



Alliance  
of Rouge  
Communities

*Working together, restoring the river*

*James W. Ridgway, P.E.  
Executive Director*

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY  
ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES**

**April 26, 2011, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Southfield Public Library**

- 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
- Oak Park
- Oakland County
- Orchard Lake
- Plymouth
- Plymouth Twp.
- Pontiac
- Redford Twp.
- Rochester Hills
- Romulus
- Southfield
- Troy
- Van Buren Twp.
- Walled Lake
- Washtenaw County
- Wayne
- Wayne County
- Westland
- Wixom

**1. Welcome (Gary Mekjian)**

- a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum** - Roll call was taken. The 21 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	Y
Bingham Farms	Y	Oak Park	N
Birmingham	Y	Orchard Lake	N
Bloomfield Hills	N	Plymouth	N
Bloomfield Twp.	Y	Plymouth Twp.	Y
Canton Twp.	Y	Pontiac	N
Commerce Twp.	Y	Redford Twp.	Y
Dearborn	N	Rochester Hills	Y
Dearborn Heights	Y	Romulus	N
Farmington	Y	Southfield	N
Farmington Hills	Y	Troy	N
Franklin	N	Van Buren Twp.	N
Garden City	N	Walled Lake	Y
Henry Ford Community College	N	Washtenaw County	Y
Lathrup Village	Y	Wayne	N
Livonia	Y	Wayne County	Y
Melvindale	N	Westland	N
Northville	Y	Wixom	N
Northville Twp.	Y		

**b. Introductions of ARC guests**

G. Mekjian asked all guests in attendance to introduce themselves.

**c. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda**

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

**d. Approval of October 26, 2010 Meeting Summary**

A motion was made by Paul Smith, Plymouth, to approve the October 26, 2010 meeting summary. It was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

Cooperating Partners:

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

## **2. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (D. Rohraff, Treasurer)**

### **a. 2010 Budget Amendments**

Gary Mekjian introduced Don Rohraff, Livonia, as the new ARC Treasurer and thanked him for taking over the duties after Dan Swallow left for another position outside the watershed.

Don Rohraff reviewed the 2010 budget amendments as follows:

- PIE Amendment 2: Transfers a \$10,225.92 balance from 2010 PIE Budget (PIE 1 – Green Infrastructure Activities) to Organization and Technical Committee facilitation and financial and administrative tasks in the 2010 ED Services Budget.
- GLRI 1 Amendment 1 (Transforming the Rouge): Adjusts the 2010 ARC budget to show \$18,182.12 expended on this project in 2010. Originally, the total grant was booked in the 2011 budget. The 2011 GLRI 1 budget was adjusted accordingly.
- GLRI 2 Amendment 1 (Danvers Pond Dam): Adjusts the 2010 ARC budget to show \$8,940.77 expended on this project in 2010. Originally, the total grant was booked in the 2011 budget. The 2011 GLRI 2 budget was adjusted accordingly.
- SPAC 1 Amendment 1 (Green Corridors in the Rouge River Watershed): Adjusts the 2010 budget to show a grant from the Public Advisory Committee through the Great Lakes Commission to the ARC for \$6,000 to review green infrastructure projects appropriate for submission for grants.
- SPAC 2 Amendment 1 (Strategy to Delist BUIs): Adjusts the 2010 ARC budget to show costs incurred of \$11,607.68 rather than \$8,882. The 2011 SPAC 2 grant budget was adjusted accordingly.
- OC3 – Accounting and Legal Services: Adjusts the 2010 ARC budget to show additional costs in the amount of \$1,308.75 incurred by the accountant in preparing the required policies, procedures, accounting manual and the Office of Management and Budget questionnaire as requirements of the EPA GLRI grant and the review of the 501(c)(4) application.

The motion was made by Gary Zorza, Farmington Hills, to amend the 2010 budget as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, and passed unanimously.

### **b. 2011 Budget Status Report**

The A/R and A/P report was handed out along with a profit and loss report for the 2011 budget. D. Rohraff reported that the first set of ARC invoices for 2011 dues were sent out with the second set to be sent in May. D. Rohraff also informed the Full ARC that the final budget vs. actual for 2010 will be sent out after we receive the last grant reimbursement from Wayne County.

