

James W. Ridgway, P.E. Executive Director

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

Cooperating Partners:

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

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

November 1, 2011, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn

1. Welcome (Gary Mekjian)

Roll Call /Determination of Quorum - Roll call was taken. The 29 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

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

Introductions of ARC guests

G. Mekjian asked all guests in attendance to introduce themselves. Tim O'Brien, Jay Richardson, Blue Economy Center; Tracy Kesckemeti, MDEQ; Rose Ellison, USEPA; Jennifer Tewkesbury, MDEQ; Bill Craig, RRAC; Karen Hanna, FOTR; Ralph Williams, Citizen; Sanjiv Sinha, ECT; Tom MacDonald, Van Buren Twp.

Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda c.

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

d. Approval of April 26, 2011 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Kevin Buford, Westland, to approve the April 26, 2011 meeting summary. It was seconded by Michael Howell, Wixom, and passed unanimously.

e. Resolution

A resolution of appreciation for Dave Payne's service to the ARC and Bloomfield Township was accepted by Wayne Domine.

2. Lower Rouge River Sediment Remediation Project – EPA Legacy Act Collaboration Tim O'Brien, Technical Director of the Blue Economy Center, discussed the EPA Legacy Act grant project that is being proposed for the ARC to act as fiduciary. The project location is north of the mouth of the Rouge River and would remove contaminated sediment from the river. They are approaching the ARC because there is a need for a third party organization to submit the project to the EPA and provide the fiduciary services. This would be at no cost to the ARC or any of its members. Funding for the project would be provided by the EPA with match provided by private sector companies and communities, including Ford, Severstall, DWSD, City of Dearborn, and Marathon. Rose Ellison, USEPA, also spoke in support of this project. She explained that the project would be a 65/35 share of grant/match funds. She explained that these grant funds are targeted to specific areas, including the current project in the Rouge River. The project scope would entail remedial investigation and feasibility study. R. Ellison stressed that this money is available now and she would like to use it for the purpose it was intended and also help the Rouge River watershed. Jack Barnes, Garden City, asked if there would be costs incurred by the ARC to run the fiduciary services. T. O'Brien stated that the ARC would be reimbursed for all services provided. Karen Mondora, Farmington, asked if the ARC communities would be liable. T. O'Brien expressed that the ARC would not be liable in any form during the project. K. Mondora asked if any other groups were going to be approached to act as the fiduciary. T. O'Brien said at this point the ARC makes the most sense and is a very active, capable organization. Patrick Fellrath, Plymouth Twp., asked what the cost was estimated to be. R. Ellison and T. O'Brien stated that the estimate is between \$3 – 5 million. T. O'Brien explained that they will be reviewing various alternatives for removing the contaminated sediment. G. Mekjian told the Full ARC that the Newburgh Lake restoration project was bigger, which might help the group put the magnitude of the project into perspective. G. Mekjian said that the Executive Committee has requested that a subcommittee meet regarding the next steps in exploring the ARC's involvement in the project. The first meeting has been scheduled for December 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the Farmington Hills City Hall Community Room. If anyone is interested in serving on the subcommittee please inform G. Mekjian or Chris O'Meara, ARC staff.

3. Report on the Environmental Advisory Rules Committee

John McCulloch, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, was recently appointed to the state's new 12-person Environmental Advisory Rules Committee. Created by Governor Rick Snyder as part of an effort to streamline government, the committee will work to identify duplicate, obsolete, unnecessary or unduly restrictive environmental rules in three major areas: remediation, air and water. The new rules committee will help identify rules that hurt job creation without providing significant environmental benefit. The committee has a diverse membership with representatives from utilities, environmental groups, manufacturers, lawyers and public officials. J. McCulloch informed the ARC that there are more than 2,500 Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) rules that the committee will be looking at. The committee will evaluate them based on their effectiveness juxtaposed against such things as their benefit, cost of compliance with the rules and whether they might be obsolete and

unnecessary. The committee will look to refine the issues and solutions and will involve both the MDEQ and the Attorney General's office. Some areas being reviewed include utilities, Michigan manufacturing and the Farm Bureau. The permit process for storm water discharge was tabled to allow the stakeholder process efforts to continue first.

