilities at the local level that will stand up to the Headlee Amendment and 2) Inter- or Intra-County Drainage Districts. The white paper will cover funding the ARC and funding storm sewer maintenance activities. The paper will include:

- The results of a survey regarding how members are currently paying for stormwater efforts,
- The real community costs associated with storm system maintenance and permit compliance based on input from a few select communities,
- A description of ARC-provided compliance services and costs,
- The cost of complying with the new and old permits,

- A description of the two funding options and implementation steps,
- A table showing the pros and cons for each option, and
- Recommendations for future steps that the ARC should undertake.

Three drafts of the white paper will be presented to the Organization Committee for comments. Comments will be addressed and the paper will be finalized by mid-late April 2013. Four Committee meetings will be held during this time period: January (scoping discussion), February (first draft), March (second draft), and April (final draft). A presentation of the white paper is also planned to the Full ARC.

RATIONALE (including why needed): These activities are needed in or to continue the existence of the ARC once federal funding is eliminated in June 2014 and in order for communities to comply with the new permit.

BUDGET (including how the amount requested was established): The estimated budget for this initiative is \$17,600 as shown below. It will be paid for 50/50 with ARC dues and federal funding.

Item	Effort
Meeting attendance (4)	32 (4 mtgs for 2 people)
Research	30
White paper development	40
Addressing comments/formatting	20
Presentation to full ARC	12
Total Hours	134 @ \$130/hr = \$17,420
Mileage	325 @ \$0.55 = \$180
Total	\$17,600

Given that the ARC does not have sufficient additional budget to fund this effort, budget needs to be transferred from other ARC line items as described below.

- \$12,600 will be transferred from TC3 (IDEP) to OC1. \$5,000 will be deducted from Wayne County's budget and \$7,600 will be deducted from Oakland County's budget.
- The remaining \$5,000 will be drawn from the Technical Committee meetings task of OC1. This will result in one less TC meeting in 2013.

The net effect is an increase in budget for OC1 from \$158,421 to \$171,021, and a decrease in TC3 from \$62,500 to \$49,900.

PERSON/AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION: ED staff will implement these activities. The Chair of the Organization Committee will oversee the task on behalf of the ARC.

Alliance of Rouge Communities
Executive Director Services
Appendix A - Scope of Services for Organization Committee:
Stormwater Financing White Paper

Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.

January 1 to December 31, 2013

A \$12,600 increase in the Executive Director Services budget is requested to complete this scope of services. This includes a fee of \$1,890.00. The budget will be shifted from other ARC tasks; therefore, there will be no increase to the ARC's 2013 budget.

Project

The Organization Committee has asked Executive Director staff to research and describe options for communities to fund the activities of the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) in the absence of federal funding. In addition, given the increased requirements of the Phase 2 stormwater permit, the Committee requested a discussion of the tasks and budget needed to fund the current and anticipated permit elements.

To accomplish this, Executive Director staff will develop a white paper that describes the steps and data requirements for implementing funding options. Based on direction from the Organization Committee in late 2012, ED staff will focus on the establishment of 1) stormwater utilities at the local level that will stand up to the Headlee Amendment and 2) Inter- or Intra-County Drainage Districts. The white paper will cover funding the ARC and funding storm sewer maintenance activities. The paper will include:

- The results of a survey regarding how members are currently paying for stormwater efforts,
- The real community costs associated with storm system maintenance and permit compliance based on input from a few select communities,
- A description of ARC-provided compliance services and costs,
- The cost of complying with the new and old permits,
- A description of the two funding options and implementation steps,
- A table showing the pros and cons for each option, and
- Recommendations for future steps that the ARC should undertake.

Project Tasks

Task 1. Research

ECT will conduct the research necessary to complete the white paper. This will include internet searches, and communication with community and county staff.

Task 2. White Paper Development

ECT will prepare and format the white paper using the following as an outline:

ECT Scope of Services

Appendix A – Organization Committee: Stormwater Funding White Paper

2013 ARC Contract

Page 1 of 2

- I. Introduction
 - a. Background
- II. Permit Required Stormwater Activities
 - a. Current Permit Requirements
 - b. Future Permit Requirements
- III. Community Expenditures
 - a. Permit related
 - b. Non-permit related
- IV. Financing Options
 - a. Michigan Drain Code
 - i. Implementation
 - b. Stormwater Utility
 - i. Implementation

Comments from the Organization Committee will be solicited and addressed throughout paper development.

ECT will also prepare a cover letter to go along with the white paper. The final paper with the cover letter will be presented to the Executive Committee and Full ARC and posted on the ARC's website.

Task 3. Meetings

Four Organization Committee meetings will be held: January (scoping discussion), February (first draft), March (second draft), and April (final draft). ECT will prepare for and present at each of these meetings. ECT will also summarize the feedback provide at each meeting and distribute the summary to committee members.

ECT Budget: \$17,600

Budget Sources:

- \$5,000 and \$7,600 will be transferred from Wayne County's and Oakland County's IDEP budget (TC3), respectively, to the Executive Director's budget.
- The remaining \$5,000 will be drawn from the Executive Director's Technical Committee (TC) meetings task.. This will result in one less TC meeting in 2013.

Deliverables: Org Committee meeting summaries via email, draft and final White Paper



Ongoing ARC Grant Projects Status

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

GLRI 1 (Transforming the Rouge)

This grant project was extended to June 30, 2013 to allow us to spend the remaining grant funding. The funding will be used to add 10 additional acres of grow zones, bringing the total to 35 acres of grow zones; complete additional post-construction monitoring events and monitor the Lola Valley (Wayne County Parks) re-seeding. Additionally, FOTR had grant funds remaining from the Erb grant which paid for an additional sampling event, the Winter Stonefly Search, which was held on January 26, 2013. ARC staff has begun writing the final report for this project

GLRI 2 (Danvers Pond Dam Removal, Farmington Hills)

This project is complete and the final report was approved by EPA-GLNPO.

NOAA Fisheries Grant - Wayne Road Dam Removal:

This project is substantially complete, with monitoring activities being conducted currently. Grant activities are slated to be complete June 30, 2013.

CMI Water Quality Monitoring Grant:

We have completed 5 rounds of dry weather sampling on Pebble Creek which crosses West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills and Southfield. These results indicate that the highest E. coli levels in the Creek are at Orchard Lake Rd (Geomean of 573 verses less than 250 at the other locations). Two more rounds of sampling will be completed in spring 2013. If the results are consistent, then field staff will walk the Creek between Orchard Lake and Farmington roads.

U.S. Forestry/GLRI 2011:

The Fall, 2012 planting (436 trees) was completed and verified by the end of 2012. The ARC will plant 729 trees this spring (including an additional 347 trees purchased with unused funds)

Public Advisory Council/Great Lakes Commission:

ARC staff has facilitated three meetings of the Rouge River Advisory Council (RRAC), formerly the Rouge RAP Advisory Council. The RRAC website has been designed. Work continues on the Lower Rouge Delisting Strategy based on current projects and planned projects along the Lower Rouge. Additionally, an update to the Rouge River Report Card is underway.

Erb Foundation Capacity Building for the Alliance of Rouge Communities:

The Private Partners are currently reviewing the draft proposal and will supply letters of support. In March, we will submit a draft application to the EPA to conduct monitoring and assessment of the sediment in the Lower Rouge Main Channel. We are requesting approx. \$830,000 from EPA and proposing to supply \$450,000 in non-federal funds which are being provided by DTE, Ford, Marathon, MDEQ and Erb Foundation. The goal of this project is to determine remediation options for mitigating the ecosystem impacts caused by the contaminated sediments. This will be accomplished by conducting Utility, Bathymetric, Shoreline / In River Structure, Sediment Transport, Streambank and Habitat Assessments,

Sediment Sampling /Analyses, Completion of a Feasibility Study, and Public Outreach. We anticipate that there may be some negotiation with the EPA before the application is approved. Once approved, the ARC will secure agreements from DTE, Ford and Marathon for the matching funds and enter into an agreement with EPA.

