



## GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP • CANNON TOWNSHIP • CASCADE TOWNSHIP  
CEDAR SPRINGS COOPERSVILLE • COURTLAND TOWNSHIP • EAST GRAND RAPIDS • GAINES TOWNSHIP • GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP • GRAND RAPIDS • GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP • GRANDVILLE  
GREENVILLE • HASTINGS • HUDSONVILLE • IONIA • JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP • KENT COUNTY • KENTWOOD • LOWELL • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • OTTAWA COUNTY  
PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

# GVMC BOARD MEETING

## Electronic Meeting

Thu, Sep 3, 2020

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/659105573>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3112](tel:+15713173112)

Access Code: 659-105-573

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/659105573>

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes – Attachment
5. Oath of Office – Patricia Rayl, Village of Middleville
6. Acceptance of Audit FY 2018/19 - Attachment
  - Approval of Resolution
7. FY 2019/20 Budget Amendment – Attachment
  - Approval of Resolution
8. FY 2020/21 GVMC Budget - Attachment
  - Open Public Hearing
  - Closing of Public Hearing
  - Approval of Budget Resolution
9. Other
10. Adjourn

# GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

## Board Meeting

May 7, 2020

8:30 a.m.

Electronic Meeting

VIA GoToMeeting

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

Mike DeVries called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

#### Members Present:

Rick Baker	At-Large
Nora Balgoyen	At-Large Member
Rob Beahan	Cascade Township
Thad Beard	City of Rockford
Wayman Britt	Kent County
Mike Burns	City of Lowell
Tom Butcher	GVSU
Gary Carey	City of Walker
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Deb Diepenhorst	Cannon Township
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Rob DeWard	Gaines Township
Brian Donovan	At-Large
Adam Elenbaas	Allendale Township
Kevin Green	Algoma Township
George Haga	Ada Township
John Hoppough	City of Greenville
Diane Jones	Kent County
Steve Kepley	City of Kentwood
Doug LaFave	East Grand Rapids
Steve Maas	City of Grandville
Greg Madura	Alpine Township
Brenda McNabb-Stange	City of Hastings
John Niemela	City of Belding
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Megan Sall	City of Wyoming
Jonathan Seyferth	City of Coopersville
Julius Suchy	Village of Sparta
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County

Cameron VanWyngarden	Plainfield Township
Mike Verhulst	City of Grand Rapids
Mark Washington	City of Grand Rapids
Patrick Waterman	City of Hudsonville
Duane Weeks	Village of Middleville
Lynee Wells	City of Grand Rapids
Mike Womack	City of Cedar Springs

**Members Absent:**

Ken Bergwerff	Jamestown Township
Mandy Bolter	Kent County
Robyn Britton	Nelson Township
Joshua Eggleston	City of Wayland
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Rachel Gokey	Village of Sand Lake
Jerry Hale	Lowell Township
Jim Holtvluwer	Ottawa County
Bryan Harrison	Caledonia Township
Tom Hooker	Byron Township
Karen McCarthy	At-Large
Jeff Thornton	Village of Caledonia

**Others Present:**

John Weiss	Grand Valley Metro Council
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Wendy Ogilvie	Grand Valley Metro Council
Andrea Faber	Grand Valley Metro Council
Laurel Joseph	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Tyler Kent	MDOT

**Voting Tally GVMC Board Meeting May 2020**

Member	Quorum	REGIS Rebate	UPWP	MTP	Weighted Votes
Algoma	x	x	x	x	3
Ada	x	x	x	x	4
Allendale	x	x	x	x	6
Alpine	x	x	x	x	4
Belding	x	x	x	x	2
Byron					
Caledonia					
Village of Caledonia					
Cannon	x	x	x	x	4

