

Working together, restoring the river

James W. Ridgway, P.E. Executive Director

# DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

September 23, 2008, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Summit on the Park - 4600 Summit Parkway, Canton

Allen Park

Auburn Hills

Beverly Hills

Bingham Farms

Birmingham

Bloomfield Hills

Bloomfield Twp.

Canton Twp.

Commerce Twp.

Dearborn

Dearborn Heights

Farmington

Farmington Hills

Franklin

Garden City

Inkster

Lathrup Village

Livonia

Melvindale

Northville

Northville Twp.

Novi

Oakland County

Oak Park

Orchard Lake

Plymouth

Plymouth Twp.

Pontiac

Redford Twp.

Rochester Hills

Romulus

Southfield

Superior Twp.

Troy

Van Buren Twp.

Walled Lake

Washtenaw County

Wayne

Wayne County

Wayne County Airport Authority

West Bloomfield Twp.

Westland

Wixom

Ypsilanti Twp.

- 1. Welcome Gary Mekjian, ARC Vice-Chair
  - **a.** Roll Call /Determination of Quorum Roll call was taken. The 27 members listed below were in attendance; sufficient for a quorum.

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

#### b. Approval of May 6, 2008 Meeting Summary

A motion was made by K. Buford to approve the May 6, 2008 meeting summary. It was seconded by J. Zoumbaris, and passed unanimously.

c. Additions or changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

There were no additions or changes made to the draft meeting agenda.

- 2. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (The report was given by Kelly Karll, ARC Staff in the absence of Tim Faas, Treasurer)
  - a. 2008 Budget Status Report

Information was given on the ARC invoice payments and budget status. K. Karll stated that if you did not receive you membership invoice to please let ARC staff know and we will follow up with Wayne County.

# b. 2008 Budget Amendments

K. Karll reviewed the 2008 budget amendment requests and reported that the amendments made adjustments to the PIE and Technical Committee budgets and also added a task for the fall advertising campaign. The motion was made by J. Murray to approve the requested 2008 budget amendments as depicted in the Public Education and Involvement Committee amendments 1, 2 and 3 and Technical Committee amendment 1. The motion was seconded by K. Buford, the motion passed unanimously.

# c. 2009 Interagency Agreement between Wayne County and the ARC

K. Karll reviewed the draft IAA between Wayne County and the ARC. She stated that some things still need to be decided like the amount that will be carried over from 2008 to 2009 and what the insurance needs will be once the ARC no longer has Wayne County as the fiduciary and is a stand-alone non-profit. K. Karll stated that the previous insurance carrier suggested that the IAA should require the contractor to carry the majority of the insurance listed in the IAA and the ARC will maintain the Director's and Officer's policy. The motion was made by J. Zoumbaris to accept the IAA language with the modifications regarding the carry over and insurance. It was seconded by K. Buford, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### d. 2009 Draft Budget

K. Karll reviewed the summary prepared by T. Faas. The assessment to ARC members is proposed to remain the same again in 2009 for a total of \$296,694. Wayne County has agreed to provide federal grant funding in the amount of \$292,846 through an IAA with the ARC. The budget also shows revenue totaling \$58,500 from other grants plus \$5,000 in charges to non-member attendees of ARC sponsored workshops during the year. Revenues total \$749,559 for 2009. Many of the budgeted tasks for 2009 are similar to past years. The proposed budget includes an extension of the ECT contract into 2009, the Green Infrastructure Campaign and a tree canopy green infrastructure analysis of the watershed. The total expenditures total \$686,691 which is similar to 2008. The contingency has been increased from past years 5% to 8.5% for 2009. The motion was made by J. Mueller to accept the 2009 budget. The motion was seconded by J. Zoumbaris, and the motion passed unanimously.

# e. Quickbooks Accounting Software

K. Karll stated that ARC staff member C. O'Meara worked with R. Alsaigh to setup the Quickbooks software to mirror the Wayne County financial status reports in preparation of taking over the financial responsibility of the ARC in 2009. Member invoices will go out, bills will be entered and a grant reimbursement request will be sent to Wayne County using the Quickbooks software. A checking account will also be set up prior to the end of 2008.

#### 3. Executive Director Report (J. Ridgway)

#### a. Contested Case Update

J. Ridgway stated that the status conference is still scheduled for 10/1/08. Several law firms have paid ECT to draft a comparison document that will be helpful to the attorneys. J. Ridgway and K. Heise suggested that the communities let the attorneys go to the October meeting. The meeting will mainly address administrative issues, setting the ground rules and procedures. P. Sanzica asked if this is going on in other states, J. Ridgway replied that this is not happening with regard to the general permit.