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

a. A/R and A/P Reports

Don Rohraff, Treasurer, reviewed the accounts receivable and accounts payable reports. At this point the only member dues outstanding are from Melvindale, G. Mekjian will follow up with them.

b. 2011 Budget Amendment

D. Rohraff reviewed the 2011 budget amendments as follows:

<u>Finance Committee Amendment 3</u>: Increase line item FC1 – Accounting and Legal Services budget from \$7,500 to \$9,200 due to the unanticipated accounting services that were not budgeted in 2011. These included assistance from the accountant in coordinating the required policies and procedures as required for the ARC A133 audit and follow-up assistance with the IRS on the approval of the ARC's 501(c)(3) status.

<u>Technical Committee Amendment 1</u>: Add a line item for CMI1: Monitoring to Support E. coli TMDL Implementation to the 2011 budget in the amount of \$5,042 for the grant from CMI that will be spent in 2011. The remainder of the grant will be spent in 2012 and 2013.

<u>Finance Committee Amendment 4</u>: Adds NOAA1 Grant "Wayne Road Dam Removal" in the amount of \$50,000 to be spent during the remainder of 2011. The rest of the \$1 million grant will be spent in 2012 and 2013.

The motion was made by M. Howell, Wixom, to approve the 2011 Budget Amendments as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, and passed unanimously.

c. 2012 Budget Requests

D. Rohraff reviewed the 2012 budget requests as follows:

Executive Director Services:

The proposed 2012 Executive Director Services includes an increase of \$7,700 because of the work required to maintain the ARC's financial activities and the anticipated increased work load necessary for the required federal audit in 2012. Additionally, we are requesting a \$10,000 increase for grant writing in 2012. Explanations for both budget items are as follows:

Grant writing: This is being increased by \$10,000 and will cover the cost of writing five grants. This year the ARC budgeted \$10,000 and wrote five grants at a cost of \$21,000. Of the five grants, the ARC has been awarded four: \$1 Million from NOAA for Wayne Road Dam removal; \$50,000 for E. coli monitoring in the Main 1-2 and the Upper; \$24,000 for creating a strategy for the Upper Rouge Subwatershed to address beneficial use

impairments and \$300,000+ from the U.S. Forest Service GLRI to buy 2,000 trees for ARC communities.

Monthly Tracking, Reporting and Financials is being increased by \$7,700 based on the actual cost of doing the ARC bookkeeping, the reporting and the audit -- which will require more staff time for the required federal audit in 2012.

Finance Committee:

- (FC1) Accounting and Legal Services \$15,000. These funds will be used for the
 preparation of the 2011 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 cost involved
 with the A133 audit.
- (FC2) ARC Insurance \$4,000. The insurance is needed to protect the directors and
 officers (and any other ARC member) against claims filed against them as executives of
 the organization.

PIE Committee:

The 2011 PIE budget reflects a slight increase (\$2,590) in cost from the 2012 budget due to the slight increase in cost of seedlings and packaging in PIE 2. Because of ARC budget constraints, \$10,000 worth of activities and materials will be put under the PIE Initiatives Task for funding later in the year, budget permitting. 2012 PIE Committee highlights are:

- (PIE 1)The Green Infrastructure Activities task budget is about \$12,000 lower because budget was transferred to PIE 2 to pay for increased printing costs in 2012. The activities for this task are nearly the same and will provide for the planning, design and plant materials for up to three planting projects in public golf courses in the Rouge River Watershed; analysis and project profiles for the 29 ARC grow zones installed in the watershed from 2009-11; partnering with Friends of the Rouge to present three workshops; ARC rain barrel sales and education for up to four events and the purchase of trees for new participating Green Schools.
- (PIE 2) The Public Education Materials task has increased budget for printed materials
 and giveaways and 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 printing the riparian homeowners' brochure, seedling packaging,
 bookmarks, magnetic clips and design software.
- (PIE 3) The Website Maintenance task budget remains the same and supports design, writing and maintenance fees for the ARC website.
- (PIE 4) Watershed Stewardship and Reporting supports Friends of the Rouge conducting grow zone maintenance workshops, the golf course workshop, a handson native planting workshop for homeowners, participation in community events to promote watershed stewardship, and creating an annual report of FOTR events and volunteer participation.
- (PIE 5) PIE Initiatives: The activities that will be conducted, budget permitting are:
 - o Design of a riparian homeowner's brochure with related material on the ARC website. (\$5,000)
 - o Printing/Wayne County (\$2,500)
 - o Green Schools Trees/Wayne County (\$2,500)

Technical Committee:

