

James W. Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director



Working together, restoring the river

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES
November 15, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wixom City Hall

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

1. Welcome (Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair)

a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum - Roll call was taken. The 24 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

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

b. Introduction of ARC guests

Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair, 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 draft agenda.

d. Approval of July 13, 2016 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve the July 13, 2016 meeting summary. It was seconded by Jill Rickard, Northville, and passed unanimously.

Cooperating Partners:

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

e. Resolution

Brandy Siedlaczek announced the resolution prepared for Dean Tuomari who retired from Wayne County. She thanked him for his advocacy and dedication to the IDEP program which has assisted the ARC in accomplishing its objectives. The Alliance of Rouge Communities extends its gratitude to Dean and wishes him all the best in retirement.

2. Executive Director Report

a. Grant Status Report

John O'Meara, ARC Staff, gave the grant project status report.

ONGOING GRANTS:

FOTR-ARC Merger Investigation

FOTR is currently interviewing for a new Executive Director. The ARC merger team will have an internal discussion on the status and engage FOTR once a new director is selected.

Collaborative Invasive Species Control in Rouge and Detroit River AOC

The ARC has been attending the work group meetings and working on handouts for some of the trainings. The project is being led by Wayne County DPS. Wayne County reported that they have received a one year grant extension. Invasive species control sites includes less than 10 in the ADW and the rest are in the Rouge. The next coordination meeting is scheduled for January.

US Forestry Service 2014 Tree Grant

Communities finished tree installation and have provided their summaries. The ARC ran I-tree analysis for the project and completed the final report. Report will be submitted to USFS.

SAW Grant: Monitoring and Stormwater Management Planning

ARC staff has been communicating with MDEQ regarding the collaborative IDEP, PEP and PPP portions of the applications. ARC staff is working with USGS on establishing flow and dissolved oxygen monitoring station for 2017. Stormwater financing also began with request sent to ARC communities to seek out volunteers for pilots for data analysis and review of legislation under HB 5272 for potential to impact stormwater funding issues. Annette DeMaria stated that on the IDEP side they are asking for feedback from members where community staff can look for illicit discharges during regular municipal work and how they could track that activity

NOAA GLRI Habitat Restoration: Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage (Design)

95% design plans are being completed. ARC hosted a project partners in mid-July. T&E, wetland, soil characterization, herps, and fish monitoring have all been completed. Grant has been extended to April 2017 to allow for geotech and design for long term maintenance access.

2016 Rouge River Public Advisory Council (RRAC) Support

Grant has been awarded and initiated. Held RRAC meeting in September.

NOAA Regional Partnership

The ARC joined a partnership with Friends of Detroit River (FDR) NOAA Regional partnership grant in February 2016. FDR has been notified that we have received a NOAA partnership. The ARC is the supporting member for the Rouge AOC activities. The grant is for conducting listed habitat projects within the two AOCs as determined by EPA and NOAA. Work on potential Rouge projects would not possibly begin until late 2017.

EPA Wayne County Rouge AOC Habitat Projects

Wayne County has received a grant from EPA to complete three Rouge AOC habitat List projects, for which they are the majority landowner. The three are the Henry Ford Estate Dam Fishway, Rouge Oxbow Phase 3, and Nankin Lake Restoration. The ARC completed the design and permitting for both the Henry Ford Estate Dam Fishway and Rouge Oxbow Phase 3 and will continue its involvement by bid documents and construction oversight for the projects. Work is expected to begin at the end of this year.

GRANTS NOT AWARDED

USFS Green Infrastructure Implementation

The ARC applied for a grant from the Forest Service to conduct maintenance and enhancement for green infrastructure sites within member communities. The grant for \$150,000 was not awarded to the ARC.

b. Call for Projects

John O'Meara asked members to forward any projects they may have in mind that ARC Staff can begin to research funding mechanisms.

3. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (Bob Belair, Treasurer)

a. 2015 Audit

Bob Belair reviewed the 2015 audit with no issues of non-compliance. The motion was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills to accept the 2015 Audit and Financial Statement as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Twp. and passed unanimously.

b. 2016 A/R & Membership Dues

Bob Belair reviewed the A/R report and the outstanding dues from Southfield and Melvindale.

c. 2016 A/P Reports

Bob Belair reviewed the accounts payables reports.

d. 2016 Budget Amendment

FC2-HFE Dam Fishway Implementation Project

Wayne County has received a single grant from EPA to provide work for three of the Rouge River AOC listed habitat projects, including the Henry Ford Estate Dam Fishway. Wayne County has written the ARC in as a grant partner for this project. Wayne County has the grant documentation ready to send to the ARC for finalization once the Commission formally accepts the grant. The total compensation for this scope of services

is \$296,000. The ARC will be reimbursed by Wayne County for 100% of this cost with no match requirement. This amendment adds the Wayne County EPA Rouge River AOC - Henry Ford Estate Dam Fishway Implementation (total award is \$296,000) budget line to the 2016 ARC Budget with funding anticipated for 2016 activities in the amount of \$16,000. The remaining amount of \$280,000 will be budgeted in the 2017 and 2018 budgets.