Outstanding Grant Applications

NOAA Great Lakes Habitat Restoration Regional Partnership Grant: The ARC, RRAC and the Detroit River AOC and several partners, applied for this grant which funds Area of Concern activities for fish and wildlife habitat related projects over a three-year period. If successful, the ARC could be responsible for overseeing up to \$3 Million in projects in the Rouge and Detroit AOCs over a three- year period.

NOAA Habitat Restoration Grant: The ARC applied for a \$250,000 design grant to design Phase III of the Oxbow at The Henry Ford (Greenfield Village) in Dearborn, which would connect the Oxbow to the channelized portion of the Rouge River.

U.S. Forest Service/GLRI Mitigate Emerald Ash Borer Impacts Grant: The ARC has applied for \$250,000 to replace 1,835 trees in 12 ARC member communities and Wayne County. This is similar to the grant received by the ARC in 2011.

2013 Area of Concern/Public Advisory Committee Grant: The ARC has applied for \$41,000 to complete three tasks: Facilitation of the Rouge Advisory Committee; Creation of project profile sheets on the Rouge AOC Priority Projects to remove Beneficial Use Impairments, and Creation of promotional fact sheets on the ARC's GLRI projects to show the storm water and habitat-related benefits of each project. (Danvers Pond Dam, Wayne Road Dam, Transforming the Rouge, 2011 U.S. Forest Service grant)

Submitted by:



March 2013

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2012 ARC Executive Director's Annual Report discusses all of the activities conducted by the Alliance of Rouge Communities in 2012, including routine administration and meetings of the ARC and all of its committees. It also includes results from specific ARC water quality sampling, ARC IDEP activities and public education activities, including workshops and rain barrel sales and developed products. This report may be attached to your annual report to MDEQ, which is due March 31, 2014. If you need any other ARC-related information for your annual report, please contact Zachare Ball at zball@ectinc.com.

TASK 1: MEETINGS

A. FULL ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Staff support was provided for each meeting, including preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the three (3) full ARC meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and tallying of votes at the meeting), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Alliance of Rouge Communities meetings were held on:

April 17, 2012, Canton Township

Gary Crawford, ARC staff, gave a presentation about the controlled burns conducted by the ARC at Valley Woods Nature Preserve in Southfield and Eliza Howell and Rouge parks in Detroit. The controlled burns were conducted under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant: Transforming the Rouge AOC from Mowed Down to Grown Up.



Controlled burn

July 25, 2012, City of Farmington Hills

ARC Executive Director Jim Ridgway announced that the Rouge River Watershed Management Plan was approved by MDEQ. He noted that construction began that week on the Wayne Road Dam removal project.



Restored Wayne Road Dam in Wayne

November 7, 2012, City of Novi

ARC Chair Gary Mekjian reviewed the outcome of the Executive Director Services RFP Review Committee – Engineering Services. He said the Executive Committee has forwarded the recommendation that the Executive Director Services contract be awarded to Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. He also reviewed the options for future ARC grants that require engineering services to include three other consulting groups and ECT that were procured to perform grant-related work for the ARC. ARC Treasurer discussed the 2011 A133 Audit results which showed no instances of noncompliance and no significant deficiencies.

The 2013 ARC budget of \$1,474,508 was approved. The budget includes the following line items:

Executive Director Services:	\$ 178,421
Finance Committee:	21,000
PIE Committee:	100,250
Technical Committee:	227,900
GLRI Grants:	167,000
U.S. Forest Service:	187,490
CMI:	5,472
NOAA:	491,768
SPAC:	25,207
Erb Foundation	70,000
Total:	\$1,474,508

Full ARC meeting summaries can be found at:
<http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/arcmeetings.html>.

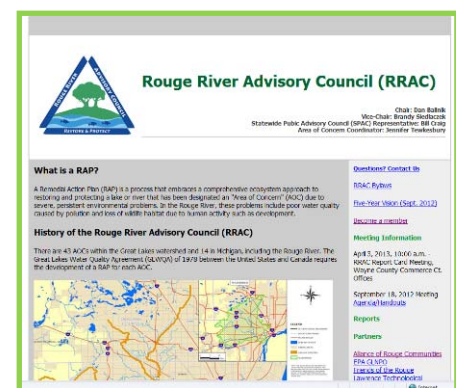
B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Staff support was provided for four (4) Executive Committee meetings. Staff support for each meeting included (under the direction of the ARC Officers), preparation of the agenda, distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and documenting recommendations considered and actions taken), and meeting summary preparation and distribution. This subtask also included ongoing support services for the committee outside of the regular meetings.

The Executive Committee discusses and approves items in advance of full ARC meetings. Agendas and meeting summaries are available on www.allianceofrougecommunities.com. ARC Executive Committee Meetings were held at Farmington Hills City Hall on the following dates:

March 29, 2012

Executive Director Jim Ridgway discussed the outstanding grant projects being conducted by the ARC, and outlined the 2012 grant applications submitted thus far. They are: NOAA Fisheries program to design fish passage for the Henry Ford Estate Dam and the Great Lakes Commission Public Advisory Council program to facilitate the Rouge River Advisory Council, develop a RRAC web page and develop a Lower Rouge Delisting Strategy and a Rouge River Report Card update. MDEQ contacted the ARC to say it had finished its review of the ARC's revisions to the WMP and a letter outlining MDEQ's comments will be forthcoming. In general, MDEQ agrees with the ARC's four priority pollutants (E. coli, TSS, Nutrients and Volume) and thinks we did a good job of outlining



the critical areas for those pollutants in the watershed. MDEQ will ask that the ARC do a better job of linking projects to pollutant critical areas and prioritize and better describe the list of “wish list” projects.

June 19, 2012

Executive Director J. Ridgway reported that the Watershed Management Plan revisions requested by MDEQ will be completed by June 25. MDEQ has informed the ARC Staff that they will have it approved in time for 2012 319 funding. A grant project update was presented and J. Ridgway reported that the ARC received funding through the Erb Foundation in the amount of \$150,000 to fund the ARC oversight of the Legacy proposal/project.

October 4, 2012

Executive Director J. Ridgway reported that the new permit storm water permit is supposed to be out in two weeks. The MDEQ did not include ARC comments. He said the ARC Staff will continue to work with SEMCOG and MWEA on this issue. The Federal storm water permit comes out in 2013 and includes numeric limits, and storm water requirements placed on the combined areas. The Executive Committee went into closed session to review the proposals submitted for the ARC Executive Director Services. After discussion, the motion was made by Ramzi El-Gharib to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the Executive Director Services contract with ECT as presented by the RFP Review Committee. The motion was seconded by Kevin Buford and passed. Kelly Cave reported that the Organization Committee worked very hard to finalize the changes to the Bylaws and she commended all involved. Kelly Cave reviewed the document that was passed out that explained the major changes in the document. A recommendation was made to take to the full ARC the following slate of officers 2013-15: ARC Chair: Kevin Buford, City of Westland; Vice-Chair: Jim Murray, City of Dearborn, and Treasurer: Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield. Additionally, nominations will be taken from the floor during the full ARC meeting.

October 30, 2012

The Executive Committee recommended that the 2013 ARC Budget of \$1,474,508 be forward to the full ARC for approval. The Executive Committee reviewed three engineering services options and recommended they be forwarded to the Full ARC for approval and forwarded to the Organization Committee to be incorporated into a revision of the Purchasing Policy. The Executive Committee recommended that the approval of the 2011 A133 Audit and Financial Statement as presented by the Finance Committee be accepted by the ARC.

