Regional Prosperity Support Letters

1. Ada Township
2. Adult Learning Partners of West Michigan
3. Allegan County Road Commission
4. Allendale Township
5. Alpine Township
6. Baker College
7. Barry County Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Alliance
8. Byron Township
9. Calvin College
10. Cannon Township
11. Cascade Township
12. Central Area Michigan Works Consortium
13. City of Belding
14. City of Cedar Springs
15. City of East Grand Rapids
16. City of Grand Rapids
17. City of Grandville
18. City of Holland
19. City of Hudsonville
20. City of Kentwood
21. City of Lowell
22. City of Muskegon
23. City of Rockford
24. City of Walker
25. City of Wyoming
26. City of Zeeland
27. Connect Michigan
28. Diversified Machine – Montague
29. Ferris State University
30. Freemont Area Community Foundation
31. Gaines Township
32. Georgetown Township
33. Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce
34. **Grand Rapids Community College**
35. Grand Rapids Community Foundation
36. Grand Rapids Township
37. **Grand Valley Metropolitan Council**
38. **Grand Valley State University**
39. Hines – Spring Lake
40. Ionia County Road Commission
41. Jamestown Township
42. **Kellogg Community College**
43. **Kendall College**
44. Kent County Board of Commissioners
45. Kent County Road Commission
46. **Lakeshore Advantage**
47. Literacy Center of West Michigan
48. **Macatawa Area Coordinating Council**
49. **Mason County Growth Alliance**
50. MDOT – Grand Rapids Region
51. **Mecosta County Development Corporation**
52. **Michigan State University**
53. Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce - Zeeland/Holland
54. **Michigan Works – Calhoun ISD, Barry, Branch & Calhoun**
55. **Michigan Works – Kent & Allegan / ACSET**
56. **Michigan Works – Muskegon & Oceana**
57. **Michigan Works – Ottawa County**
58. **Michigan Works – West Central**
59. Montcalm County
60. **Muskegon Area First**
61. **Muskegon Community College**
62. Muskegon County – Board of Commissioners
63. **Muskegon County Community Development**
64. Muskegon County Road Commission
65. Muskegon Dept. of Human Services
66. Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
67. Newaygo County Board of Commissioners
68. **Newaygo County Economic Development Office**
69. Oceana County Board of Commissioners
70. **Orchard View Adult Education**
71. Ottawa County
72. Ottawa Road Commission
73. PADNOS Shoreline Recycling Division
74. Plainfield Township
75. Port Sheldon Township – Ottawa County
76. Senator Dave Hildenbrand
77. Senator Geoff Hansen
78. Senator Mark Jansen
79. **Sparta Area Schools Adult Education**
80. Starting Block West Michigan Regional Incubator
81. State Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright
82. **Talent 2025**
83. Telamon Corporation
84. **The Right Place**
85. Village of Middleville
86. Village of Sand Lake
87. **West Michigan Regional Planning Commission**
88. West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission
89. West Shore Community College
90. Western Michigan University
91. Zeeland/Holland Adult Education

Required Participants in Bold
A Resolution In Support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's Participation in the Regional Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 country region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that, the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council Board of Directors hereby endorses our participation in the Regional Prosperity Initiative and,

Be It Further Resolved that the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council is honored and pleased to provide leadership in this regional venture by submitting the grant application on behalf of our West Michigan Region.

Approved on October 4, 2013 by the Board of Directors of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council.

John W. Weiss
Executive Director, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Date 10/4/2013
Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

RESOLUTION R-102813-2

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD, hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on OCTOBER 28, 2013 by THE ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD.
Moved by Member Proos, supported by Member LeBlanc.

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Resolution Adopted.