Cascade	x	x	x	x	5
Cedar Springs	x	x	x	x	1
Coopersville	x	x	x	x	2
Courtland	x	x	x	x	3
East GR	x	x	x	x	3
Gaines	x	x	x	x	7
Georgetown	x	x	x	x	13
City of Grand Rapids -					51
Mark Washington	x	x	x	x	
Mike Verhulst	x	x	x	x	
Lynee Wells	x	x			
GR Township	x	x	x	x	5
Grandville	x	x	x	x	5
Greenville	x	x	x	x	3
Hastings	x	x	x	x	2
Hudsonville	x	x	x	x	2
Ionia					
Jamestown					
Kentwood	x	x	x	x	14
Lowell	x	x	x	x	2
Lowell Township					
Middleville	x	x	x	x	1
Nelson Township					
Plainfield	x	x	x	x	9
Rockford	x	x	x	x	2
Sand Lake					
Village of Sparta	x	x	x	x	2
Tallmadge					
Walker	x	x	x	x	7
Wyoming					20
Megan Sall	x	x	x	x	
Jack Poll	x	x	x	x	
Wayland					
GVSU - Tom Butcher	x	x			
Ottawa County - Al Vanderberg	x	x	x	x	10
Kent County Diane Jones	x	x	x	x	67
Kent County Wayman Britt	x	x	x	x	
At Large - Brian Donovan	x	x	x	x	1
At Large - Rick Baker			x	x	1
At Large -					

Karen McCarthy					
At Large - Nora Balgoyen	x	x	x	x	1
Total Weighted Vote					262

**2. Public Comment**

**None**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION – To Approve the February 2020 Board Minutes. MOVE – Behan. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. REGIS Rebate**

**A Resolution to Authorize a Rebate to REGIS Members**

Whereas, over the past five years REGIS, an agency of Grand Valley Metro Council has undergone a complete and total reorganization, and

Whereas, during the reorganization virtually all elements of REGIS including its operations, hardware and software, service model, processes, internal staffing organization, customer service and relationship to GVMC have been reorganized, and

Whereas, the results of the reorganization have impacted both revenue and expenses for REGIS in a positive manner, and

Whereas, previously. REGIS members have received rebates of \$100,000 in 2017, \$150,000 in 2018, and \$150,000 in 2019. A total of \$400,000 in 3 years.

Whereas, REGIS has been fully integrated into other GVMC programs allowing for the participation and assistance in state-wide and regional initiatives.

Whereas, GVMC staff are recommending to the GVMC Board a one-time rebate of REGIS Member Dues

Now therefore be it resolved that the GVMC Board of Directors authorizes a one-time rebate to current REGIS members on this day May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Be it further resolved, that the rebate will be a cumulative \$150,000 with each community receiving a share equal to the percentage of the total dues, the rebate amounts will be:

Ada Township	\$6,064.32
Alpine Township	\$4,824.49
Byron Township	\$9,453.14
Cascade Charter Township	\$8,341.06
City of Cedar Springs	\$1,281.06
City of East Grand Rapids	\$4,594.76
City of Grandville	\$6,470.27
City of Hudsonville	\$2,887.18
City of Kentwood	\$18,994.28
City of Lowell	\$1,674.50
City of Rockford	\$2,479.54
City of Walker	\$9,458.83
City of Wyoming	\$28,401.41
Gaines Charter Township	\$9,424.78
Grand Rapids Charter Township	\$7,612.51
Interurban Transit Partnership (The Rapid)	\$2,455.97
KCRC	\$9,893.52
Plainfield Charter Township	\$13,922.34
Sparta Village	\$1,766.05
Total Rebate:	\$150,000.00

Finally, GVMC and REGIS Board Members are asked to report this decision to their full township, city, village or county board.

**MOTION – To Approve the Regis Rebate Resolution as Listed Above. MOVE – Suchy. SUPPORT – MAAS. MOTION CARRIED (see rollcall tally).**

**5. Transportation – FY2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Public Comment  
Open 8:55 a.m.  
None  
Close 8:56 a.m.