ARC Executive Committee meeting summaries can be found at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/arcmeetings.html>.

C. ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The Organization Committee continued to update the ARC bylaws in 2012 and forwarded the updated bylaws to the Executive Committee and ARC for approval. Additionally, the committee reviewed and recommended ARC Cooperating and Associate members. The Full ARC approved

the request by the Rouge River Advisory Council (RRAC) to become a Cooperating Partner of the ARC. The Organization Committee created a Membership Policy, a Grant Eligibility Requirements Policy and a Nondiscrimination in Programs and Activities Policy that were adopted by the Full ARC in 2012. The Organization Committee met on the following dates at Wayne County's Commerce Court office in Wayne:

- ◆ January 10, 2012
- ◆ February 21, 2012
- ◆ September 18, 2012
- ◆ November 27, 2012

D. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION (PIE) COMMITTEE

Staff support was provided for three (3) regular meetings and one (1) meeting by conference call, including preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the PIE Committee Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and record of actions taken), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Staff provided ongoing support services for the committee outside of regular meetings. PIE meetings were held on the following dates:

- ◆ February 28, 2012, Southfield
- ◆ June 12, 2012, Detroit
- ◆ July 12, 2012, Beverly Hills

Two PIE Committee budget meetings were held: one on August 2, 2012 at the City of Southfield and by conference call with the PIE Committee on October 10, 2012.

Specific PIE Committee activities are listed under Task 3.

E. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Staff support was provided for four (4) regular committee meetings and 13 subcommittee meetings. Activities included preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the Technical Committee Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and record of actions taken), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Ongoing committee support services were also provided. Technical Committee Meetings were held on the following dates:

- ◆ April 12, 2012
- ◆ July 16, 2012
- ◆ August 16, 2012
- ◆ November 1, 2012

Additional special subcommittee meetings were held. They were:

- ◆ Southeast Michigan IDEP Work Group: January 18, April 18, July 17, 2012
- ◆ IDEP Scoping meeting with Farmington Hills and OCWRC: January 2012
- ◆ IDEP Funding Subcommittee: May 9 and July 19, 2012
- ◆ Online Storm Water Reporting System Training sessions: July 13, 2012
- ◆ Johnson Creek Priority Projects meetings: August 18 and September 13, 2012
- ◆ Meeting with WSU to discuss their potential interest in taking over the Rouge WebView database: November 6, 2012
- ◆ IDEP Investigator training presentation edits: November 16, 2012

- ◆ Meeting with PIE and TC chairs to discuss the new permit application and potential collaborative efforts: November 27, 2012
- ◆ IDEP Collaborative Plan edits: December 19, 2012

Specific Technical Committee activities are listed under Task 4.

F. SUBWATERSHED ADVISORY GROUPS (SWAGS)

Staff conducted an Upper SWAG meeting on January 25, 2012 at the City of Livonia DPW offices to present the Upper Subwatershed Delisting Strategy and map developed through an RRAC/ARC grant.

In order to conduct ranking of community grants under the 2012 Rouge Program Office Round Round XI grants, staff made arrangements to facilitate the SWAGs ranking the grants, including compiling one-page fact sheets on every grant submittal and answering questions from communities. Staff facilitated the Main 1-2/Upper SWAGs meeting in Southfield on June 5, 2012. Staff conducted Round XI grant rankings electronically with the Main 3-4, Middle 1, Middle 3, Lower 1 and Lower 2 SWAGs during the week of June 4, 2012. Staff drafted letters for the SWAG chairs outlining the results of the SWAG ranking of grants for transmittal to Wayne County.

G. FINANCE COMMITTEE

ECT worked with the Finance Committee to develop and administer the annual budget and work plan. ECT prepared monthly financial reports, mailed dues invoices to members, collected dues and paid the ARC's bills. ECT facilitated three (3) Finance Committee meetings by preparing the agenda, distributing materials prior to the meetings, and preparing/distributing meeting summaries to appropriate parties. Finance Committee meetings were held at the City of Livonia DPW offices on the following dates:

- ◆ March 7, 2012
- ◆ June 18, 2012
- ◆ October 17, 2012

H. ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT/ONGOING SUPPORT SERVICES

ECT provided ongoing support services to the above committees and SWAGs on an as-needed basis.

TASK 2: ADVOCACY AND ADMINISTRATION

A. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) AND OPEN MEETINGS ACT – STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS

The ARC did not receive any FOIA requests in 2012.

B. ROUTINE DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

Materials distributed in 2012 included all meeting materials for the ARC Executive Committee, the full ARC, the Public Involvement and Education, Technical, Organization, and Finance

committees and all special meetings. Staff also distributed materials related to permit discussions with MDNRE, watershed management planning documents and flyers for upcoming events.

C. ADVOCATE FOR ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED & PRIMARY LIAISON

ECT promoted the ARC as the advocate for the Rouge River Watershed, served as the primary spokesperson for the ARC, responded to requests for information and sought opportunities to promote ARC awareness. ECT served as the ARC primary liaison to all members, including both formal and informal interaction with government officials, legislators and staff on a regular basis. The Executive Director and staff participated in the following activities:

Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC)

The Executive Director's staff attended the Statewide Public Advisory Committee meeting in Lansing on February 10, 2012 and the Great Lakes Commission Statewide Public Advisory Committee (SPAC) meeting and workshop in Higgins Lake on May 30-31, 2012.

Great Lakes Day

The Executive Director attended the Great Lakes Days in Washington D.C. February 28-29 to discuss Great Lakes funding with Michigan congressional leaders.

Membership

The Executive Director prepared for and held several meetings with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department in February regarding membership in the ARC.

Rouge River Watershed Management Plan (WMP)

The Executive Director and staff met with MDEQ on May 16, 2012 in Warren to discuss the WMP revisions.

Storm Water Permit Activities

The Executive Director and staff attended the EPA's integrated permit workshop in Chicago for wastewater and storm water NPDES permits on February 17, 2012.

The Executive Director attended the MS4 Stakeholder's Group meeting in Lansing on June 14 and October 1, 2012

The Executive Director researched storm water financing options for the ARC.
The Executive Director provided comments on the proposed MDEQ permit.

Partnership Activities

The Executive Director met with the Office of the Great Lakes Director in Lansing on May 9, 2012 to discuss the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

The Executive Director and staff continued to work with the following organizations on a variety of initiatives: Friends of the Rouge, Rouge River Advisory Committee, SEMCOG, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development/Six Rivers Land Conservancy and the Gateway Partnership.

Outreach Activities

ARC Staff attended Detroit Green Task Force Water Subcommittee: June 14, August 2, August 30, October 10 & 24, 2012.

Member Requests

The Executive Director and staff responded to individual inquiries from Walled Lake and Dearborn.

Healing Our Waters /AOC Great Lakes Conference

Staff attended the Healing our Waters/AOC Great Lakes conference in Cleveland , OH on September 12-13, 2012.

D. QUICK BOOKS MONTHLY TRACKING AND REPORTING

The ARC ED staff performs the ARC's financial responsibilities, including Quickbooks, dues collection, bill payments, grant reimbursement submittals, audit preparations and other financial activities. The 2011 financial audit was completed on August 21, 2012.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT & CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT

ECT provided administrative oversight of the ARC day-to-day activities, staff, consultants and contractors, and external relationships with other agencies, organizations, and individuals to meet the goals of the ARC. Specific activities were discussed in monthly invoice summaries.

F. ARC MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative/NOAA Grants

ARC Staff manned an ARC display and distributed ARC materials at the MWEA conference in Lansing on March 28, 2012.

