



February 13, 2015

In Case You Missed It

Just in case you missed the news, Kent County is the first large economy county of more than 500,000 to reach its pre-Great Recession employment rate. It has been reported by the National Association of Counties that the Kent County unemployment rate is 3.5%. That is the lowest it has been in a decade.

According to Kent County, the county is “excelling in employment statistics” and growth in the private sector along with public-private collaborations are fueling our recovery faster than most.

Daryl Delabbio, Kent County Administrator stated, “ We attribute this, in part, to our superb public-private-nonprofit partnerships and collaborative environment that exists, along with the innovative spirit that our community has historically demonstrated”.

Dan Koorndyk, Chair of the Kent County Commission added, “This is great news, considering that 95 percent of the county economies have not returned to their pre-recession unemployment rates”.

This is good news for our entire region. Kent County is our largest regional partner, but improvements of this magnitude have impacts throughout West Michigan. We are pleased to share this good news just in case you missed it.

GVMC Board of Directors Supports Resolution on Laker Line Bus Rapid Transit

The Rapid is continuing in its analysis for the potential development of a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line along the current Laker Line Route. This transit corridor connecting GVSU in Allendale with downtown Grand Rapids currently has an average daily ridership in excess of 12,000 per day. Our resolution of support is for the Federal Transit Administration’s Small Start Program.

The Laker Line has the highest ridership in The Rapid System and continued improvement to the line will have dramatic impacts on the service levels as well as economic development in the region. GVMC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization supports the continued improvement of our transit system.

You’re Invited To: Rick Snyder’s Economic and Education Summit



GVMC



Event: Governor Rick Snyder’s Economic and Education Summit

Date: Monday, March 2 and Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Location: Renaissance Center, Marriott Hotel
400 Renaissance Ctr, Detroit, MI 48243

As a leader in Prosperity Region #4, we encourage your attendance at the summit. Your voice will influence the future economic and educational growth of our region. We need your input.

You can register for the Summit and hotel lodging using the link below.

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1663880>

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