



Personal Property Tax Reforms Become Law

Representatives of GVMC were invited to attend Lt. Governor Brian Calley's signing ceremony for the Personal Property Tax Reform. For over a year a group of local government leaders representing GVMC and called the "West Michigan Work Group" partnered with the Lieutenant Governor in helping to develop the PPT reform legislation.

The ceremony was held at Van's Pattern Company. Attending the event were representatives of GVMC, Chambers of Commerce, business, police, fire and public safety, legislators, MML, MTA and MAC.



Representatives of GVMC with Lt. Governor Calley

The new law insures 100% reimbursement for local government and GVMC representatives worked hard to help craft legislation to protect the essential services provided by all our local governments.

This was truly a cooperative effort and a win/win for local government, business, and Michigan's economy.

Special Winter Maintenance Funds

Yesterday, counties, cities and villages received a combined \$60.9 million to help restore road budgets that were dramatically depleted by the harsh Michigan winter. The funds were part of a \$100 million special appropriation for winter road maintenance provided by the Legislature and signed by Governor Snyder in March.

"These funds were badly needed to compensate for the extraordinarily high costs of plowing, salting and filling potholes this past winter", according to Michigan De-

partment of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle.

Steve Warren, Managing Director of the Kent County Road Commission stated, *"We certainly appreciate the additional funds during this very difficult winter. While this additional funding is very helpful, the KCRC expenses for this winter exceeded our budget by an estimated \$2.5 million."*

The total appropriation will be divided between the counties, cities, villages and MDOT according to the Act 51 formula.

Road Spending Survey

Recently you should have received a survey from Katherine Collen requesting information regarding local government funding levels for roads. Cities and Road Commissions were asked about both Act 51 funds and local funding while Townships were only asked the amount of local dollars budgeted for road projects. For more information or if you lost the survey please feel free to contact katherine.collen@gvmc.org

Strategic Planning Session

On **April 24, 2014** GVMC will hold a special Strategic Visioning Session from **8:00** am until noon. **A continental breakfast will be provided at 7:30.**

The session will be facilitated by Dr. Lew Bender who has worked with GVMC in the past. The meeting will be held at the Byron Township Community Center **2120-76th Street in Byron Center**. The facility is located in Byron's Whistlestop Park.

Over the past two years a great deal has been accomplished toward the goals outlined in our last Strategic Planning Session. GVMC has expanded and transformed and its time to discuss again our vision for the future and opportunities available to us. Please join us for what could be our most important meeting this year!