Channel 4 (WDIV) reported on the controlled burn at Valley Woods Nature Preserve and the *Detroit Free Press* covered the controlled burns at Rouge and Eliza Howell parks in Detroit in April, 2012.

Staff drafted a press release regarding the NOAA award to the ARC for the removal of Wayne Road Dam.

ARC Staff participated in a May 15, 2012 *Detroit Free Press* article about the Wayne Road Dam removal.

G. ANNUAL REPORT

The 2011 ARC annual report was completed and submitted to the ARC in March, 2012.

H. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Executive Director staff applied for the following grants in 2012 on behalf of the Alliance of Rouge Communities:

- NOAA Fish and Wildlife Habitat Grant for the Henry Ford Estate Fish Passage Design (\$350,000). The ARC was not awarded this grant.
- Statewide Public Advisory Council Grant (Great Lakes Commission) to complete the Lower Rouge Delisting Strategy; update the Rouge Report Card and facilitate the Rouge River Advisory Council (\$50,207.) The ARC was awarded this grant.
- Erb Family Foundation for a capacity building grant to fund the ARC's oversight of the Legacy Project in the Main Branch. The EPA will do the feasibility study and cost. (\$150,000) The ARC was awarded this grant.

TASK 3: PIE COMMITTEE TASKS

A. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CAMPAIGN

Grow Zone Program

The ARC PIE Committee working with Friends of the Rouge held a workshop for municipally-owned golf courses on February 23, 2012 at Glen Oaks Golf Course. Attendees were eligible to participate in the ARC Grow Zone Program. The ARC received three applications from ARC member golf courses, however only two communities agree to participate - Farmington Hills Golf Club and Evergreen Hills Golf Course in Southfield. ARC staff provided design, plant material and signage for both projects.

Grow Zone Program Analysis

ARC Staff and Wayne County staff visited ARC grow zones installed from 2009-11 and met with community reps to discuss any issues and maintenance. Staff visited E.L. Johnson and Bingham Farms sites on May 22, 2012. Staff visited ARC grow zones June 5-6, 2012 at Bicentennial Park in Livonia; Founders Sports Park, Heritage Park and Glen Oaks Golf Club in Farmington Hills and Riverside Park in Beverly Hills. Staff visited ARC grow zones in Plymouth Township, Northville Township, Southfield (Birney Elementary School) and Jane Addams School (Redford Township) on June 26, 2012.



Evergreen Hills Golf Course Green Infrastructure Design in Southfield

Staff made site visits to the following grow zone sites on August 14, August 23 and August 27, 2012: Henry Ford Community College, Cleveland Elementary School in Livonia; Bloomfield Hills; Lawrence Tech University in Southfield; Parkland Park in Dearborn Heights; Melvindale, and sites in Canton.

Volunteer Work Day:

Wayne County Water Quality Management Division staff planned and implemented a workday at Bennett Arboretum and Northville Recreation Area along Hines Drive in Northville on May 12, 2012. Over 50 volunteers from Ladywood High School Environmental Club; several Wayne County Master Gardeners; and Wayne County residents participated. The volunteers also hauled five yards of cedar mulch and placed it around the trees, kiosks, signs and native plant demonstration garden. A total of fifty-two (52) garbage bags of invasive species were collected and reported to the Stewardship Network's 2012 Garlic Mustard Challenge.



Grown zone site in Bloomfield Hills

Workshops

Three workshops were held in partnership with Friends of the Rouge and Wayne County. They were:

Naturalizing Municipal Golf Courses in the Rouge River Watershed, 8:30-10:30 a.m. February 23, 2012, at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills

Representatives from six ARC member communities attended this workshop to learn about naturalizing golf courses and to become eligible to participate in the ARC grow zone program.

Naturalizing the Home Garden: A Native Design Workshop for Beginners, 6-8 p.m. April 17, 2012, Southfield Public Library

More than 30 people attended this workshop to get hands-on experience from experts about how to design a small native garden at their homes.

ARC Grow Zone Maintenance Workshop, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., August 29, 2012, E.L. Johnson Nature Center, Bloomfield Twp.

18 people participated in this workshop which focused on assisting ARC members and others who installed ARC grow zones from 2009-11. The main presentation walked participants through a variety of ARC grow zones showcasing both success stories and not so successful projects. Participants took a tour of EL Johnson nature preserve to see what has been done there with grow zones, invasives and other natural areas.



Grow Zone Maintenance Workshop

2012 Rain Barrel/Compost Bin Sales

Two rain barrel sales were held in Livonia to sell the ARC's inventory of rain barrels. Three more rain barrel sales were held in conjunction with Great Lakes Rain Barrel in Farmington Hills, Lathrup Village and Novi.

Dates, locations and number of participating residents are below.

- ◆ April 21, 2012 in Livonia, 156 people bought 214 rain barrels and 72 compost bins.
- ◆ May 19, 2012 in Livonia, 38 people bought 62 rain barrels and 13 compost bins.
- ◆ June 16, 2012 in Farmington Hills, 169 rain barrels were sold.
- ◆ June 17, 2012 in Lathrup Village, 107 rain barrels were sold.
- ◆ September 22, 2012 in Novi, 20 rain barrels were sold and five compost bins were sold.

A total of 572 rain barrels and 90 compost bins were sold at 2012 events. Another 52 rain barrels and six compost bins were sold individually at Livonia DPW.

Green Schools

Wayne County staff facilitates the Green Schools program in Wayne and Oakland Counties for the PIE Committee. The state of Michigan has an official Michigan Green School Law, which encourages all public and private schools to administer energy-saving and environmental activities to become designated as a "Green School". A school is eligible to receive a green, emerald or evergreen school designation if the school coordinator submits proper documentation describing how the school has performed activities from each of the categories: Recycling, Energy, Environmental Protection, Miscellaneous, and Propose Your Own Point. You can receive the Green School designation can be achieved by successfully participating a least 10 activities. The Emerald designation can be achieved by successfully participating in 15 points and the Evergreen designation can be achieved by successfully participating in 20 points. PIE Committee budget for this task was used to purchase 75 trees for schools registered in the Green Schools program in 2012.

COMMUNITY	TOTAL RAIN BARRELS SOLD THROUGH 2012
Allen Park	15
Auburn Hills	1
Beverly Hills	25
Birmingham	55
Bloomfield Hills	14
Bloomfield Township	32
Canton	169
Commerce	11
Dearborn	95
Dearborn Heights	112
Detroit	41
Farmington	40
Farmington Hills	210
Franklin	2
Garden City	139
Highland Park	6
Inkster	10
Lathrup Village	43
Livonia	452
Melvindale	8
Northville	28
Novi	37
Oak Park	7
Plymouth	64
Redford	256
Rochester Hills	105
Romulus	12
Southfield	199
Troy	348
Wayne	39
West Bloomfield	10
Westland	355
Wixom	1
Non-Rouge Communities	539
Other	110
TOTAL	3590



As part of the ARC 2012 Green Infrastructure Education Campaign, Wayne County's Water Quality Management Division (WQMD) coordinated the purchase of trees for each of the recognized Michigan Green Schools in the Rouge River Watershed. The tree species offered were all native to Michigan and included eastern redbud, basswood, tulip tree and sugar maple. The trees were 1.5 inch caliper and depending on the variety, 5'-8' in height. Wayne County offered trees to 75 recognized schools within the Wayne County portion of the Rouge watershed and Oakland County offered trees to 101 schools. Of the 75 Wayne County schools, 29 schools (39%) accepted the offer. 11 of these schools accepted two or more trees. Of Oakland County's 101 qualified schools, 30 schools (30%) accepted the offer, each school took one tree.