The FY2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) includes the budget for all federally assisted transportation planning activities that the GVMC Transportation Division, the Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), will undertake. GVMC must submit the UPWP annually to the sponsoring federal agencies, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, prior to October 1st. It functions as the coordinated budget for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

The complete draft document is available online for review at <https://www.gvmc.org/unifiedplanning-work-program>. The work outlined in the program address all the federal planning factors, emphasis areas, and performance-based planning and programming requirements. Highlights include implementation of the recommendations from the 2045 MTP, development of a new safety outreach campaign, and continued engagement with freight and nonmotorized subcommittees, stakeholders, and the public to complete/update regional freight and nonmotorized plans. The GVMC Transportation Program receives its local match through dues assessed to the participating member agencies. As proposed, dues overall will remain the same in FY2021.

The Policy Committee recommended approval of the FY2021 UPWP at their April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**MOTION – To Approve the Resolution to Approve the UPWP. MOTION – Vanderberg. SUPPORT –Poll. MOTION CARRIED (see rollcall tally).**

**6. Transportation – 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**

Public Comment  
Open 9:10 a.m.  
None  
Close 9:11 a.m.

GVMC Staff presented the draft 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to the Board on February 6, 2020. At that time, the document had recently entered a 31-day public comment period, which concluded on March 2, 2020.

During the public comment period, we received 20 comments. All comments have been reviewed, responded to, and added to Appendix I of the MTP, starting on page 331.

Limited changes have been made to the document and include comments received to date as well as:

- A new appendix that details expected population growth by jurisdiction between 2015-2045
- Documentation of advertising for the public comment period
- Minor editorial updates

A public meeting was also held on Monday, February 10, at 5:30 pm at The Rapid. Seventeen people were in attendance, including five staff members from GVMC, two staff members from MDOT, one staff member from The Rapid, one representative from our PR firm, and eight members of the public—including a professor and student from GVSU and several members of Grand Rapids Climate Action. The members of the public expressed a variety of concerns, including these highlights:

- Educating the public about moving away from Single Occupant Vehicles (SOVs)
- Radically changing the document to better address the climate change emergency and to consider transit as the dominant means of travel in the future, including funding transit at 10 times the current level
- Improving the survey and response rate
- Better connecting land use and transportation, so that transportation drives land use instead of land use driving transportation

All of these comments were addressed at the meeting.

The Technical Committee approved the draft MTP with comments to date at their March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, and the document was scheduled to proceed to the Policy Committee on March 18. However, that meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and later rescheduled as a joint Tech/Policy Committee meeting on April 15. Between the March 4 Technical Committee meeting and the April 15 Tech/Policy meeting, two additional comments were received, which have been responded to and incorporated into the document, starting on page 343. At their joint meeting on April 15, the Technical and Policy Committees recommended approval of the draft 2045 MTP so that it could move forward to the GVMC Board for final approval.

Due to the large file size, **please access the draft 2045 MTP at [www.gvmc.org/mtp](http://www.gvmc.org/mtp).**

If you have any questions, please contact me at (616) 776-7603 or [andrea.faber@gvmc.org](mailto:andrea.faber@gvmc.org).

**Recommended Action:** Final approval of GVMC's 2045 MTP



**MOTION – To Approve the Resolution to Approve the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). MOVE – Vanderberg. SUPPORT – Carey. MOTION CARRIED (see roll call tally).**

**7. Other**

Diane Jones reported on PPE funding received by Kent County.

**8. Adjourn – 9:45 a.m.**

**OATH OF OFFICE**

STATE OF MICHIGAN     )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF KENT        )

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully perform the duties of the office of a member of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council, according to the best of my ability, so help me God.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Rayl – Village of Middleville

Subscribed and sworn to before me on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**2018-19**  
**Audit Acceptance Resolution**

Whereas, The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) is organized as a Council of Governments, and

Whereas, GVMC receives funds from a variety of federal, state, local and philanthropic sources, and

Whereas, in order to meet the requirements of these sources an official audit must be conducted on an annual basis, and

Whereas, in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and conducted by Vredeveld Haefner, LLC.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Directors of GVMC hereby accepts the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.

