



October 4, 2013

## Work on Regional Prosperity Initiative Begins

Over 125 leaders from our region met recently at Fifth Third Ballpark to discuss the Governor's Regional Prosperity Initiative. The meeting was called by GVMC, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, Maca-

tawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The Right Place. The session was hosted by the Whitecaps and we appreciate the use of their facility.



Bill Rustem, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Snyder explains the Governor's vision for the Regional Prosperity Initiative to over 125 business, government and education leaders from our 13 county West Michigan Region.

Bill Rustem and Sara Wycoff from the Governor's Office, Dave Wrensenski representing MDOT, Doug Smith from MEDC and Chris Harkins of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget presented the vision for the Regional Prosperity Initiative.

We have begun the process of preparing the grant application and meetings have been held with a representatives of a few of the targeted service providers. The final grant application has to be submitted by November 1, 2013.

The key participants for this program represent regional planning, transportation, higher education, workforce development, economic development and adult education. All of these service providers will be represented as we develop a leadership structure.

While award of the grants is expected in January, we will begin preliminary work and organizational development immediately. This will allow us to hit the ground running when the grants are awarded.

The process requires development of a 5 year Regional Prosperity Plan, establishment of regular monthly meetings of the Board and dashboard requirements for transparency.

We will keep you informed as we progress.!



**GVMC Breakfast Meeting Honoring  
Mayor Jim Buck with Special Guest  
Senator Carl Levin**



**Monday November 4, 2013**

**L. William Seidman Center**

**\$20.00 Per Person**

**8:00-9:30 am**

**Seating will be open at 7:30 am**

**Sign Up online at:**

Major Sponsor



*we're your energy  
superhighway*

Host Sponsor