The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) also provided white pine seedlings to 20 classes in 14 of the green schools. The seedlings were separated into packs of 30 and information that included planting instructions, the *Value of Trees flyer*, Rouge River bookmark and information on registering the tree through the ARC's website.

The list of Rouge River Watershed Green Schools is available on the ARC website at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/PI/ARC%20Green%20School%20Tree%20Summary.pdf>.

B. PUBLIC ED MATERIALS

Bookmarks

ARC staff developed bookmarks to publicize the ARC and promote Rouge Friendly tips to the public. They were distributed to the following entities:

40 ARC member communities and agencies (450)

26 ARC member community events (2,440)

Green Schools (1,000)

Fertilizer Clips

The ARC developed fertilizer clips with the ARC logo and the phrase: *Fertilize Sparingly and Caringly* to distribute at public events. More than 2,100 clips were distributed at rain barrel sales in Livonia, Farmington Hills, Lathrup Village, and Novi and other community events.

ARC Public Education Brochure

Staff developed a flyer to educate the general public about the ARC and its activities. These brochures were distributed to approximately 2,295 people at rain barrel sales, community events and community facilities.

Waterfront Wisdom Brochure

Staff developed a booklet for riparian homeowners in the Rouge River Watershed. The publication was originally published by the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office Environmental Team.

Detention Pond Maintenance Manuals

180 Detention Pond Maintenance manuals were distributed to ARC members Redford Township, Commerce Township, City of Wayne, Henry Ford Community College and Washtenaw County.

Seedlings

A total of 2,180 seedlings (White Pine or Norway Spruce) were distributed at the following events:

Livonia Rain Barrel sale, April 21, 2012 (150)

Rouge Park Seeding, April 17-18, 2012 (70)

Livonia Rain Barrel sale, May 19, 2012 (130)

Farmington Hills and Lathrup Village Rain Barrel Sales, June 16-17, 2012 (350)

SumMore Fest, Southfield, August 8, 2012 (200)

Wayne County HHW Drop-off, Westland Mall, August 25, 2012 (500)

EL Johnson Nature Center, Bloomfield Twp., Family Fun Day, September 22, 2012 (180)

Green Schools: (600)

To date, 158 trees have been registered on the ARC Website.

Management and Distribution

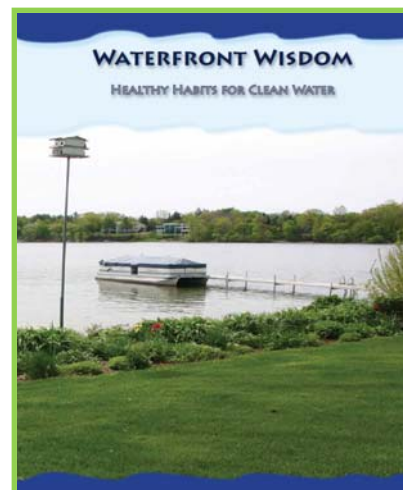
Staff developed labels, tree planting instructions and packaged the seedlings for the abovementioned events. Staff designed and ordered materials and distributed materials to ARC members.

C. WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

Staff performed design, writing, editing and general maintenance of the ARC website (www.allianceofrougecommunities.com).

Articles published on the "Rouge In The News" section of the website in 2012 include:

- 💧 Fiscal cliff could dump sewage into Great Lakes, Great Lakes Echo, December 11, 2012
- 💧 MEMO – WEF's Current Understanding of the Stormwater Rulemaking, November 8, 2012



Waterfront Wisdom Brochure



Seedling giveaway at HHW drop-off event in Westland

- ◆ Rouge River Watershed, Michigan - A Case Study of How Green Infrastructure is Helping Manage Urban Stormwater Challenges
- ◆ Canoe Trips Offered Saturday Along the Rouge River in Wayne Detroit Free Press, October 12, 2012
- ◆ Fire set to Kill Plants Foreign to Michigan, Click on Detroit Channel 4 video, April 6, 2012

Activities and events published on the “Activities and Events” section of the website in 2012 include:

- ◆ FOTR Frog & Toad Survey events
- ◆ Wayne County Conservation District Spring Tree & Native Plant sale
- ◆ FOTR Spring Bug Hunt events
- ◆ SEMCOG Local Winter Road Maintenance Expo
- ◆ MWEA Watershed Seminar event
- ◆ FOTR Rouge Rescue
- ◆ REP Fall Monitoring Day
- ◆ FOTR Fall Bug Hunt events
- ◆ FOTR Winter Stone Fly events

Documents that were added to the ARC website in 2012 include:

- ◆ 2012 City of Farmington Hills Illicit Connection Source Identification Final Report
- ◆ 2011 Rouge River Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment Report (RREMAR)
- ◆ Rouge 2011 Progress Report Executive Summary and Full Report
- ◆ Upper Rouge Delisting Strategy
- ◆ QAPP for Monitoring to Support E. Coli TMDL Implementation
- ◆ 2011 Farmington Hills Illicit Connection Source Identification Final Report
- ◆ Rouge Rescue Reports
- ◆ FOTR Spring Bug Hunt report
- ◆ FOTR Fall Bug Hunt report
- ◆ FOTR winter Stone Fly report
- ◆ Illicit Connection Load Calculator
- ◆ IDEP Training Video
- ◆ “Landscaping for Water Quality” handbook
- ◆ Rouge River AOC BUI Delisting Strategy Report
- ◆ Danvers Pond Dam Removal and Stream Restoration Project Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant Final Report

D. FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP AND REPORTING

Local & Regional Outreach

In the course of its work, FOTR attends a variety of local and regional meetings and community events to build partnerships, increase awareness of and promote Rouge River activities and volunteer opportunities, and educate the public. This task provides for FOTR staff to attend these meetings and events and provide promotional materials and other educational

information, as necessary. The promotional/educational materials will include ARC, FOTR, and Rouge River Watershed information.

This task also includes distribution of an e-newsletter. Strong partnerships are necessary to establish and enhance local and regional outreach with communities, other non-profits and governmental agencies to educate and inform the public about key issues within the Rouge River Watershed and change behaviors that directly affect the health of the Rouge River Watershed. In the course of its work, FOTR promotes activities and attends a variety of local and regional meetings to build partnerships and promote Rouge River activities.

These activities are described in the Friends of the Rouge Annual Report (attached).

Annual Report

The Friends of the Rouge developed and generated an annual report of the activities it conducted in 2012 that assist ARC members to fulfill storm water permit requirements. The report includes the Frog and Toad Survey, Benthics Monitoring, Rouge Education Project (REP), River Restoration, and Rouge Rescue. Information includes meeting or event dates; workshop dates; number of volunteers attending each event; residency of volunteers, REP Schools, number of students per school, number of teachers per school, monitoring locations for each school; a list of dates, locations for REP workshops and a list of schools that participated. The Friends of the Rouge Annual Report outlining its 2012 events, locations and resident attendance by community is attached and can be found on the ARC website at http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/PI/FOTR_2012_ARC-PIE_Final_Report.pdf.

TASK 4: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TASKS

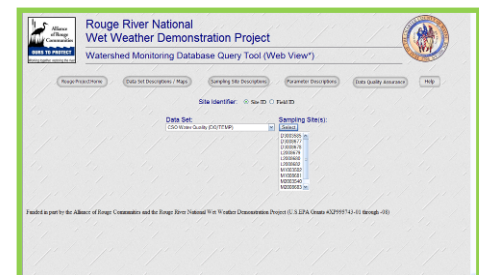
A. ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED MONITORING ACTIVITIES

Geomorphology

WC began prepared to conduct the geomorphology work, but due to staffing limitations the monitoring was not completed. The remaining budget was shifted to cover additional PIE effort.

