



Excerpt from the Capitol Update
by Rep. Winnie Brinks:

Bus Tour Highlights Road

Funding Need



This week, I had the pleasure of joining local mayors, senators, state representatives, city officials and business people as part of the Rebuilding Our Region 2013 West Michigan Street Summit. We took a two-hour bus tour of Kent County on The Rapid to view many of the area's dilapidated roads and infrastructure and hear how the poor road condition is impacting local businesses and economic growth. This eye opening experience really hit home the need for additional road funding in Michigan and highlighted the need for more funding in our community. More than 60 percent of Grand Rapids roads are considered to be in poor condition. A collaborative approach to solve our long-term problem in building and maintaining a first-class infrastructure system in Michigan is crucial for our region's economic vitality.



Public Hearing Held on 2014-2017

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

On Tuesday, April 9, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council held its first public hearing for the draft FY2014-2017 TIP. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input on the draft project lists for the FY2014-2017 TIP. Twenty-nine individuals attended the meeting, including an Introduction to Transportation Planning class from Grand Valley State University. The meeting itself featured an informative presentation on the TIP development process, multiple maps of transportation projects provided as visual aids, and several staff members were in attendance to answer questions.

TIP Dollars by Year

2014 - \$77,000,000

2015 - \$61,000,000

2016 - \$33,000,000

2017 - \$53,000,000

Total - \$224,000,000



GVMC Receives \$3.7 Million for Additional Projects

The Michigan Department of Transportation recently informed us that GVMC has an additional \$3.7 million carryover funding from previous years. This funding is available for 2013 and will help finance 10 projects currently under consideration. Those projects include improvements to 44th Street, Lake Michigan Drive, Monroe Avenue, Ivanrest, 36th Street, 3 Mile Road, Lake Drive, 32nd Street and Elmridge Avenue. Also ITP will receive funds for replacement buses.

LGROW SPRING FORUM APRIL 25th

LGROW will be hosting it's 10th Annual Grand River Forum and Spring Meeting on **Thursday, April 25th, 2013** at the East Grand Rapids Community Center. After the morning sessions, participants will be invited for a tour of Founders Brewing Company and a discussion on why clean water is important to "Beer City".

The event is **free** and open to anyone. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to Katherine.Collen@gvmc.org or 616-776-7601.