Date: 1028/13

Susan Burton, CMC
Ada Township Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Ada, County of Kent, State of Michigan, at a meeting held on October 28, 2013, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least 18 hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

Dated: 10-28-13

Susan Burton, CMC
Ada Township Clerk
Resolution 2013-13 In Support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on October 28, 2013

Kristen Millard, Montcalm County Clerk

Please Return to:

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
October 28, 2014

Attn: Mr. Jacob Maas, Executive Director
ACSET Council
1550 Leonard NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

Dear Mr. Maas,

Since 1991 Telamon Corporation has administered the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) for migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the State of Michigan. We are both grateful for the opportunity to provide employment and training services and proud of the number of people who have benefitted from our program. Since we work with an underserved segment of the population that has many barriers to economic success, it is very important to develop and maintain excellent working relationships in both the private and public sector. The ACSET Council has been a key partner for Telamon Corporation since our inception in 1991.

The ACSET Council is structured to meet the objectives of the Regional Prosperity Initiative, ensuring that finite resources are being utilized appropriately. They have a long track record of successfully coordinating service delivery among local governments in order to strengthen the region’s economic competitiveness while minimizing redundant and uncoordinated policies. The ACSET Council has also demonstrated the ability to bring together community, agency and private sector partners and develop a common focus and vision.

It is my pleasure to formally recommend Mr. Jacob Maas and the ACSET Council to develop and implement the Regional Prosperity Initiative for Kent and Allegan Counties. Their excellent track record of eliminating silos and moving beyond traditional boundaries to strengthen their region makes them an ideal candidate.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at dkuchnicki@telamon.org or 517/930-0053.

Sincerely,

Don Kuchnicki, State Director
Telamon Corporation
Resolution of the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council's Policy Committee supporting a request for grant funding from the State of Michigan's Regional Prosperity Initiative for activities in Region 4 (West Michigan Prosperity Alliance):

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many economic development, higher education and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

William Vanderbilt, Chair
MACC Policy Committee

Date: 10/28/13
Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s
Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

RESOLUTION # 2013-10

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Village of Sand Lake hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on __Oct. 21__, 2013 by ______________________

Motion made by B. Thielke and
Seconded by R. Towlesy

Yes: C. Simpson Nays: none
B. Thielke
K. Thielke
D. Dewey
R. Towlesy

Please Return to:
John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

678 Front Avenue NW • Suite 200 • Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 • Ph. 616 77-METRO (776-3876) • Fax 774-9292 • www.gvmc.org

[Signature] Clerk
October 23, 2013

John W. Wiess, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Avenue NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear John,

On behalf of Sparta Area Schools Adult Education Program, I am pleased to offer our support for the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative grant application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative.

Adult Education Programs are no stranger to regionalization. Sparta Adult Education has been a member of the Adult Learning Partners of West Michigan (ALPWM) for several years. This partnership has fostered working relationships among adult education programs, post-secondary institutions, literacy councils, and workforce development agencies. The ALPWM includes members from Kent, Ottawa and Allegan counties.

We are excited to partner with other organizations in Region 4 in a cooperative effort to promote the prosperity of our region and the success of Michigan's adult learners. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Grimm
Director of Adult Education
Sparta Adult Education
Sparta Area Schools
October 22, 2013

John Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

Please accept this letter of endorsement for supporting the GVMC’s application in order to obtain grant funding from the State of Michigan’s Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI). As you are aware, Jamestown has been attempting collaborative efforts with adjacent municipalities on a number of fronts. When we have been successful, it has been overwhelmingly beneficial. We are grateful for GVMC’s efforts at bringing about collaboration.

We are convinced that stronger collaboration will not only benefit our township, but will have far reaching effects. We are grateful to the foresight that the State of Michigan has in establishing the RPI. Jamestown looks forward to continuing to be engaged in local and regional collaboration and hope that this application request is fully funded.