Water Quality Summary

A Water Quality Summary, describing the results of the 2011 flow and DO data collection effort and an assessment of historic data trends, was completed by ED staff and is available at www.allianceofrougecommunities.com. In addition, the 2011 monitoring data was added to the Wayne County Rouge Project database and the online database (WebView) was updated. The online database can be accessed at www.rougeriver.com/database.



Deliverables:

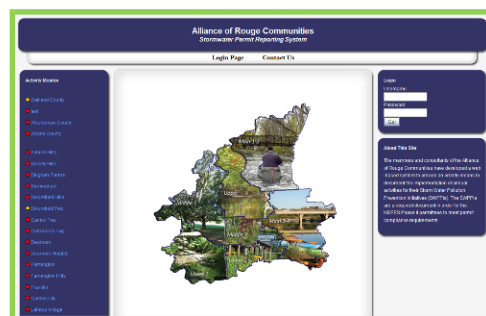
Rouge River Ecosystem and Monitoring Report:

http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/2011_RREMAR_FINAL2%20092212.pdf

Geomorphology Summary Report: Not completed

B. STORM WATER REPORTING SYSTEM

In 2012, ED staff completed the development of the Online Stormwater Reporting System which had been under development since 2010. User names and passwords were established, minor content modifications were made and coding errors were corrected in 2012. Two training sessions were held at Henry Ford Community College on July 18th to demonstrate how the system operates. A training manual and frequently asked questions (FAQ) document was also created and posted on the website. The reporting system was released for use by the membership in November 2012. It can be accessed by the membership at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/swppi>.



Deliverables:

Online Reporting System link: <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/swppi>

Training Manual (attached)

FAQ Document (attached)

C. IDEP INVESTIGATIONS AND TRAINING

Investigations

Oakland County completed IDEP investigations in the southeast portion of Farmington Hills. These investigations included smoke testing approximately 11,000 feet of storm drains and sanitary sewers, televising 2,023 feet of storm drains, dye testing 16 properties (six more properties were vacant so they were not dye tested), verification of storm drain sizes, GIS mapping, estimating cost of the repairs, and development of a summary report. As a result of these investigations, five illicit connections containing sanitary wastewater were discovered in 2012. A total of 18 illicit connections have been found in the project area between 2010 and 2012. Two of these connections have already been corrected. The cost for correcting 11 of the 16 remaining illicit connections was estimated at \$181,000. The correction of the other five illicit connections will require a sanitary sewer to be extended about 620 feet along Pearl Street. The City of Farmington Hills has secured a grant and is working with homeowners to correct 11 illicit connections. They are also working on establishing a special assessment district to finance the



sanitary sewer extension. A copy of the investigation report can be found at [http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/City%20of%20Farmington%20Hills%20Final%20Report%20122012\(2\).pdf](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/City%20of%20Farmington%20Hills%20Final%20Report%20122012(2).pdf).

IDEP

Wayne County conducted dye testing of 49 facilities in four Rouge River watershed communities (Farmington Hills, Garden City, Livonia, and Wayne) to determine if plumbing fixtures are properly connected to the sanitary sewer. Forty-seven of these facilities were municipal and two were commercial (businesses). The businesses were located within the primary target area. As a result of this effort, 13 illicit connections and nine illicit discharges were identified at 15 facilities. It is estimated that at minimum of 2.7 million gallons per year of polluted water will be prevented from reaching the Rouge River if these illicit connections and discharges are corrected. Corrections of four illicit connections were confirmed at two municipal facilities in 2012 (Dearborn Heights and Garden City).

Facilitation

ED staff provided support to the Southeast Michigan IDEP Work Group which was organized in 2011. This support included completion of an IDEP Tip Card for municipal staff and review of the NPDES permit for Swimming Pool Discharges. The Tip Card was distributed to the membership and posted to the website.

Training

The IDEP training presentation was streamlined in 2012 as requested by the members. The 6 hour presentation was reduced to 4 hours by removing repetitive and basic information that was no longer necessary for the target audience. The shorter training will allow for staff to attend.



IDEP Tip Card

Deliverables:

City of Farmington Hills Illicit Connection Source Identification – 2012, Final project Summary Report:

[http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/City%20of%20Farmington%20Hills%20Final%20Report%20122012\(2\).pdf](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/City%20of%20Farmington%20Hills%20Final%20Report%20122012(2).pdf)

IDEP Tip Card:

<http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/IDEP%20Tip%20Card2.pdf>

Swimming Pool NPDES Permit Summary (attached)

IDEP Training (attached)

D. COMPLIANCE INITIATIVES

The focus of this task was to provide support to the membership in fulfilling their obligations for their storm water permit. This could include support for the MDEQ permit audits, comments on the draft permit, and training for municipal staff. ED staff completed the following:

- ◆ Drafted a whitepaper that described the funding mechanisms available to local communities to correct illicit connections.
- ◆ Participated in two (2) MDEQ MS4 Permit Stakeholder meetings held in Lansing regarding the release of the new permit.
- ◆ Created a detailed outline of the new permit and distributed it to the membership.
- ◆ Provided comments in conjunction with SEMCOG on the new permit language and requirements.
- ◆ Supported Plymouth Township at their stormwater audit (June 28th) conducted by MDEQ.
- ◆ Completed revisions and finalized the Watershed Management Plan. The plan was subsequently approved by MDEQ.

ED staff also assisted Wayne County in completing a draft regional training plan.

Deliverables:

Illicit Connection Elimination Whitepaper:

<http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/IDEP%20Correction%20White%20Paper.pdf>

New Permit Outline (attached)

Watershed Management Plan: <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/login.html>

E. MONITORING TO SUPPORT E. COLI TMDL IMPLEMENTATION

In 2012, the ARC was awarded a multi-year grant from the MDEQ to conduct monitoring to locate illicit connections in priority areas of the watershed. In 2012, the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) approved by the MDEQ and monitoring was completed in the Pernick Creek sub-basin. This monitoring revealed elevated *E. coli* counts in the Creek at Farmbrook Rd. The sources are likely overburdened septic field(s) or illegal dumping of waste. This information was communicated to the local communities. Five rounds of sampling were also conducted in the Pebble Creek sub-basin at the end of 2012. Two more rounds of sampling are planned for spring 2013.

Deliverables:

Final QAPP: <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/QAPProugev11.pdf>

Maps depicting analytical data (attached)



Working together, restoring the river

Ban on Texting While Driving Policy

DRAFT February 7, 2013

Scope

This policy applies to a ban on texting while driving for all Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) staff and contractors.

Definition

“Texting” or “Text Messaging” means reading from or entering data into any handheld or other electronic device, including for the purpose of SMS texting, emailing, instant messaging, obtaining navigational information, or engaging in any other form of electronic data retrieval or electronic data communication.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the ARC to comply with Presidential Documents: Executive Order 13513 of October 1, 2009, “Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving” (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-24203.pdf>). Consistent with this Executive Order, ARC staff and contractors shall not engage in text messaging while driving any vehicle, including personally-owned vehicles, when performing work for the ARC, including work under a federal grant or contract that requires compliance with this Executive Order.

Reason for Policy

Federal Leadership On Reducing Text Messaging While Driving, was signed by President Barack Obama on October 1, 2009 (ref.: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-24203.pdf>). This Executive Order requires granting and contracting agencies to encourage award recipients and contractors of the Federal Government to adopt and enforce policies that prohibit the use of text messaging while driving federally or institutionally-owned vehicles, or while driving personally-owned vehicles when performing any work for or on behalf of the government. Agencies have begun to require the adoption and enforcement of such policies as a condition of receiving federal contracts and grants. This policy is intended to comply with those portions of the Executive Order that reflect the appropriate scope of Executive Branch authority, namely, the ban on texting while driving federally-owned vehicles or any vehicle when performing work for or on behalf of the government.