---

September 3, 2020

**REGIS Budget Amendment Resolution for Fiscal 2019-2020**

Whereas, the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) was organized as a Council of Governments in 1990; and

Whereas, GVMC now has 38 members from West Michigan including cities, villages, townships and counties; and

Whereas, the budgetary process at GVMC is highly transparent and the Fiscal 2019-2020 Budget was adopted on August 1, 2019; and

Whereas, REGIS an agency of GVMC serves 19 communities with GIS services, and

Whereas, after the completion of the prior year's audit, REGIS was able to pay its members a \$150,000 rebate bringing the total over the past 3 years to \$550,000, and

Whereas, from time to time changes in expected revenues, expenditures or project schedules warrant the need to amend the budget, and

Whereas, GVMC budgets on a functional level not a line item basis, and

Now Therefore be it Resolved, that the Board of Directors of GVMC hereby amends the Budget for Fiscal 2019-2020.

Be It Further Resolved that our amended functional budget for REGIS is as follows:

	<u>Original Revenue</u>	<u>Original Expenses</u>	<u>Amended Revenue</u>	<u>Amended Expenses</u>
REGIS Fund	\$761,356.07	\$755,710.02	\$757,352.00	\$778,710.02

(These amounts total a decrease in revenues of \$4,004 and an increase in expenses of \$23,000.00)

At the Regular Board of Directors Meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_ a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ supported by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt this Budget Amendment Resolution for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The vote was \_\_\_\_\_ yes to \_\_\_\_\_ no. Motion Adopted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike DeVries  
Chair, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP • CANNON TOWNSHIP • CASCADE TOWNSHIP • CEDAR SPRINGS COOPERSVILLE • COURTLAND TOWNSHIP • EAST GRAND RAPIDS • GAINES TOWNSHIP • GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP • GRAND RAPIDS • GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP • GRANDVILLE • GREENVILLE • HASTINGS HUDSONVILLE • IONIA • JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP • KENT COUNTY • KENTWOOD • LOWELL • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP • OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP ROCKFORD • SPARTA • SAND LAKE • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

DRAFT

Budget Resolution for Fiscal 2020-2021

Whereas, the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) was organized as a Council of Governments in 1990; and

Whereas, GVMC now has 38 members from West Michigan including cities, villages, townships and counties; and

Whereas, the budgetary process at GVMC is highly transparent and began in April and has had involvement by approximately 70 members or representatives of GVMC members; and

Whereas, GVMC has added many new programs and initiatives in the past few years; and

Whereas, GVMC has completed reorganization of its operations and a fiscal transformation; and

Whereas, GVMC has reached fiscal sustainability through increased revenue and dramatically reduced expenses and through staff reductions, privatization, program expansion, and reorganization we are able to adopt this balanced budget, and

Whereas, GVMC budgets on a functional level not a line item basis; and

Whereas, The Transportation Policy Committee, REGIS Executive Committee, and GVMC Executive Committee have reviewed the budget,

Now Therefore be it Resolved, that the Board of Directors of GVMC hereby adopts the Budget for Fiscal 2020-21.

Be It Further Resolved that our functional budgets are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Fund Name, Revenue, Expenses. Rows include General Fund, REGIS Fund, REGIS Capital, Environmental Programs, and Infrastructure Asset Mgmt.

At the Regular Board of Directors Meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_ 2020 a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ supported by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt this Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The vote was \_\_\_\_\_ yes to \_\_\_\_\_ no. Motion Adopted.

Michael DeVries
Chair, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Date

**TO: Grand Valley Metropolitan Council**

**FROM: John Weiss, Executive Director**

**DATE: July 20, 2020**

**RE: FY 2020-2021 Budget Message and Budget Resolution**

Below you will find the details of the FY2020-2021 Budget for all programs at GVMC. As you will see this is essentially a no-growth budget with an overall increase of only \$52,253.64 or 1.3%. Without the planned REGIS System Upgrade the budget would be a decrease of - 2.47%. Please contact me if you have questions or comments.