Sincerely,

Ken Bergwerff
Supervisor,
Jamestown Charter Township
2380 Riley Street
PO Box 88
Jamestown, MI 49427
616.896-8376 ext 17
kbergwerff@twp.jamestown.mi.us
October 22, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I’m writing on behalf of the City of Muskegon in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

CITY OF MUSKEGON

Franklin J. Peterson
City Manager

City of Muskegon, 933 Terrace Street, P.O. Box 536, Muskegon, MI 49443-0536
www.shorelinecity.com
ALPINE TOWNSHIP
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution No. 13-29

Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Alpine Township Board of Trustees hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

At a regular meeting of the Alpine Township Board of Trustees held on October 21, 2013, Trustee Cordes offered a motion, supported by Trustee May, to confirm the foregoing resolution. The motion carried as follows:

NAY: None.
ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-29 DECLARED ADOPTED.

[Signature]
Jean Wahlfeld, Alpine Township Clerk
October 23, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss:

I’m writing on behalf of Calhoun ISD Michigan Works! Agency in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, workforce development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terance Lunger
Superintendent
Calhoun Intermediate School District

M.J. Bruns
Michigan Works! Workforce Development Director
Calhoun ISD Michigan Works!

Albion Service Center
101 N. Albion Street
Albion, MI 49224
(517) 629-5852

Battle Creek Service Center
135 Hamblin Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
(269) 660-1412

Coldwater Service Center
210 Vista Drive
Coldwater, MI 49036
(517) 278-0200

Hastings Service Center
535 West Woodlawn Avenue
Hastings, MI 49058
(269) 945-9545, Ext. 144

THE CISD MICHIGAN WORKS! WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/PROGRAM. AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES UPON REQUEST. MICHIGAN RELAY CENTER (800) 649-3777

www.michpartners.org
21 October 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear John:

With the support of Calvin College, I affirm the recommendation of The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance. The Calvin community joyfully endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13-county area including five higher education institutions. I look forward to seeing this initiative in action, fostering greater communication and collaboration among area stakeholders.

Thank you for your organization’s continued commitment to enhancing the quality of life of the people of our metropolitan area through collaboration among regional partners.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Le Roy
President
MKL/sjc
October 18, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I'm writing on behalf of Muskegon County Department of Human Services (DHS) in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, workforce development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jane R. Johnson, Director
Muskegon/Oceana/Mason County DHS Offices
October 22, 2013

Mr. John W. Weiss  
Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I am writing to you to express my full-hearted support for the grant funding request submitted by The Right Place, Inc. in collaboration with the Grand Valley Metro Council, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Planning Commission, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, and the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, and several other economic development organizations in order to implement the five year "Prosperity Plan", which is a part of the "Regional Prosperity Initiative" that was initiated and funded by Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature.

This requested funding, if approved by the end of the year, will enable the preparation of a regional five year "Prosperity Plan" which will advance coordination among several infrastructure, workforce and economic development interests. This will ultimately greatly improve the economic development competitiveness of the region.

I am fully supportive and engaged in this application effort and strongly endorse this collaborative effort to prepare a regional prosperity plan. I urge you to support the proposed $250,000 grand funding, which will inevitably have great economic benefits to Region 4.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact my office at (517)373-2646. I thank you for your support.

Best Regards,

Marcia Hovey-Wright  
State Representative  
92nd District
October 24, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I’m writing on behalf of Oceana County in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

Larry Van Sickle, Chairperson
Oceana County
Board of Commissioners
October 24, 2013

Mr. John Weiss
Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss:

I write today to express my support for State funding to prepare a five-year ‘Prosperity Plan’ for Region 4.

As a State Senator who also has local government experience, I strongly support regional cooperation between local governments, private sector, education, workforce and economic development organizations to support continued success for the citizens of Kent County.

This is a very important initiative for the people of Region 4. I strongly endorse this collaborative effort to prepare a regional prosperity plan.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Jansen
State Senator
28th District
October 23, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Subject: Regional Prosperity Initiative

Dear Mr. Weiss:

This letter is written in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Michigan Works! West Central is a firm supporter of Governor Snyder’s encouragement to bring together local private, public, and non-profit partners to create vibrant regional economies. Serving the rural counties of Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo, and Osceola, Michigan Works! West Central has always been committed to improving regional employment conditions and enhancing the economic development of our region.