Procedures

The ARC will disseminate this policy by posting it on the ARC website (www.allianceofrougecommunities.com) . The ARC Executive Director will be responsible for ensuring that ARC staff and contractors working on ARC business, including work under federal grants or contracts are aware of the requirements of this policy.

Sanctions

ARC staff and contractors that are found to be in violation of this policy will be personally subject to sanctions relating to their participation in ARC work, including that under federal grants or contracts as determined by the ARC Executive Committee.

ARC Contact

James Ridgway, P.E., ARC Executive Director
Jridgway@allianceofrougecommunities.com
313-963-6600

Related Information

This policy applies to ARC activities, including any federally-funded grants and contracts awarded to the ARC, whether awarded by the federal government directly to the ARC or awarded to another entity and “passed-through” to the ARC.



STRATEGIC PLANNING DOCUMENT

Proposed for Adopted by the Alliance of Rouge Communities on 3/28/13

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs:

Kelly Cave, Wayne County
Joan Seymour, Councilwoman, City of Southfield

Members:

Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms
Tim Faas, Canton Township
James Murray, City of Dearborn
Tom Wilson, City of Romulus
Joe Colaianne, Oakland County

Participating ARC members:

Gary Mekjian, City of Farmington Hills (ARC Past Chair)
Karen Mondora, City of Farmington Hills
Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield
Kevin Buford, Westland (ARC Chair)

Staff:

James Ridgway, ARC Executive Director
Zachare Ball, ARC Staff

INTRODUCTION

The Rouge River Watershed, located in Southeast Michigan, runs through the most densely populated and urbanized land area in the state. The watershed is approximately 438 square miles in size and includes all or part of 48 municipalities in three counties, with a population of over 1.4 million people.

The Alliance of Rouge Communities (hereinafter the ARC), a 501(c)(3) organization, was formed under the provisions of Part 312 Watershed Alliances, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act as amended by Public Act 517, 2004. Local public agencies and communities within the Rouge River Watershed believe there are substantial benefits that can be derived under this Watershed Alliance through cooperative management of the Rouge River and in providing mutual assistance in meeting state water discharge permit requirements. The purpose of the ARC is to provide an institutional mechanism to encourage watershed-wide cooperation and mutual support to meet water quality permit requirements and to restore beneficial uses of the Rouge River to the area residents.

The ARC is currently comprised of 35 municipal governments (i.e. cities, townships and villages), three counties (i.e., Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw), Henry Ford Community College and the Wayne County Airport Authority as authorized by Part 312 (Watershed Alliances) of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) as amended by Act No. 517, Public Acts of 2004. *(Further information is available at www.allianceofrougecommunities.com).* Current Cooperating Partners include:

- Cranbrook Institute of Science
- Friends of the Rouge
- Rouge River Advisory Council
- Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority
- Wayne State University

The ARC Technical Committee, in addition to design and review of the annual ARC water quality monitoring program, develops materials to guide members in meeting state storm water permit requirements, assists in the development and implementation of technical training programs, and serves as liaison with the Michigan Department of Environment (MDEQ) on storm water permitting issues including the Rouge River Watershed Management Plan. The ARC Public Information and Education Committee (PIE) develops public information materials, sponsors workshops, and other public involvement activities to encourage stewardship of the river, coordinates activities with non-profit organizations and other public and private organizations interested in building public stewardship of the river, and conducts informational meetings for public officials to explain the role of the ARC and the benefits of governmental cooperation in addressing water management issues.

Funding for these activities as well as for the staff support of the ARC and its committees is raised through assessments to members based upon an allocation formula that gives equal weight to the population and land area for community contributions and a similar weighted assessment for non-community, public agency members. Local contributions are used to match grant dollars that currently represent nearly fifty percent of the annual ARC budget.

The ARC's structure requires a full membership meeting at least twice each year. Election of officers, adoption of the annual budget and assessments to communities, as well as any other formal action is reserved for the full membership meetings. The ARC takes formal actions based upon a majority vote of its members unless there is a call for a voting of member shares. The voting shares are directly proportional to the annual assessments. The Alliance elects three officers (i.e., Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer) from among its community members for two-year terms. The three officers, a former officer (immediate Past Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer) one representative of each of the three counties and representatives from each of the seven subwatershed groups comprise the ARC Executive Committee that oversees the day to day operations between the meetings of the full Alliance. In addition, the chairs and vice-chairs of the Standing Committees (i.e., Finance, Public Involvement and Education, Technical.) are appointed by the three officers. Standing Committee membership is available to all members. The ARC may also establish other special committees (e.g., Nominating Committee for new officers) as necessary. The members and chair(s) of the Organization Committee, a special committee, are subject to approval by the full ARC. This committee examines and recommends organizational and other policies and procedures, including revisions to ARC Bylaws, and consideration of new public agency members and the designation of non-voting ARC Cooperating Partners. The ARC currently has contracted for an Executive Director and support services to assist in providing ARC services to members.

The ARC is the primary advocate for the Rouge River Watershed, serves as the primary spokesperson for ARC members, responds to requests for information and seeks opportunities to promote ARC awareness. The Executive Director serves as the ARC primary liaison to all members, including both formal and informal interaction with government officials, legislators and staff on a regular basis. The Executive Director also facilitates implementation of this strategic plan.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

This original ARC Strategic Plan was adopted by the ARC on May 6, 2008. The document was developed by the Organization Committee's Strategic Plan Subcommittee during 2007 and 2008. The 15 subcommittee members were asked to discuss where they would like the ARC to be in five years. In 2008, comments from the committee's first session were distilled into four focus areas:

- Membership
- Storm Water Permitting
- Financing
- Communications

The 2013 revised ARC Strategic Plan was developed by the Organization Committee, with assistance from several additional ARC members during 2010, 2012 and 2013.

MISSION AND VISION

Mission

The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) will continue to improve the Rouge River, return its beneficial public uses, and provide active stewardship for future sustainability of the river. The ARC will reduce costs for meeting storm water permit requirements through cooperative efforts, and provide a state and national model for locally driven watershed approaches that minimize the need for State/Federal mandates.

Vision

We envision a dynamic working partnership comprised of Rouge River communities, counties and agencies working together to sustain a healthy and vibrant Rouge River.

MEMBERSHIP

The Alliance of Rouge Communities will continue to demonstrate value to its membership by providing technical assistance on permit issues, conducting public involvement and education activities and addressing other issues as they arise to benefit the organization. Ultimately, these activities demonstrate the value of a working partnership and will restore the designated uses of the Rouge River.

Retention of existing members and addition of new members to the ARC remains a challenge. From 2003-06, the ARC officers and membership focused on formalizing the ARC's organizational structure by pursuing watershed alliance enabling legislation, writing bylaws, and hiring an executive director. The ARC has done well retaining its membership during this transitional period. From 2007 to present, the ARC has focused on conducting activities that are meaningful to its membership.

The day-to-day operations of the ARC are overseen by the Executive Director through activities developed by the Standing Committees and the Organization Committee, approved by the Executive Committee and the full ARC. Currently, the Technical Committee oversees activities such as the monitoring program, permit activities and the illicit discharge elimination program. The Public Involvement and Education Committee oversees broad initiatives such as, conducting workshops, distributing materials and helping to publicize successes. The Organization Committee oversees membership requirements, policies and procedures and special initiatives. The Finance Committee oversees budget matters, including membership dues and finances. All ARC members receive the benefits of these activities, but these benefits must be sufficiently valuable to retain existing members and engage others. This goal's objectives will consistently underscore the benefit of ARC membership to a community that is a dynamic entity with changing demographics, officials and stakeholders.

