



August 22, 2013

Members Collaborate On Non-Motorized Projects

Recently GVMC was awarded \$668,000 in grant funding under the Transportation Alternatives Program to fund non-motorized projects in our region.

Last week several meetings were held to prioritize, review and recommend the grant funding for non-motorized projects for 2014. On Tuesday, our Non-Motorized Committee reviewed proposals from 15 municipalities for 85 projects with a total cost of \$38 million and a total grant request of \$3.8 million.

Through their discussion and collaboration, this list of projects was

reduced to 7 projects with a total estimated grant need of \$924,128 and total construction cost of \$1,597,866. This was difficult work, but the list still exceeded the total available funds.

On Wednesday, the Transportation Programming Study Group met to review the recommendations of the Non-Motorized Committee and determine final recommendations within the available budget.

By working collaboratively, the study group is recommending 6 projects be awarded the TAP grants. Those projects will include \$668,000 in the GVMC available grant funds and have a total construction cost of \$1,161,871.

Projects were awarded to GVMC

members Cannon and Jamestown Townships and the cities of Rockford, Wyoming, Grand Rapids and the Kent County Parks Department.

Ken Bergwerff, Supervisor of Jamestown Township stated, *"Participating in GVMC enables us to see the larger issues that face the larger community and help us to understand how we can work collaboratively. Instead of having one municipality pitted against another, each gets a share of the benefits. Sometimes that benefit is large and immediate, other times it is delayed gratification. In the end, all of the citizens are receiving the greatest benefit with this collaboration"*.

Bonnie Blackledge, Cannon Township Clerk wrote, *"It was genuinely encouraging to witness the give and take among the Grand Valley Metro Council members as we sat around the table discussing which projects should be given greater priority. Many members were willing to postpone their projects and give support to others so that those deemed the most crucial could be funded. Instead of a competition for funds, it was a collaboration of communities."*

Once again, this process was an excellent example of the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that exists in our GVMC family.

Space Is Limited Please Register for
Breakfast ASAP!

GVMC Breakfast Meeting Honoring Mayor Jim Buck



**with Special Guest
Senator Carl Levin**



Monday November 4, 2013

L. William Seidman Center at GVSU Downtown

\$20.00 Per Person

8:00-9:30 Seating will be open at 7:30 am

Sign Up online at:

GVMC.org or Gayle at McCrathG@gvmc.org



*we're your energy
superhighway*