We truly look forward to being a partner of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance and support the increased collaboration between our region’s workforce development, economic development, adult education, post-secondary education, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government and private companies. We believe this is a powerful way we can all work together to create a common vision and strategy, drive economic investment, encourage business attraction and enhance talent in our region.

Sincerely,

Larry Emig, Chairperson
Local Elected Officials

Larry Emig, Chairperson
Local Elected Officials

William Stanek, Chairperson
Workforce Development Board

Our Mission: “To continually improve a Workforce Development System that produces a workforce with the required skills to attract, retain and expand business and enhance our regional economy.”
October 24, 2013

Mr. John W. Weiss  
Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear John,

I’m writing in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

TALENT 2025 is a collaboration of more than 70 CEOs with a combined workforce of over 115,000 or 16% of the private sector workforce covering the 13 counties of Region 4. Our mission is to improve the quality of the region’s workforce to meet the demands of the region’s employers today and tomorrow.

The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will directly contribute to achieving our vision for West Michigan to be a top-20 region by 2025. This builds on the achievements of the West Michigan Strategic Alliance and the numerous regional partnerships that already exist. It initiative will foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies.

We believe this funding represents a starting point to regional collaboration that will strengthen our region and make it globally competitive, which benefits everyone in the region.

Sincerely,

Kevin Stotts
President
October 23, 2013

Mr. John W Weiss  
Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I am writing to urge your consideration and express my support for Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Collaborative Application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative. This collaborative effort would create a five-year “Prosperity Plan” to leverage regional resources that would aid in the creation and retention of jobs. By working together, stakeholders could find potential solutions to common challenges facing West Michigan.

Recently, the State legislature launched the Regional Prosperity Initiative to increase collaboration, promote investment, and meet the needs of our changing economy. By working together, Right Place, Inc., the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Planning Commission, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, and several other organizations have put together an application to improve the economic development competitiveness of West Michigan.

The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Collaborative Application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative offers an excellent opportunity to create jobs that will enhance the quality of our neighborhoods and provide a positive community to live, work, and play. I support the efforts of Right Place, Inc. and Lakeshore Advantage, and feel this application would be an excellent candidate for funding. I trust it will receive the consideration that it deserves. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Goeff Hansen  
State Senator  
34th District
October 21, 2013

Mr. John W. Weiss  
Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

Kellogg Community College (KCC) supports and will engage in the Governor’s Regional Prosperity Initiative for Region 4. We value our active presence in Barry County through our course offerings at the KCC Fehsenfeld Regional Education Center, our unique arrangement with Hastings High School for workforce training, our working relationships with numerous local employers and various additional stakeholders in the region. We appreciate the opportunity to be at the table to explore deepening existing collaborative efforts and opportunities for new partnerships.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Dennis Bona  
President  
Kellogg Community College
October 23, 2013

Mr. Bill Rustem
Director of Strategy
Office of Governor Rick Snyder
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Rustem,

Thank you for your leadership and service to the State of Michigan as the Governor's Director of Strategy. It is regarding the Regional Prosperity Initiative grants that I write you today.

The Greater Grand Rapids region has demonstrated a strong commitment to the regionalization call that Governor Snyder issued to all economic development organizations and local units of government across the state. The work done in our area by the numerous economic development agencies, regional planning groups and local governments to form Region 4 has certainly shown others across the state how regionalism can be a successful tool in economic development and governmental activities.

The Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC) is coordinating the grant application process for Region 4 for the first round of grants issued through the Regional Prosperity Initiative. I am fully supportive of the GVMC's efforts to obtain funding through this program. In particular this funding will provide crucial assistance as Region 4 prepares its five-year Prosperity Plan.