GOAL 1: Retain members and recruit new ones

- a) The ARC will expand permit compliance support to include storm water permit compliance services and annual reporting.

Status: The ARC provides training, public education workshops, and printed materials. Additionally, it has developed an annual reporting tool for members and conducts an IDEP program with Wayne and Oakland County.

- b) The ARC will continue to expand membership through other permit holders such as school districts, universities and industry to participate in the ARC.
- c) The ARC will encourage the communities of Detroit, W. Bloomfield Township and Superior Township to become members of the ARC.

Status: The ARC is expanding its associate and cooperating partner membership and will focus on recruiting the individual communities mentioned above.

- d) Promote ARC membership by increasing its visibility and communicating the benefits to member communities, elected officials and agencies.
 - i. Prepare a presentation package for communities including a brochure and Powerpoint presentation.
 - ii. Conduct elected officials meetings/briefings.
 - iii. Develop a brochure that promotes the ARC.
 - iv. Send the Executive Director's Annual Report to city/township clerks and other elected officials.

Status: A presentation package was created in 2009. ARC promotional brochures were developed for ARC members and the public.

- e) Formalize the nomination process for officers.
 - i. Review the nomination process for ARC officers and either endorse or modify the policy to reflect the concerns of ARC members.

Status: The nominations policy was formalized in the amended ARC Bylaws (2012).

FINANCING

Since the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) was created in 2003, member communities have paid dues based upon equal weight to the population of the unit of government within the watershed according to the most recent United States census and the land area within the watershed. The current assessment is not reduced based upon the addition of new members. There is some concern that dues may have to be increased to make up for the funding that could be lost without notice when federal funding ends. If dues are not increased when federal funding ends, the ARC would have to conduct its business with half of its current operating budget.

As mentioned previously, ARC dues pay for 50% of the following items necessary for storm water permit compliance:

- Executive Director and staff;
- Water Quality Monitoring Program;
- Public Education activities;
- Illicit Discharge Elimination Program (IDEP) activities;
- Watershed Planning;
- Advocacy with agencies like the Michigan Department of Environment (MDEQ) , the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the Michigan congressional delegation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and
- Subwatershed Management Advisory Group facilitation.

The ARC continues to develop strategies for long-term funding. One of the underlying reasons for creating the ARC was to reduce the cost of storm water permit compliance by working together to address water quality policy in general, storm water permit issues and Public Education Plan (PEP) and Illicit Discharge Elimination Program (IDEP) compliance. Currently, 50% of ARC activities are funded by Wayne County using the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project (Rouge Project) funds. The other 50% of ARC costs are paid for by the member communities. Select additional storm water activities in the Rouge River watershed are also subsidized by the Rouge Project grant. Additionally, since 2010 the ARC has been successful in writing for and receiving federal and state grants to address green infrastructure, habitat and monitoring issues. Total Wayne County Rouge Project funding for Rouge River watershed activities has been reduced over the years and will stop all together in 2014. At the same time, costs to local governments for storm water compliance are increasing and revenues are decreasing. It could be harder to pay to support permit activities.

GOAL 2: Develop and attract resources that enable the ARC to accomplish its goals

- a) The ARC will investigate other financing options, including a storm water utility and a comprehensive chapter 20 drainage district, to fund the activities of the ARC.
- b) The Finance Committee will review the membership dues structure and endorse or modify it to reflect the concerns of the member communities.
 - i. The Finance Committee will recalculate membership dues based on the 2010 U.S. Census, consistent with the Bylaws.
- c) The Finance Committee will investigate the creation of a contingency fund/reserve to augment the transition to funding the ARC using dues (when the Rouge Project grant ends)
 - i. The contingency fund will be based on the results of the annual audit.

Status: The ARC carries forward an unallocated funds budget line, but it has not created a formalized contingency fund.

- d) The Executive Director will investigate and pursue alternative funding sources, especially grants and donations to support ongoing operations of the ARC.

Status: Local, state and federal grant applications are ongoing.

- e) The ARC will develop a plan for approaching private sector companies within the watershed for project sponsorship and partnership opportunities.

GOAL 3: Be more cost-efficient/share costs

- a) Continue to pool resources for water quality monitoring, public education and involvement, and other storm water permit requirements.
 - i. The cost effectiveness of this effort must be documented as described under Goal 1 to clearly demonstrate the efficiencies gained through participation on the ARC.

Status: This is ongoing and is documented in the Executive Director's Annual Report.

- b) Leverage county resources.
 - i. The County services remain a cost effective means for permit compliance and should be coordinated and documented through the ARC.

Status: Ongoing

- c) Formalize policies and processes related to management of the ARC as needed.

Status: Since 2008, the ARC has created and updated nearly 20 policies and procedures as necessary to assist with effective and efficient management of the ARC.

STORM WATER PERMITTING

The cost of permit compliance continues to grow but the ARC continues to look for ways to control cost while improving water quality. In 2012, the MDEQ approved a revised Rouge River Watershed Management Plan (WMP) that incorporated all seven subwatershed plans and set goals and objectives watershed-wide. The ARC continues to work toward one permit for the watershed that would be administered by the ARC. Additionally, the ARC has created an annual report template that could facilitate reporting under one permit. A single permit could:

- Allow all ARC communities to address the same set of goals and objectives;
- Allow the ARC to focus on watershed-wide solutions to solve water quality problems,
- Pave the way for a single annual report which would outline comprehensively all ARC activities that address permit activities in a year and reduce the resources spent by communities to complete their annual reports, and
- Provide for consistent reporting on watershed activities.

Status: The ARC is in the process of fulfilling this through the revised WMP and the annual report template has been developed with oversight by the Technical Committee.

GOAL 4: Continue to work toward establishing a single watershed permit for the Rouge River

- a) Use the standard reporting methods/one annual report developed in 2010 to secure approval from MDEQ for a consolidated annual reporting mechanism concurrently with the single permit approach.
- b) Request assistance from the USEPA with developing a single watershed permit.

Status: This is the direction the ARC is heading in with the current approved Rouge River WMP and the annual report template. This could be accomplished through negotiating one watershed permit for the Rouge Communities.

GOAL 5: Address Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) as required

- a) The ARC is evaluating the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements so to better advise ARC members on compliance. The TMDL policy of the USEPA has been challenged in court continuously for decades. The result is a haphazard program that varies from state to state and region to region.
- b) The ARC continues to perform water quality monitoring to assist in evaluating its TMDLs.

Status: The Rouge River has been issued three TMDLs and the ARC continues to address these as required.

GOAL 6: Assist members with permit compliance

- a) Annual Reporting and Audits
- b) Policies and Procedures
- c) Collaborative PEP and IDEP

COMMUNICATIONS

Environmental programs continue to evolve and the cost of compliance changes from year to year. The ARC should consider how best to impact these changes in a manner that continues water quality improvement but limits the cost of less productive bureaucratic procedures. A comprehensive communications strategy should be developed to communicate with the following parties:

- MDEQ
- ARC Members, Associate Members and Cooperating Members
- Other watershed alliances/groups
- Potential members and partners
- The Media

Status: Ongoing

GOAL 7: Develop and implement a communications strategy

- a) Develop a communications strategy
- b) Regularly create press releases on newsworthy ARC events and initiatives
- c) Write an annual report targeted to local boards and commissions.
- d) Generate a quarterly e-mail that discusses issues being addressed and other information that is important to ARC members.
- e) Make ARC staff available for presentations to local boards, councils and commissions.
- f) Conduct meetings with the MDEQ and the USEPA as required
- g) Maintain and update ARC website (www.allianceofrougecommunities.com)

Status: All are ongoing.