#### b. 501c3 Designation

J. Ridgway stated that the Alliance of Rouge Communities is not a 501c3. The ARC will need this designation as it applies for certain MDEQ grants in the future. The form has been filled out by an accountant and will be reviewed by an attorney. Once submitted, it will take approximately 8-12 weeks to receive the designation. J. Murray asked if there are any limitations to activities we are engaged in. J. Ridgway stated he

would research the concern. J. Ridgway stated that some minor changes need to be made to the ARC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation before the application is submitted. The motion was made by T. Biasell to allow the Executive Committee to make the appropriate changes to the ARC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to allow the ARC to become a 501c3. The motion was seconded by K. Buford, motion passed unanimously.

#### c. MDEQ response on grant eligibility

J. Ridgway discussed a e-mailed interpretation transmitted by B. Sweet of the MDEQ stating that the ARC will not be eligible for CMI funding because we are not a 501c3. Use of a fiduciary is also not allowed. K. Heise felt strongly that the State does not understand the Alliance Legislation clearly and feels that the ARC should not have to be a nonprofit to receive funding. After discussion by the group, the motion was made by K. Heise to have the ARC Executive Director prepare a letter to S. Chester of the MDEQ regarding the PA517 and the requirement of being a 501c3 to receive federal funding. The motion was seconded by J. Murray, the motion passed unanimously. K. Heise stated that after we hear from the state regarding the issue he will have the AG review the legislation.

# d. Watershed Plan Update

J. Ridgway stated that the draft plan continues to be a work in progress. As drafts are completed they will be available for ARC member review on the website.

# 4. Rouge Program Office Report (G. Mekjian)

G. Mekjian reviewed the memo from Wayne County regarding the awarding of the Round IX Subgrant Program under the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project for Round IX-Part A and Part B.

#### 5. Standing Committee Reports

#### a. Nominating Committee (K. Heise)

K. Heise stated that the committee met and reviewed all nominations received for the 2009-2010 ARC officers. The nominations that the committee recommended are: Chair – Tim Faas, Vice Chair – Gary Mekjian and Treasurer – Jennifer Lawson. The motion to accept the slate of officers was made by E. Witte. The motion was seconded by K. Heise, motion passed unanimously. The motion was made by J. Murray to elect the slated officers for the ARC 2009-2010 term. The motion was seconded by K. Buford, motion passed unanimously.

#### **b.** Organization Committee (K. Heise)

K. Heise informed the group that an amendment was made to the Purchasing Policy to include reference to a checking account along with some other minor grammatical changes. The motion was made by K. Buford, to adopt the purchasing policy as amended. The motion was seconded by J. Zoumbaris, motion passed unanimously.

#### **c. PIE Committee** (J. Lawson)

J. Lawson stated that Howard Knorr hosted the July PIE Committee meeting and she wanted to thank him for his wonderful garden site. The PIE Committee is working on a draft of the Main 3-4 poster which will be distributed at the Rouge 2008 event on October 24, 2008. The PIE is also working on a video regarding what is happening in the Rouge with the help of Farmington Hills. This video will be available to all ARC members to show on their cable stations or via the web. J. Lawson also thanked the ARC for allowing her to serve as the PIE committee chair.

#### d. Technical Committee (G. Zorza)

G. Zorza informed the ARC that the Technical Committee continues to work on the watershed management plan. The plan will be available on the ARC website for review by the ARC members.

#### e. Grants Committee (P. Sanzica)

Nothing to report at this time.

#### **6. Public Comment** (G. Mekjian)

A. Mangus of SEMCOG announced the new LID Manual that has been completed and stated that SEMCOG is looking forward to working with the ARC on these types of projects in the future. The document can be found on the SEMCOG website, along with a report on the CSO projects and the dividends they are creating. W. Domine complimented SEMCOG on the workshops that were hosted regarding the LID. A. Mangus informed the group that SEMCOG is willing to meet with individual groups as needed on the subject. Some SEMCOG developed brochures were available.

A. Mangus stated that SEMCOG continues to work on the bill to respond to the financial; challenges posed by the Bolt Decision.

### 7. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance (G. Mekjian)

- The May 6, 2008 meeting summary was approved.
- The 2008 Budget Amendments were approved.
- The IAA language was approved.
- The 2009 Budget was approved.
- The 2009-2010 ARC officers were elected.
- The revised ARC Purchasing Policy was adopted.
- Executive Committee to make appropriate changes to the ARC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to allow the ARC to become a 501c3.
- Executive Director to review limitations to becoming a 501c3.
- Executive Director to prepare letter to S. Chester regarding the limits on funding for PA517.