Thank you again for your efforts on behalf of the Governor and the state. If you would like to discuss this proposal in further detail please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dave Hildenbrand
State Senator
The Twenty-Ninth District

Cc: Mr. John Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
October 23, 2013

John W Weiss
Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear John:

RE: Letter of Support

Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative. The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Literacy Center of West Michigan endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Sincerely,

Susan K Ledy
President/CEO
October 22, 2013

Mr. Chris Harkins
Legislative Liaison and Policy Advisor
Dept. of Technology, Management and Budget

Dear Mr. Harkins,

It is with pleasure that the Area Community Service Employment & Training Council, Michigan Works! Kent and Allegan County, acknowledges its support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, who is submitting on our behalf, the Regional Prosperity application for the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Alliance.

Through this letter, we acknowledge the necessity of movement in a regional direction that will serve a thirteen county area with the intent to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, workforce development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. We are pleased to support the Regional Prosperity Initiative and eagerly anticipate joining forces on this project. The opportunity presented will allow us to link with other sectors to build a stronger, cohesive unit in our area.

ACSET fully supports Grand Valley Metropolitan Council and its steps forward to cooperate and coordinate with Gov. Snyder’s Regional Prosperity Initiative. The initiative will allow for broad based regional vision, develop infrastructure and enhance our capabilities for better communication. It will also allow us to appropriately deploy the much needed coordination in our area to reach greater regional economic prosperity.

We, therefore, commit ourselves to support this emerging partnership and its many possibilities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jacob Maas
Executive Director, ACSET
October 23, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I’m writing on behalf of the Muskegon County Road Commission in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance. The Muskegon Board of County Road Commissioners approved this on 10/23/13.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kenneth J. Hulka,
Managing Director

KJH/amj
MECOSTA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGIONAL PROSPERITY INITIATIVE

RESOLUTION

Resolution adopted by the Mecosta County Development Corporation at its regularly scheduled Executive Committee Meeting of October 11, 2013:

WHEREAS, in 2012 the State of Michigan formed a Regional Reinvention Initiative Committee to plan for improving collaboration between Michigan’s Regional Planning Agencies, Work Force Development Agencies, Adult Education Providers, Transportation Officials, Economic Development Agencies, and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013 the Regional Reinvention Initiative Committee introduced the Regional Prosperity Initiative that includes ten new Prosperity Regions, and various levels of funding to enhance collaboration and to develop a Five Year Regional Prosperity Plan for each of Michigan’s ten Prosperity Regions; and

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance, comprised of two Prosperity Regions, includes the thirteen counties of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, and Ottawa; and

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance includes four eligible applicants (West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, and Macatawa Area Coordinating Council) to apply for funding to implement the Regional Prosperity Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the four eligible applicants mentioned above have met to establish a cooperative approach and have agreed to submit a joint application to the State of Michigan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mecosta County Development Corporation supports the Regional Prosperity Initiative and agrees to support the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council as the grant applicant; and

FURTHERMORE, the Mecosta County Development Corporation designates James M. Sandy, President, as the organization’s representative and authorizes his participation in the Regional Prosperity Initiative.

MOVED BY: Bill Stanek

SUPPORTED BY: Paul Bullock

______________________________  ______________________________
DAVE HAMELUND               PHIL KEATING
Chairperson                 Vice Chairperson

October 11, 2013            October 11, 2013
Date                        Date
October 18, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids MI 49504

Dear John:

On behalf of Cannon Township, please be advised that we endorse and support GVMC’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Prosperity Alliance.

Sincerely,

Stephen Grimm
Supervisor
John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I'm writing on behalf of Baker College of Muskegon in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

Lee Coggin, J.D.
President
Baker College of Muskegon
Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

At a regular meeting of the East Grand Rapids City Commission held in the Commission Chambers, on the 21st day of October 2013.

PRESENT: Commissioners Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller and Skaggs
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mayor Seibold

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Goebel and supported by Commissioner Johnson:

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, workforce development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the East Grand Rapids City Commission hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Dills, Goebel, Graham, Johnson, Miller and Skaggs
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mayor Seibold

CERTIFICATION

I certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of East Grand Rapids at a regular meeting held at the City Hall on October 21, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., pursuant to all required statutory procedures.

Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Dated: October 22, 2013
October 22, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

The Grand Rapids Community Foundation is pleased to provide this letter of support regarding your application to obtain grant funding for regional planning from the State of Michigan’s Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI). The Community Foundation has funded and participated in a number of workforce initiatives and strongly supports and encourages regional collaboration among a variety of groups including economic development, education, transportation, and planning entities. This also includes various governmental entities, the business community as well as the social sector including nonprofits and foundations.

We know that such work will result in a stronger economy in West Michigan and increased opportunities for all citizens of the area, especially as we focus on attracting and developing the businesses and talent that are necessary for a vibrant region and economy.

The Grand Rapids Community Foundation fully supports the choice of the Grand Valley Metro Council to coordinate this grant application. We look forward to working with the Grand Valley Metro Council and other partners in further development of regional planning, ideas and projects and appreciate the opportunity to help develop a process that results in a strong regional approach while allowing for robust local implementation of creative ideas and partnerships.

We strongly encourage the State of Michigan to fully support the application and stand ready to help in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any additional input or support.

Sincerely,

Diana R. Sieger, President
October 18, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

The City of Zeeland is providing this letter of endorsement in support of your application to obtain grant funding from the State of Michigan’s Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI). The goal of establishing stronger local and regional collaboration is a worthy endeavor that will help drive economic investment, lead to greater quality of place and increase business and talent attraction.

We appreciate the latitude the state has provided local leaders in developing the process they want to pursue in establishing stronger local and regional collaboration and want to thank the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council for their willingness to be the applicant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

We will continue to be engaged in this effort through our participation in the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council and hope the application request is fully funded.

Sincerely,

CITY OF ZEELAND

[Signature]

Timothy R. Klunder
City Manager
Resolution In Support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Ionia County Road Commission hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on 10/10/13, 2013 by [Signature]

Please Return to:

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Georgetown Charter Township Board hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on /0/\, 2013 by [Signature]
CITY OF BELDING
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-10-68

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELDING, MICHIGAN ENDORSING GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL'S APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE WEST MICHIGAN PROSPERITY ALLIANCE

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Belding, County of Ionia, Michigan, was held in said City on the 15th day of October, 2013.

PRESENT: Council Members Feuerstein, Scheid, Belding, Jones and Gunderson.

ABSENT: None.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Council Member Jones and seconded by Council Member Scheid.

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies; and

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belding, Michigan hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity
Alliance.

Upon vote for the adoption of said resolution, the vote was:

YEAS: Council Members Feuerstein, Scheid, Belding, Jones and Gunderson.

NAYS: None.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS THEREUPON DECLARED ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Belding, County of Ionia, State of Michigan, at a meeting held on October 15, 2013, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

Dated: October 15, 2013

Kareen J. Thomas
City Clerk
October 14, 2013

Mr. John W. Weiss  
Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Avenue NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss:

On behalf of the Newaygo County Economic Development Office (NCEDO), I am pleased to support Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Collaboration Application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative.

Nearly three years ago, at the urging of Governor Snyder and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, NCEDO began collaborating with other economic development organization from 13 counties that eventually formed Region 4. NCEDO has always strongly supported regional collaboration demonstrated by our innovative, strategic partnership that we entered into with the Right Place over six years ago for the efficient delivery of economic development services in our region.

Recently, Governor Snyder, recognizing the rapidly changing economic forces impacting our State, called for even closer collaboration among additional stakeholders, including economic development, workforce development, education, regional planning and transportation agencies, as well as local government and private sector interests. In response, an application for State funding to prepare the five-year “Prosperity Plan” is being coordinated for Region 4 by the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council. NCEDO is fully supportive and engaged in the application effort and strongly endorses this collaborative effort.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Andrew W. Lofgren  
Executive Director

4684 Evergreen Dr, Newaygo, MI 49337-231-652-9298 – www.ncedo.org
Resolution To Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the [Signature] hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on Oct. 14, 2013 by

Please Return to:

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
October 18, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids MI 49504

Dear John:

On behalf of Cannon Township, please be advised that we endorse and support GVMC’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Prosperity Alliance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen Grimm
Supervisor
Resolution to Endorse Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Gaines Charter Township, held in the Township Hall in said Township, 8555 Kalamazoo Avenue, SE, Caledonia, MI 49316, on October 14, 2013 there were:

PRESENT: Hilton Osterink, Lenke VanLaan, Fouch, Haagsma

ABSENT: Fryling

The following resolution was offered by Haagsma and seconded by Fouch.