Most importantly, the Grand Valley Metro Council continues to be in a very strong financial, programmatic and budgetary position. We continue to be involved in many issues, have developed additional collaboration efforts and expanded those that already exist. We are continuing to bring in grants, fees for services and non-dues related revenues and have the highest level of public awareness and regional and state-wide leadership since our founding in 1990. Because we have reached fiscal sustainability through increased revenue and dramatically reduced expenses through staff reductions, privatization, program expansion, and reorganization we are able to present this balanced budget.

Attached for your review and consideration is the GVMC budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The budget utilizes revenues from GVMC general fund dues, transportation allocations, and project-specific grants to fund the activities of the Council's Strategic Initiatives, Transportation, Environmental, Infrastructure Asset Management and REGIS through September 30, 2021. The GVMC Budget is adopted at the function level, not on a line item basis.

The GVMC Executive Committee, and the REGIS Executive Committee have reviewed this budget. In addition, the GVMC Board has already adopted the Transportation/Unified Work Program at our May 2020 meeting. This approval comprises the majority of our General Fund Budget and was recommended by the Transportation Committees prior to our May approval.

This year we are once again using a very transparent approach to our budget with approximately 70 of our members actively involved in development process for the budget. We have also allowed time for review and consideration by the Board of Directors.

### **Key Budget Highlights for 2020-2021**

- The major aspects of this budget can be summed up quite simply:
  - The Transportation Budget as approved in May is \$3,175 less than last year.
  - The Environmental Programs Budget is reduced by \$93,122.75 from last year.
  - The REGIS Budget is decreased by \$1,248.61 from last year.
  - The REGIS Capital Fund expenditure has increased as planned by \$150,000 for the expenses involved in the 5- year system upgrade.
  - The Infrastructure Asset Management budget is the same.
- Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic delayed our plans to assist our region's communities in the implementation of Infrastructure Asset Management we will re-engage our efforts in their infrastructure asset management. Revenues for this program

were awarded through our leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Pilot in 2018 and as the Michigan Infrastructure Council continues its work, this budget item will be used to assist local communities to develop or continue or expand their asset management Programs.

- GVMC has completed its fiscal transformation and this is a balanced budget that continues expansion of our programs and services to our members. We have achieved financial stabilization, budget control, and fiscal sustainability.
- As our programs continue to grow and we have sought and received substantial non-dues related revenues through program and service expansion and calculated program growth. Our growth is funded through grants and fees for service.
- Five years ago, REGIS completed a total evaluation of all aspects of its system. This resulted in a complete renovation of its hardware and software. We were able to dramatically increase customer speed and system reliability while removing 17 servers from the system and reducing our utility costs by over 70%. We have developed a Capital Improvement Plan for REGIS. REGIS has also developed a Software Master Plan to guide future software investments and upgrades. This budget reflects the need for another hardware and software upgrade and system re-build in accordance with our Capital Improvement and Software Plans.
- In the past REGIS began the migration of data from Oracle to Microsoft. This software upgrade will save REGIS over \$171,000 before 2021. Microsoft is also the preferred vendor in all West Michigan governments. Continued software updates are provided for in this budget.
- Over the past 4 fiscal years REGIS has rebated to its members a total of \$550,000. These rebates occurred with no increase in dues and saved each of our members about 20% of their total dues. Depending on the final outcome of our system re-build we hope to provide our members with another rebate.
- In 2017, the REGIS Board of Directors and GVMC Board of Directors implemented an equity- based cost structure based on fixed multipliers for population and parcel counts. This policy requires reviews every 2 years for parcels and 10 years (with the census) for population. This budget reflects the spring 2019 parcel count data as required by the policy.
- In 2017, GVMC was awarded \$8,000,000 in USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program funding to restore habitat as part of the Grand River Restoration project and reduce erosion and sedimentation in the upstream watersheds of Indian Mill Creek and Rogue River. We are about halfway through this program and will continue meeting the goals of this grant in 2020-21.
- Work is gearing up on some exiting grants and several new grants that were awarded to GVMC Environmental Programs Department this past year:
  - Updating Buck Creek and Coldwater River watershed management plans
  - Stabilizing Alger Ravine severe erosion and monitoring its success
  - Increase tree canopy on multiple school campuses
  - Providing Rainscaping services to neighbors of various houses of workshops
- We continue to support Grand Rapids Whitewater and the Grand River Restoration project by providing project management assistance and applying for and securing grant funding. Our contract with GRWW for the 2020-21 budget year is \$16,000.
- GVMC continues to work with communities through the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits. Permits for all 23 entities we assist are expected to be reissued by the state this year.
- We estimate our environmental educational efforts reached approximately 5,000 students this year.