The 2012 Technical Committee budget is about 22% lower than the 2011 budget due to postponement of monitoring on the Lower Rouge until 2013. The 2012 TC activities are as follows:

- (TC1) The Rouge River Watershed Monitoring Activities task budget continues work
 performed last year to address the 5-year monitoring plan for the Rouge River.
 Activities for 2012 include a geomorphology assessment for the watershed and a
 summary report of the monitoring data from the previous year. The annual
 macroinvertebrate monitoring will also be completed by FOTR, but it will be funded by
 another grant.
- (TC2) The Storm Water Reporting System: Operation and Maintenance task supports
 the stream-lined, easy web-based reporting mechanism for Phase II permit reporting
 to the MDEQ which was completed in the 2011. The 2012 effort will include: system
 administration, operation and maintenance, member assistance on system use, minor
 programming modifications and creation of a trial watershed-wide report.
- (TC3) The IDEP Investigations and Training task continues field investigations in priority
 areas and provides IDEP training for ARC municipal staff. TC3 allows the ARC to
 address illicit discharges on a watershed-wide basis, which is far more productive than
 working on a community by community basis.
- (TC4) The Compliance Initiatives task provides ARC members with resources to aid
 them in permit compliance. Activities will include: assisting SEMCOG and other
 regional partners in developing a training session for municipal staff, assistance to ARC
 members that will be audited by the MDEQ (including gathering information from
 project partners and collaboration with SEMCOG), provide comments on the draft
 MS4 permit template that is due to be released in 2012, and work with the MDEQ to
 develop a Rouge-specific permit that can be adopted by the membership.
- (CMI1/TC5) The Monitoring to Support TMDL Implementation task covers match
 funding for a recently awarded CMI grant to narrow down human sources of E. coli in
 Pebble Creek and potentially Seeley Drain and Minnow Pond Drain. Dry weather
 monitoring will be conducted in-stream first and then at storm sewer outlets to
 determine which potentially are impacted by sewage. Suspect sewers will be referred
 to the local community for source investigation and identification. This project begins
 in late 2011 and ends in early 2013. The requested budget represents 100% of the
 entire match requirement for the project.

M. Howell, Wixom, asked why we don't push the State to provide the activities such as radio and TV ads and public education pieces that organizations like the ARC are doing. J. Ridgway stated that public involvement/education is going regional and statewide but expressed the impressive strides that the ARC has made in these areas compared to others.

The motion was made by K. Buford, Westland, to approve the 2012 Budget Requests as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms and passed unanimously.

D. Rohraff informed the Full ARC that the Finance Committee has requested a Fundraising Subcommittee be formed to research potential fundraising opportunities as the ARC continues forward with the Rouge Grant funds declining. If anyone is interested

and has ideas please forward them to Don Rohraff or Chris O'Meara. The first meeting is scheduled for December 6 at 2:30 p.m. at the Livonia DPW.

5. Executive Director Report

a. Permit Subcommittee

Jim Ridgway said there was little information to report except that the MDEQ has held several meetings to gain stakeholder input on the next version of the MS4 permit. These are listening sessions; no permit language is being hashed out and very little feedback has been given by the MDEQ. J. Ridgway expressed that the ARC still continues to push for electronic submittals. J. Ridgway believes that the EPA will be more involved than they have been in the past. J. Ridgway also noted that the community-driven litigation regarding the Headlee implications of the 2003 Stormwater Permit continues and oral arguments are expected within the next six months. Similarly, the EPA's efforts to issue new stormwater regulations continue to be delayed and are now expected to be released next year. The MDEQ is apparently proceeding without waiting for the EPA revised regulations.

b. Grant Status Report

J. Ridgway gave a presentation showing the status of the various grants that the ARC has been awarded. This presentation is also available on the ARC website. New grants included the additional \$1 million in funding from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for the Wayne Road Dam which will pay for the removal of the Wayne Road Dam. The ARC received a grant from the U. S. Forestry in the amount of \$374,000 for several communities to replace 2,000 trees due to the emerald ash borer infestation. The ARC received just over \$37,000 in CMI grant to track down human sources of E. coli in Pebble Creek and potentially Seeley Drain and Minnow Pond Drain.

c. Reducing Sewage Contamination in Stormwater: Southeast Michigan Success Stories

A. DeMaria gave an abbreviated version of the presentation she made during the Great Lakes Week conference held in Detroit last month regarding the IDEP work that has been done in Southeast Michigan. The presentation is available on the ARC website.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee

Meghan Bonfiglio, Washtenaw County, spoke on behalf of chair Kelly Cave. She stated that the Organization Committee subcommittee met to draft revisions to the ARC Bylaws. She expects to have a draft for the Executive Committee's review in early 2012. M. Bonfiglio stated that the ARC received a letter from the University of Michigan-Dearborn requesting Associate Membership status with the ARC. UM-D would be invoiced in the amount of \$187.50 for the fourth quarter of 2011 and then would be invoiced \$750 for the calendar year of 2012 in February, 2012.