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Gaines Charter Township hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The following aye votes were recorded: Hilton Osterink, Lenke VanLaan, Haagsma, Fouch

The following nay votes were recorded:

STATE OF MICHIGAN )
COUNTY OF KENT )

I, Crystal Osterink, clerk of Gaines Charter Township, Michigan, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by Gaines Charter Township at a meeting held on October 14, 2013.

Crystal Osterink
Gaines Charter Township, Clerk
Date 10-13-2013
Resolution In Support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, workforce development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mason County Growth Alliance hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

Approved on October 15, 2013 by the Mason County Growth Alliance Board of Directors.

DR. CHARLES DILLON, BOARD PRESIDENT
MASSON COUNTY GROWTH ALLIANCE
CITY OF CEDAR SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL
Kent County, Michigan

Councilmember Pam Conley, supported by Councilmember Charlie Watson, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2013 - 30

A Resolution In Support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s Application on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature have created the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies, and,

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations, and,

WHEREAS, only the four existing metropolitan planning and regional planning agencies in our 13 county region are qualified to receive funding under the Regional Prosperity Initiative, and

WHEREAS, The Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission and The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission have requested that Grand Valley Metropolitan Council be the sole applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. that the Cedar Springs City Council hereby endorses Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

YEAS: Councilmembers: Charlie Watson, Mark Fankhauser, Ken Benham,
Patricia Troost, Pam Conley, Robert Truesdale, Ashley Bremmer

NAYS: Councilmembers: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers: None

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2013 – 30 DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: October 10, 2013

Linda Branyan Christensen, City Clerk

Certification

I certify that this is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Cedar Springs at a Regular Meeting held October 10, 2013 and that public notice of that meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

Dated: October 10, 2013

Linda Branyan Christensen, City Clerk.
October 17, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss:

We are writing in support of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council’s collaborative application for the Regional Prosperity Initiative. It is our belief that the Initiative will foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations and will be a valuable asset for West Michigan.

Our support is based upon the understanding that the process will involve identifying several projects that the region can rally around to enhance economic and workforce development. It is also based upon the understanding that Kent County will be involved in the creation of any new regional authorities that may result, and the governance structures that they would employ. Kent County appreciates the efforts that have already been put forth and endorse the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council as the applicant and fiduciary agency for the grant on behalf of the West Michigan Prosperity Initiative.

Sincerely,

Dan Koomdyk
Board Chair

Jim Saalfeld
Board Vice-Chair

Daryl J. Delabbio
Administrator/Controller

Carol Hennessy
Commissioner, District 14
John W. Weiss, Executive Director  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  

Dear Mr. Weiss,  

I'm writing on behalf of Diversified Machine Inc. in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.  

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, five higher education institutions, six Work Force Boards, three Metropolitan Planning Organizations, two Regional Planning Agencies, three Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.  

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.  

Sincerely,  

Lisa Stafford  
Human Resources Manager  
Diversified Machine, Inc.
October 16, 2013

John W. Weiss, Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NE, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Dear Mr. Weiss,

I'm writing on behalf of the Hines Corporation in support of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council's grant application for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance.

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is intended to foster greater communication and collaboration among organizations involved in economic development, education, work-force development, regional planning and transportation agencies, local and state government, and private companies. The West Michigan Regional Prosperity Initiative will serve a 13 county area which includes over 340 local governments, 5 higher education institutions, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces, and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations.

We believe this funding will allow our region to pursue economic development strategies and leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

HINES CORPORATION

Sherry White
Human Resources