### **c. 2011 Budget Amendments**

D. Rohraff reviewed the 2011 budget amendments as follows:

- Organization Committee Amendment 1: Corrects the 2011 ARC Budget to show a cost for Executive Director Services of \$168,803, of which \$9,032 will be in-kind match to the ARC. The ARC will only pay ECT, Inc. \$159,771 in 2011 as requested by the Organization Committee. The original 2011 ARC Budget showed the ED Services cost as \$159,771 and ECT match as \$9,032.
- Technical Committee, Amendment 1: Corrects the 2011 ARC Budget to show a \$20,000 increase to the Executive Services Contract - Technical Committee

Budget for the Water Quality Summary. This cost has been paid in the past by the ARC through Wayne County. This expenditure is in the 2011 ARC budget. However, Wayne County has requested that the ARC pay for the report directly in 2011 through the Executive Director Services contract, as CDM will subcontract to ECT, Inc.

- GLRI 1 Amendment 1 (Transforming the Rouge): Adjusts the 2011 ARC budget to show the remaining budget available after the \$18,182.12 was expended on this project in 2010. Originally, the total grant was booked in the 2011 budget. The remaining 2011 GLRI 1 budget is \$811,817.88.
- GLRI 2 Amendment 1 (Danvers Pond Dam): Adjusts the 2011 ARC budget to show \$8,940.77 expended on this project in 2010. Originally, the total grant was booked in the 2011 budget. The remaining 2011 GLRI 2 budget is \$490,314.23.
- SPAC 2 Amendment 1 (Strategy to Delist BUIs): Adjusts the 2011 ARC budget to show costs incurred of \$11,607.68 rather than \$8,882 in 2010. The remaining 2011 SPAC 2 grant budget is \$10,597.

The motion was made by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, to amend the 2011 budget as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Jim Wineka, Oakland County, and passed unanimously.

### **3. Executive Director Report**

#### **a. Permit Subcommittee**

Jim Ridgway informed the ARC that permit litigation continues to proceed through the courts. The MDEQ withdrew the 2008 permit and had hoped that this would satisfy the communities. The attorneys of several communities have chosen to continue the litigation and have questioned the validity of the 2003 permits as well. The MDEQ has initiated a task force to negotiate an acceptable permit. He stated that staff will continue to attend the working group that the state has put together. J. Ridgway stated that the DEQ is looking at the individual permits and then trying to figure out how watershed groups fit in. The next MDEQ work group meeting is scheduled for May 5.

#### **b. Grant Status Report**

J. Ridgway gave a status report for the current and submitted grants.

##### GLRI Grants

GLRI 1 (Transforming the Rouge)

- Valley Woods Wetland: in design phase (Southfield is paying for this as match)
- Rouge Park and Eliza Howell Park Grow Zones: in design phase; waiting for Memorandum of Understanding from the City of Detroit to do burns.
- Wayne County Lola Valley (Upper) and Lower Rouge Parkway Grow Zones: WC Parks has signed off on design; bid documents are being developed.
- Project QAPP was developed and approved by EPA
- First pre-monitoring benthic survey was held by FOTR and Wayne County on January 22
- Filed first quarterly report on EPA's GLAS system.

#### GLRI 2 (Danvers Pond Dam Removal)

- Staff is addressing comments from state on the permit for this project (Design was done in 2008 by ECT). Staff is also reviewing comments from the City of Farmington Hills

#### Rouge Round X Grants

- RPO 1 - RGC Urban Habitat Improvement. This IAA has been signed by Wayne County and can proceed.
- RPO 2 - Wayne Road Dam Removal Design. A survey has been completed at the dam.

#### SPAC/BUI Delisting Grant

- A presentation was made at the Technical Committee. The list of ARC/community projects being proposed in this document are on the ARC website for review by ARC members.
- Work must be done by March 31, with a final report due to the GLC by April 30.

#### 2011 Grant Applications

- NOAA Fisheries Grant; The ARC submitted a \$1.1 million proposal to remove Wayne Road dam and install native plants.
- MDEQ CMI Monitoring Grant; This grant is for \$50k to do water quality monitoring in the Upper and Main 1-2 E. coli priority areas to narrow down sewage discharges during dry weather conditions. The time frame for the project would be fall 2011 – winter 2013.
- GLRI 2011; The ARC is partnered with the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds to submit a grant which falls under Implement Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) Projects (I.D.2, page 19), a \$300,000 project to install grow zones in schools through the Green Schools Program managed by Wayne County (it includes schools in the ADW and ARC) with workshops, public education, etc.

