



February 19, 2015

**\$228,750 Regional Prosperity
Grant Awarded**



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

DAVID B. BEHEN
DIRECTOR

February 6, 2015

Mr. John Weiss
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. Ste 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss:

I wish to thank you for applying for grant dollars from the Regional Prosperity Initiative, a grant program administered by the Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB). As you know, Governor Snyder developed the Regional Prosperity Initiative to grow and support collaborative regional efforts. The initiative, now in its second year, is producing real results. Local and regional partners like you have worked hard to create and advance locally developed plans for economic prosperity in your communities. We are thankful for your partnership and the contribution you are making to Michigan's comeback.

Your fiscal year 2015 application was for a Regional Prosperity Collaborative level grant. Unfortunately, the mid-year reductions in state revenue for fiscal year 2015 prevent the Department from fully funding successful applicants. However, as a successful applicant, we have reviewed your grant request and approved an award amount of \$228,750. The progress shown as a result of your first year grant indicates real momentum and positive progress, which I hope can be maintained through this second grant.

Please notify me if you intend to accept this grant at its reduced amount. At that time I ask that you submit a revised spending plan and timeline to reflect the award amount to DTMB. Attached you will find a brief contract which I ask you submit with the revised spending plan. When your revised timeline, spending plan, and contract are submitted, DTMB staff will work to make the grant payment to your organization in a timely manner.

Thank you for continued support and partnership in the regional prosperity initiative. I look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Christopher Harkins
State Budget Office
Department of Technology, Management & Budget

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Michigan Works Strategic Redesign, Muskegon Regional Logistics Hub, Michigan Work Ready Communities, and West Michigan Regional Watershed Collaborative.

Furthering these 6 projects will be our focus in the coming months.

Next Board Meeting

March 5, 2015

8:30 am

Kent County Building

Governor Snyder has again awarded Grand Valley Metro Council and our West Michigan partners funding to continue our Regional Prosperity Alliance. GVMC leads this 13 county effort which includes representatives of the private sector, foundations, workforce and economic development agencies, education and planning.

This is the second year for our regional prosperity efforts. In the first year, over 500 individuals participated in the collaboration and great progress was made on development of a West Michigan Prosperity Plan and forming the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

During 2015, we will strive for increased public/private collaboration and pursue continued progress on our projects of economic importance.

This week we began the process of supporting our "Projects of Economic Importance" by holding a Steering Committee Meeting with representatives of the projects. The RPI will be giving grants and assisting in the early development of the six projects selected from our region.

Those projects include, Connect Michigan, Emerge West Michigan,