#### **8.** Upcoming Meeting Schedule (G. Mekjian)

- SWAG Meetings:
  - o Middle 1/Lower 1, October 2, 9:30 11:30 a.m. at Northville Township
  - Upper/Main 1-2, October 14, 1:30 p.m. at the Family Aquatic Center, 6200
     Farmington Road (north of Maple Road), W. Bloomfield Township
  - o Middle 3/Lower 2/Main 3-4, October 2, 1:30 p.m. at Livonia DPW
- Technical Committee, October 8, 1:30 p.m. at Farmington Hills
- Public Involvement and Education Committee, October 16, 1:30 p.m. at the City of Southfield, Carpenter Lake Tour
- Organizational Committee, November 5, 2008, time TBD, location TBD
- Finance Committee, November 6, 2008 at 1:30 p.m., Wayne County DOE Commerce Court, Wayne

# 9. Adjourn (G. Mekjian)

The motion was made by J. Murray to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by K. Buford and passed unanimously.

# Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

23/08 Meeting Date: Attended Initials Community Name Plymouth Township Anulewicz James **ECT** Ball Zachare Garden City Barnes Jack Canton Township Bob Belair Washtenaw County Road Commis Lori Beyer Farmington Hills Thomas Biasell Washtenaw County Bobrin Janis Bloomfield Township Bonfiglio Meghan Michelle Washtenaw County Bononi Southfield Wayne Bonus Chris Lathrup Village Bremer Farmington Hills Brock Steve Westland Buford Kevin Wayne Mike Buiten Wayne County Kelly Cave Oakland County Colaianne Joe Village of Franklin Coyer Bryan **Bloomfield Hills** Cravens Jay Walled Lake Cureton Loyd Paul Rochester Hills Davis David Oak Park DeCoster Dennis Birmingham Dembiec Pontiac Dombrowski Tony Bloomfield Township Domine Wayne Wayne El-Gharib Ramzi Canton Township Faas Tim

9/23/08 Meeting Date: Initials Community Attended Name OCDC Ron Fadoir Fannon Richard Commerce Township Plymouth Township Patrick Felirath Jack Dearborn Heights Franzil H. William Bingham Farms Freeman Northville Gallogly James OCDC Garrison Jacy Gruzwalski Laura Gruzwalski Bloomfield Hills Laura Birmingham Gruzwalski Laura Guest Connie Commerce Township Gushman Kevin Farmington Hagaman Kathryn Bingham Farms Garden City Harvey Dave Hayes Rob Novi Wayne County Heise Kurt Patrick Livonia Hogan Wixom Michael Howell **ECT** Demetria Janus Inkster Ron Johnson Kelly **ECT** Karll Keenan Shawn Auburn Hills Keough Shawn Plymouth Knepper Todd Van Buren Township Dearborn Heights Kristina Kramarz Kuehn Deborah Superior Township West Bloomfield Twp. Labadie Marshall

9/23/08 Meeting Date: Attended Initials Community Name Inkster Lakhani Muzaffar Jennifer Troy Lawson Village of Orchard Lake McCallum Gerry Oakland County McCulloch John Walled Lake McGill Lisa Gary Southfield Mekjian Ron Auburn Hills Melchert Village of Beverly Hills Meszler Tom Roger Rochester Hills Moore Lathrup Village Jeff Mueller Murray Jim Dearborn Ypsilanti Township Nicholson David O'Meara Paul Birmingham Orchard Lake Village Overholt Green Janet Village of Franklin Pulker Eileen Plymouth Township Reaume Richard Northville Township Rickard Jill **ECT** Ridgway Jim Westland Donald Rohaff **Oakland County** Sanzica Phil Pontiac Scheck Allen Selmi John Redford Township Southfield Siedlaczek Brandy Simko George Romulus Plymouth Sincock Paul Farmington Smith Paul Staup Aaron Novi

		Meeting Date:	Meeting Date: 9/03/08	
Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Sullivan	Patrick	Northville		
Swallow	Dan	Van Buren Township	XI _	
VanAartsen	Carl	Redford Township	X	OVA
Vandette	Steven	Troy		
Wagoner	Bryan	Wayne County Airport Authority	*	
Weaver	Don	Northville Township		
Wilson	Jennifer	Oak Park		
Wilson	Tom	Romulus		IW
Witte	Eric	Melvindale	凶	EN
Zorza	Gary	Farmington Hills	Ź.	RE-
Zoumbaris	Jim	Livonia	V	my
Carreli	Ross	FOTE		CN
Smiller t	tucher	FOTIZ		SH
TOM SE	acts	Accs.		Turk
·	cDonald	City or Way ,	e	Dr.
RALPH	Wincians	C17175N		REM.
Betsy 1	Vightnade	DEQ		RN
Churs Cut		Con		Che_
Michelle	Larose	OHM		mz
am 1	Mangus	Semies		aen
Kertin	Yer o	Oak lave		KM
Trace	Slintak	Jarm. Hill		J. 19.
Din	EL-Gal	Stante	🗖	DSE
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