Kelly Cave reported that Wayne County also submitted under the toxics reduction category of the GLRI funding for IDEP and Household Hazardous Waste collections which will be Wayne County wide.

J. Ridgway said he believes that the GLRI will continue to get funded and the ARC staff will continue to chase these funds in the future.

#### **c. 2010 Executive Director Annual Report**

J. Ridgway presented the Executive Director's Annual Report. The report will be available on the ARC website, along with the full attachments, and should provide key information that communities can use in preparing their annual reports.

#### **d. IRS 501(c)(3) designation**

J. Ridgway informed the Full ARC that the IRS has recommended that the ARC become a 501(c)(3). ARC Staff received our designation letter this week and the letter will be posted on the ARC website.

#### **4. ITC Projects within the Watershed**

Cynthia Stump, ITC Local Government and Community Affairs and Patty Stephanoff, Vegetation Manager, gave a presentation regarding the activities that ITC is working on within the watershed. The presentation can be found on the ARC website.

#### **5. Standing Committee Reports**

##### **a. Organization Committee**

K. Cave stated that the Organization Committee has not met yet in 2011 but future meetings will cover updating the ARC Bylaws and Strategic Plan document.

##### **b. PIE Committee (Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair)**

Zachare Ball reported for Brandy Siedlaczek. The PIE hosted a grow zone workshop on 4/13 with Friends of the Rouge and had a PIE Committee meeting last week. Z Ball reported that rain barrel sales are being planned for Farmington Hills, Westland and Southfield.

##### **c. Technical Committee**

Gary Zorza reported that as part of the 2010 budget, Oakland County identified 7 illicit connections in the E. coli priority area in Farmington Hills. Oakland County's 2011 IDEP work plan has not been established yet, but they will likely focus on completing investigations in the same area. Many homes will require inspections and they are looking at ways to get more funding.

G. Zorza informed the Full ARC that the beta test workgroup continues to refine the web-based reporting system. They will be bringing it to the Technical Committee and then open it to the full ARC. The Beta test group has been reviewing all aspects of the reporting system but it will be a learn-as-we-go once it is released to the full ARC. One thing the beta test group has been discussing is the need for a common year-end date for watershed-wide final reporting. There was some discussion about the end of the year being the easiest for all communities. The ARC Staff and other partners like Friends of the Rouge would enter their data which reduces the need for the communities to enter the same data. Gary stated that they will be sending out a survey about current reporting dates and the communities willingness to change if necessary.

Annette DeMaria reported on the 2001-2010 macroinvertebrate (bug) trends provided by Wayne County and Friends of the Rouge. She reported that the spring bug quality scores indicated statistically significant upward trends in most of the Subwatershed Management Areas (SWMAs). This indicates an improvement in water quality. The fall bug hunt scores were not as good, but there were no declining trends. This information will be included in the 2011 FOTR annual and be available on the ARC website.

A. DeMaria reported that the monitoring in 2011 will be happening at 2 stations in the Middle Rouge. USGS will be installing monitoring equipment and will be monitoring 6 months of DO, flow and temperature.

The next Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2-4 p.m. in Farmington Hills with a drawing for free movie tickets if enough people attend the meeting.

**6. Report from WCDPS**

Kelly Cave informed the Full ARC that the State has a new general permit for Brine and suggested that those communities that use it during the winter months in preparation for ice review the new requirements.

K. Cave stated that Dean Tuomari will be conducting another IDEP training class and the dates will be passed on as soon as they are finalized.

K. Cave stated that the draft of the 2010 Rouge Progress Report will be sent out to everyone for review.

K. Cave stated that USEPA Region V is reinterested in the Rouge efforts and the Water Division Director would like a tour of the watershed.

K. Cave reported that the earmark process does not look favorable for the Rouge. The County continues to work on 2012 funding but we may not make the list.

K. Cave informed the Full ARC that Wayne County is working on the Round X sub-grants and there is the potential for another round of grant funding.

K. Cave informed the Full ARC that Butler Benton has retired and that Lewanda Jackson is the new director with all other staff remaining in their current positions.