The motion was made by Roger Moore, Rochester Hills, to approve the Associate Membership request by the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The motion was seconded by S. Keenan, Auburn Hills, and passed unanimously.

b. PIE Committee (Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair)

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the 2011 ARC grow zones are all installed and the Green Schools project is moving forward.

B. Siedlaczek reported that most recent ARC rain barrel sales were:

- Westland, July 30, 2011 (778 barrels sold)
- Westland, September 17, 2011 (322 barrels sold)
- Novi, September 24, 2011 (56 barrels sold)

The PIE Committee sponsored five rain barrel sales in 2011 and sold 1,668 rain barrels

Bookmarks: 9,000 bookmarks were distributed to the following members/organizations:

- 100 bookmarks to each of 26 ARC member libraries (approximately 2,600 bookmarks)
- 100 bookmarks to each ARC member community.
- 1,500 bookmarks and seedlings to participating Green Schools
- 2,300 bookmarks to the Cranbrook Water Festival

Seedlings: 2,600 seedlings total were distributed this year at the following events:

Southfield Rain Barrel sale: 500
 Westland Rain Barrel sale: 300
 Southfield community event: 200

Novi Rain Barrel Sale: 100Green Schools: 1,500

c. Technical Committee

Annette DeMaria reported on behalf of Gary Zorza. A. DeMaria informed the ARC that an IDEP training session has been scheduled for December 8 at the Canton DPW building. It is free to ARC members and is geared toward field staff and people who do the investigations.

A. DeMaria reported that the Technical Committee is finishing the mini-REMAR (please spell out).

A. DeMaria informed the ARC that in response to an email survey sent to ARC members by the Technical Committee, Wayne County is completing the dye testing of municipal facilities in 8 communities. Communities that are in an *E. coli* priority area, but are not dye tested yet are Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Twp., Romulus, Van Buren, Walled Lake and Farmington Hills. If these communities want dye testing let A. DeMaria know for next year.

Tracy Kecskemeti, MDEQ, asked if the ARC would consider extending membership in the ARC to schools to satisfy some of their permit requirements. J. Ridgway stated that this would be forwarded to the Organization Committee for consideration.

A. DeMaria informed the Full ARC that a regional IDEP workgroup has been started. If anyone has interest in joining please let her know. Two of the workgroup's efforts are development of a tip card for municipal staff and distribution of a pollutant load calculator to determine wastewater flows and pollutants associated with illicit connections and failed septic systems.

7. Report from WCDPS

Noel Mullett reported on behalf of Kelly Cave. He informed the Full ARC that they are working on having the Rouge Grant extended to 2014 and that there would be a Round XI grant offering.

N. Mullett informed the Full ARC that the USACE public notice period has begun for the channel restoration in the Upper Rouge and that an email has gone out requesting comments from ARC members on the Upper Rouge River Section 1135 Draft Detailed Project Report (DPR) & Environmental Analysis (EA). J. Ridgway has sent a letter of support for the project on behalf of the ARC.

N. Mullett informed the members that they are working on the 2011 Progress Report and asked that communities forward to Kelly Cave photos and summaries of what their organizations and communities have done.

8. Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment made.

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

- The motion was made to accept the April 26, 2011, meeting summary.
- The motion was made to approve the 2011 budget amendments as presented by the Finance Committee.
- The motion was made to approve the 2012 budget requests as presented by the Finance Committee.
- Anyone interested in participating in the Fundraising Subcommittee or the Legacy Act Exploratory Subcommittee please let Gary Mekjian or Chris O'Meara know.
- The motion was made to accept the University of Michigan-Dearborn's request to join the ARC as an Associate member.