FC3 – Rouge Oxbow Restoration Phase 3 Project

Wayne County has received a single grant from EPA to provide work for three of the Rouge River AOC listed habitat projects including the Rouge Oxbow Restoration Phase 3. Wayne County has the grant documentation ready to send to the ARC for finalization once the Commission formally accepts the grant. The total compensation for this scope of services is \$247,000. This amendment adds the Wayne County EPA Rouge River AOC - Rouge Oxbow Phase 3 Restoration Project (total award is \$247,000) budget line to the 2016 ARC Budget with funding anticipated for 2016 activities in the amount of \$17,000. The remaining amount of \$230,000 will be budgeted in the 2017 and 2018 budgets. No match is required.

The motion was made by Jill Rickard, Northville Twp., to approve FC2 adding the WCEPA1 – HFE Dam Fishway Implementation Project and FC3 adding the WCEPA2 – Rouge Oxbow Restoration Phase 3 Project to the 2016 budget. The motion was seconded by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County, and passed unanimously.

e. 2013 ECT Contract Amendment

Revision 1 to ECT-ARC 2013 Contract, Appendix J

Bob Belair reviewed the revision to ECT's contract which includes a time extension on the NOAA Henry Ford Estate Fishway Design Project until April 30, 2017. This contract revision also increases ECT's budget by \$40,000 from \$285,000 to \$325,000. The dollars associated with this increase are provided for within the NOAA grant dollars. This is accomplished by a budget reduction Amendment to the ARC's IAA with Wayne County. During the conceptualization of the project and therefore the grant, it was not anticipated that structures would be needed for long-term maintenance access. Through the course of design it became apparent that access structures will be needed. In order to design these structures, geotechnical information is required from an area that has a tree canopy that could possibly provide habitat for Indiana Bats. As such, trees will need to be cleared to obtain the field information and this cannot be conducted until after October 1, 2016. Restrictions on tree clearing in areas of potential Indiana Bat habitat allow for clearing during the October 1-March 31 timeframe. This will push back the design documents and therefore the submittal of the MDEQ permit application. Allowing for the 90-120 day potential for the permit period the extension date was chosen. The funds will be used for the design of the long-term access bridge.

Appendix M – WCEPA1 – HFE Dam Fishway Implementation

Bob Belair reviewed this contract amendment which adds \$296,000.00 (of which \$16,000 is anticipated to be spent during the 2016 budget year) to ECT's 2013 Contract which was addressed in the 2016 budget amendment FC2. The ARC will be reimbursed by Wayne County for 100% of this cost.

Appendix N – WCEPA2 – Rouge Oxbow Restoration Phase 3

Bob Belair reviewed this contract amendment which adds \$247,000.00 (of which \$17,000 is anticipated to be spent during the 2016 budget year) to ECT's 2013 Contract which was addressed in the 2016 budget amendment FC3. The ARC will be reimbursed by Wayne County for 100% of this cost.

The motion was made by Mike Buiten, Wayne, to approve 2013 Contract Amendment Revision 1 and the addition of Appendix M – HFE Dam Fishway Implementation Project and Appendix N – Rouge Oxbow Restoration Phase 3. The motion was seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Twp., and passed unanimously.

ECT 2013 Contract Extension

Bob Belair reviewed the second contract extension request by ECT which extends the 2013 contract to December 31, 2017. The current contract allows for the potential of up to three one-year extensions. This would be the second extension request. The motion was made by Michele Economou Ureste, West Bloomfield Twp., to approve a 1-year contract extension with ECT for services through December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Twp., and passed unanimously.

f. 2017 Budget Recommendations

Bob Belair reviewed the 2017 ARC budget recommendations which included:

- **Executive Director Services (\$90,000)**
 - Support ARC meetings (Full, Executive, Finance, Technical and PIE)
 - Provide financial services
 - Provide administration and communication
 - Pursue grant opportunities
 - Provide FOIA and Open Meetings Act requirements
- **Accounting A133 Audit (\$20,000)**
- **Insurance requirements (\$1,500)**
- **Development of Public Education Materials (PIE1) (\$29,000)**
 - Create homeowner brochure
 - Create 2 new community articles for websites and newsletters
 - Selection and distribution of public education graphics
 - Website maintenance
 - Printing of materials for distribution to communities
- **Public Education Outreach (PIE1) (\$36,000)**
 - 2 septic workshops
 - 2 work days organized by FOTR
 - Provide support and materials to the Green Schools Program
 - Tree and native plant seedlings for events
 - FOTR activities report for use by communities
- **Rouge River Macroinvertebrate Monitoring (TC1) – used as SAW Match (\$58,500)**
- **IDEP Activities (TC2) (\$81,000)**
 - IDEP field investigation activities
 - Two IDEP Trainings

The motion was made by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve the 2017 ARC Budget Recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.

4. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee (Kelly Cave, Chair)

Chris O'Meara, ARC Staff, reported on behalf of Kelly Cave that the Organization Committee has nothing to report.

b. PIE Committee

Charles Markus, PIE Committee Chair, reported that the PIE committee will be distributing the last seasonal poster within the next week or two and the billboard campaign will go through the end of the year. The committee presented a septic systems workshop at Cranbrook which was well attended with at least 30 participants and we also did 4 workshops with FOTR on lawn care and pollinator gardens. We still have pet waste containers available for member communities. Several tree seedlings were coordinated for ARC member events. Charles reported that there will be a PIE meeting on December 6 at 1:00 p.m. at Bloomfield Twp. to review the Collaborative PEP comments received by MDEQ along with the expected 2017 activities.

c. Technical Committee

The IAAs for IDEP investigations in Wayne and Oakland have been signed with work focusing in Plymouth, Farmington, Bloomfield Twp. and Southfield.

d. Nominations Committee

Tim Faas reviewed the officer slate for 2017-2018 of Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair; Doug Moore, Vice-Chair; and Jill Rickard, Treasurer. He asked for any other recommendations from the floor. The motion was made by Mike Buiten, Wayne, to approve the 2017-2018 slate of Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair; Doug Moore, Vice-Chair; and Jill Rickard, Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Twp., and passed unanimously.

5. Report from Cooperating Partners

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Michele Arquette Palermo said she had nothing to report at this time.

Friends of the Rouge

Karen Hanna reported that the 2016 Rouge Rescue Report is available on the FOTR and ARC websites. The Board of Director's elections will be on December 14, if anyone is interested in serving see the FOTR website.

Rouge River Advisory Council

Bill Craig commented on the Great Lakes Restoration event that was hosted by the ARC at The Henry Ford on October 21. Bill stated that SPAC had a meeting and released the State water strategy and they are looking for feedback on it. He requested that a link be added on the ARC and RRAC website.

6. Report from Counties

Jacy Garrison, Oakland County, reported that the Stormwater Summit video will be available on the ARC website. The kid's calendar received 700 entries from 20 schools and is expected to be available in December. Oakland County continues to update their stormwater standards and hope to have a draft available by May, 2017 with the final in November. Jacy also stated that the IDEP training and was held on October 13 with 90 participants. Annette DeMaria added that because of the high demand for the IDEP training ARC staff will be looking at having 2 trainings in 2017 and the possibility of hosting a webinar training as well.

Heather Rice, Washtenaw County, reported that their stormwater rules were finalized on October 17, 2016 and they are now making updates to their permit application of 2013. She stated that they hope to have their permit later this year or early next year.

Noel Mullett, Wayne County, had nothing new to report.

7. Report from MDEQ

Andrew Bahrou reported that the MDEQ appreciates the preparation of the IDEP and PEP comments that the ARC is providing. He is focusing now on reviewing the Collaborative TMDL. He expressed that he is open to meeting to review and discuss any of the comments on the collaborative plans.

Andrew reviewed the NPS programs that are going on in Canton and Southfield. Both are working with SEMCOG for GI code updates for grant partnerships.

Andrew informed the Full ARC that SEMCOG and EPA are using the Pebble Creek Subwatershed Plan as a pilot subwatershed for targeting GI investment for stormwater.

8. Opportunity for Public Comment

Diane Weckerle, citizen, spoke about garnering public support regarding a hazardous waste plant in Detroit. She also informed the ARC about the MDEQ public comment period for Nestle Corporation's increase in white pines water withdrawal which ends December 23.

Annette DeMaria informed the ARC that both Southfield's Inglenook Park Storm Water project and Farmington Hills' Danvers Pond Dam Removal & Stream Restoration project won Keep Michigan Beautiful, Inc. 2016 Michigan Awards for outstanding contributions to beautification.

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

- The July 13, 2016 meeting summary was approved.
- The 2015 Audit and Financial Statement was accepted.
- The 2016 budget amendment FC2-HFE Dam Fishway and FC3-Rouge Oxbow projects were approved.
- The 2013 ECT contract amendment Revision 1 and the addition of Appendix M-HFE Dam Fishway and Appendix N-Rouge Oxbow were approved.
- The 1-year contract extension with ECT through 12/31/17 was approved.
- The 2017 Budget Recommendations were approved.

- The 2017-2018 Officer slate of chair-Brandy Siedlaczek, vice-chair – Doug Moore and treasurer-Jill Rickard were approve.

10. Other Business

Gary Mekjian, Farmington Hills, asked for a brief update on the Stormwater Funding Bill.
Jim give me a few sentences for this.

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Twp., to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.