



December 19, 2013

Regional Prosperity Board Named

Even though the final award of the Regional Prosperity Grant has not yet been announced by the Governor's Office, in typical West Michigan fashion we are moving forward in preparation. The West Michigan Prosperity Alliance will be ready to begin work after the holidays if we are successful in our grant application.

Below you will find the people who will be servicing on the Steering Committee from throughout our 13 county region.

The Steering Committee represents regional planning and transportation agencies, workforce boards, higher and adult education, economic development, and business in our region.

The group will work to develop a Regional Prosperity Plan as well as conduct three large community conversations with stakeholders from the region. Efforts will also focus on developing a list of projects of regional economic significance which will have great impact on our area.

West Michigan Prosperity Alliance Steering Committee

John Weiss- Grand Valley Metro Council	Kathleen Sullivan- Consultant
Dave Bee- West Michigan Regional Planning Commission	Doug Wood- Orchard View Public Schools
Sean Dey- West Michigan Shoreline Regional Planning Commission	Jacob Maas- Kent-Allegan Michigan Works
Steve Bulthuis- Macatawa Area Coordinating Council	Debbie Groeneveld- Muskegon-Oceana Michigan Works
Rick Chapla- The Right Place	Paul Griffith- Michigan Works West Central
Kevin Stotts- Talent 2025	Andy Johnston- West Michigan Chamber Alliance
Valerie Byrnes- Barry County Economic Development Alliance	Jim Sandy- Mecosta County Economic Alliance
Ed Garner- Muskegon First	Roger Safford- Michigan Department of Transportation
Randy Thelen- Lakeshore Advantage	Bill Raymond- Ottawa County Michigan Works
Dan Rinsema-Sybenga- Muskegon Community College	Jim Fisher- Padnos Inc.
Fiona Hert- Grand Rapids Community College	Simone Jonaitis- Grand Valley State University
Julie Van Dyke- West Shore Community College	Linda Brand- Model Communities Initiative
Michael O'Conner- Holland/Zeeland Adult Education	

Carol Sheets Passes

Long-time Wyoming City Councilwoman and former Mayor Carol Sheets passed away this week in Florida. Carol was an active member of GVMC serving on our Board of Directors and Transportation Policy Committee. Retired Grandville Mayor and former GVMC Chair Jim Buck stated, "Carol was a strong advocate for Wyoming and truly sought opportunities for collaboration as a leader of GVMC. We will miss her."

Reminder

The Board of Directors Meeting previously scheduled for January 2, 2014 has been Cancelled!

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of GVMC I want to wish you the very best during this holiday season.

John