**6. Opportunity for Public Comment**

Amy Mangus reported for SEMCOG that they are working with DWSD to implement green infrastructure in the Upper Rouge. They are also working on demolishing homes and looking at additional green infrastructure opportunities. SEMCOG is also working in Lake St. Clair to control phragmites and doing weed management in the Lake Erie corridor. They are working with Washtenaw and Livingston Counties and the Phase II communities regarding their permit options. A. Mangus reported that the Municipal Training is done and they are working on the next phase of the training. She informed the Full ARC that they are still doing PIPS and SWIPPS and that they can come in prior to and be at audits.

A. Mangus reported that Chuck Hersey continues to work on the State Revolving Fund reform. They are looking at promoting good activities and management and revising the existing process (0% interest rate and reducing the bureaucracy). More information can be found on the SEMCOG website and:

[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307\\_3515\\_4143-250248--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307_3515_4143-250248--,00.html)

Sally Petrella reported for Friends of the Rouge that the Rouge Rescue for this year has 37 sites and if you are interested in helping out please contact their office. She reported that May 4 is the Rouge Education Project monitoring day. Upcoming fundraisers include

the FOTR golf outing on May 23, the Detroit River Boat Tour on August 2 and the Rouge Run on September 17 on the Lower Rouge Trail in Canton.

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

- The October 26, 2010 Full ARC Meeting Summary was approved.
- The 2010 budget amendments as presented by the Treasurer were approved.
- The 2011 Budget amendments as presented by the Treasurer were approved.

**8. Upcoming Meeting Schedule** (C. O'Meara)

- Technical Committee Meeting, May 12, 2011, 2-4 p.m., Farmington Hills City Hall, Community Conference Room
- PIE Committee Meeting, July 14, 2011, noon (lunch), 1 p.m. (meeting), Howard Knorr's house in Beverly Hills

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**11. Adjourn**

The motion was made by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair, Canton, and passed unanimously.

# Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: 4/26/11

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
		Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ball	Zachare	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ZB
Barnes	Jack	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Barrett	Robert	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Baumgarten	Matt	Lathrup Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair	Bob	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AB
Beyer	Lori	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEB
Bobrin	Janis	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bonfiglio	Meghan	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Borton	Cory	HRC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Brooks	Dan	Dearborn Heights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DBB
Buford	Kevin	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buiten	Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cave	Kelly	WCDPS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAC
Coburn	Brian	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Colaianne	Joe	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cousino	Brendon	Birmingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cravens	Jay	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cureton	Lloyd	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Davis	Paul	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DeMaria	Annette	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AD
Dombrowski	Tony	Pontiac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Domine	Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WD
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Faas	Tim	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fannon	Richard	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	

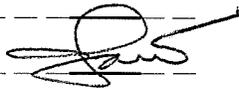
Meeting Date: 4/26/11

<i>Name</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Fellrath Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Gallogly James	Northville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Gigliotti Allen	Henry Ford Community College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Greco Sam	Henry Ford Community College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<del>Guest</del> Tepathi Connie Sue (A.H.)	Commerce Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Gushman Kevin	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hagaman Kathryn	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Harnos Brian	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Harvey Dave	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Howell Michael	Wixom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Johnson Ron	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keenan Shawn	Auburn Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Keough Shawn	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ketai Don	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Knepper Todd	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kramarz Kristina	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Lakhani Muzaffar	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
LaManes Paul	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Maillard Kevin	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mandelia Kitty	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCallum Gerry	Orchard Lake Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCulloch John	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McGill Lisa	Walled Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>

Meeting Date: 4/26/11

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Mehalski	Noah	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mekjian	Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CEG
Melchert	Ron	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meszler	Tom	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Moore	Roger	Rochester Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RM
Mueller	Jeff	Lathrup Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JM
Mullett	Noel	WCDPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Murray	Jim	Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
O'Meara	Paul	Birmingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PO
Overholt Green	Janet	Orchard Lake Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Puuri	Steve	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reaume	Richard	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rickard	Jill	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rohraff	Don	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DR
Schneck	Allen	Pontiac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schueller	Derrick	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selmi	John	Redford Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JS
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sincock	Paul	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smith	Paul	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
St. Henry	Paul	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AS
Sullivan	Amy	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sullivan	Patrick	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Szczygiel	Larry	Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 4/26/11

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Vandette	Steven	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Weaver	Don	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson	Tom	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wineka	Jim	Oakland County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Yee	Kevin	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zorza	Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	