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

- Fundraising Subcommittee meeting, December 6, 2:30 p.m., Livonia DPW
- Legacy Project Exploratory Subcommittee meeting, November 15 at 3:00 p.m. at the Farmington Hills City Hall Community Room
- Legacy Project Exploratory Subcommittee meeting, November 29 at 3:00 p.m. at the Farmington Hills City Hall Community Room
- Legacy Project Exploratory Subcommittee meeting, December 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the Farmington Hills City Hall Community Room

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K. Buford, Westland and seconded by D. Rohraff, Livonia. The motion passed unanimously.

Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: Name Community Attended Initials Redford Township **ECT** Ball Zachare Jack Garden City Barnes Barrett Oak Park Robert Baumgarten Matt Lathrup Village Belair Bob Canton Township Washtenaw County Road Commis Lori Beyer Bobrin Janis Washtenaw County Water Resour Bonfiglio Meghan Washtenaw County Water Resour **HRC** Borton Cory Brooks Dan Dearborn Heights Buford Kevin Westland Buiten Mike Wayne Carroll Terry Van Buren Township Casari Tom Northville Township Kelly Cave **WCDPS** Brian Coburn Novi Joe Oakland County Colaianne CB Cousino Birmingham CR Cravens Bloomfield Hills Cureton Lloyd Walled Lake Davis Paul Rochester Hills DeMaria Annette **ECT** Dombrowski Tony Pontiac Domine Wayne Bloomfield Township El-Gharib Ramzi Wayne

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Faas	Tim	Canton Township		IF
Fellrath	Patrick	Plymouth Township		ODF
Gallogly	James	Northville		SPY-
Gigliotti	Allen	Henry Ford Community College		TRG
Greco	Sam	Henry Ford Community College		
Gruzwalski	Laura	Bloomfield Hills		
Gruzwalski	Laura	Troy		
Gruzwalski	Laura Cory Borton	Village of Franklin		CB
Gruzwalski	Laura	Village of Beverly Hills		
Gushman	Kevin	Farmington		
Hagaman	Kathryn	Bingham Farms	M	KPK
Howell	Michael	Wixom		MPS
Johnson	Ron	Inkster		
Keenan	Shawn	Auburn Hills	M	cell
Ketai	Don	Bingham Farms		
Kramarz	Kristina	Dearborn Heights		
LaManes	Paul	Melvindale		
Maillard	Kevin	Livonia		
Mandelia	Kitty	ECT		
McCallum	Gerry	Orchard Lake Village		
McClary	Darwin	Garden City		
McCulloch	John	Oakland County		
McCusker	Benny	Westland		
McGill	Lisa	Walled Lake		<u> </u>
Mekjian	Gary	Farmington Hills		//h2-
Melchert		Auburn Hills		
Meszler		Village of Beverly Hills		4.

Name		Community	Attended	Initjals
Mondora	Karen	Farmington	& -	KM
Moore	Roger	Rochester Hills	U	WW
Mueller	Jeff	Lathrup Village		
Mullett	Noel	WCDPS		NMJ
Murray	Jim	Dearborn		
Nowicki	Anthony	Wixom		
Olsztyn	Olivia	Bloomfield Township		
O'Meara	Paul	Birmingham		
Ostling	Eric	Orchard Lake Village	V	So
Porman	Chris	Plymouth		———
Pritchard	Jana	Plymouth Township		GHP
Puuri	Steve	Washtenaw County Road Commi	is	
Ridgway	Jim	ECT		
Rohraff		Livonia	TA.	DR
Scappaticci	Roberto	Romulus		
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield		
Selmi	John	Redford Township	X	R
Shimmel	Louis	Pontiac		<i>D</i>
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	$\overline{\triangleright}$	B
Sincock	Paul	Plymouth		
St. Henry	Paul	Livonia		n //
Staup	Aaron	Novi		JA15
Sullivan	Amy	Village of Franklin		
Sullivan	Patrick	Northville		
Szczygiel	Larry	Dearborn		
Vandette	Steven			
Weaver		Northville Township		

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Meeting Date:	_11-/	-//	

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
White	Paul	Van Buren Township		
Wilson	Tom	Romulus	V	oberfo =
Vineka	Jim	Oakland County	V	Jan
ee	Kevin	Oak Park		
oner	Tom	Commerce Township		
orza	Gary	Farmington Hills		

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Meeting Date: _ Name Community Attended Initials

ADC	Attan	dance	I ict
AKL.	АПЕН	aance	1.157