This budget reflects the continuing integration of all GVMC programs and operations with multiple collaborations, cost sharing and program efforts occurring between departments. This has resulted in program expansion and improved operational efficiencies.

**The Budget Calendar is as follows:** (Approximately 70 people have been involved in this process).

This year the process is changed slightly to allow for concurrent review of the budget by the REGIS and GVMC Executive Committees and Boards.

- April 15-Transportation Policy Committee Reviewed the Budget and recommended approval by the GVMC Board of Directors.
- May 7-The Unified Work Program (Transportation Budget) was adopted by the GVMC Board
- July 20-Draft 2020-2021 Budget sent to GVMC and REGIS Executive Committees for review and comments
- August 3- After Review by the Executive Committees the budget is distributed to Board Members and Posted on GVMC website
- September 3- GVMC Board Meeting (virtual) with public hearing and adoption of the budget and receiving of.
- October 1- Beginning of the new fiscal year

### **What is GVMC?**

The Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC) is a regional organization dedicated to promoting cooperation and coordination among local governments in the West Michigan area. Created in 1990, its membership now includes 38 local governments, representing nearly 750,000 people. Our mission is to advance the current and future well-being of our metropolitan area by bringing together public and private sectors to cooperatively advocate, plan for, and coordinate the provision of services and investments which have environmental, economic and social impact.

Included within GVMC are, Administration and Operations and the area Transportation Metropolitan Planning Organization with revenues of **\$1,968,886.00** and operating expenses of **\$1,917,145.00** Our REGIS (Regional Geographic Information System) serves 19 governmental units with revenues of **\$761,356.07** and expenses of **\$756,307.25**. REGIS also includes a fixed savings account of approximately **\$252,000.00** for REGIS Capital Equipment. We will utilize **\$150,000** of those funds for the system re-build and software upgrade in this budget. Finally, GVMC Environmental Programs has proposed revenues of **\$845,241.76** and operating expenses of **\$835,733.70**. **Please note that all GVMC Departmental Expenditure Budgets are reduced from last year's budget with the exception of the planned 5-year REGIS System Upgrade.**

In 2018, GVMC took the lead role as grant recipient and West Michigan chair the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Pilot. This pilot includes a 13 county West Michigan area with a population of over 1.5 million residents. The area covers an area of 8,163 square miles (about the size of New Jersey). There are over 130 miles of Lake Michigan Shoreline and the region extends 75 miles to the heart of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Working in collaboration with southeastern Michigan and over 60 communities from our area, the Infrastructure Pilot was hugely successful. Data on 15,000 miles of drinking water lines, 13,500 miles of sewer pipes and 6,700 storm-water pipes was collected from 163 communities.



In order to keep this effort moving forward, last year GVMC established an Infrastructure Asset Management Budget of **\$350,000** for further data collection and implementation of a regional and state-wide asset management program. The GVMC Executive Director is chair of the Michigan Infrastructure Council and one GVMC Board Member serves on the Water Asset Management Council. We have maintained the Infrastructure Asset Management Budget for 2020-2021 and hope to be able to re-engage our efforts to help local government in asset management self-assessment in this year.

**What are the major components of GVMC?**

**TRANSPORTATION**

The Transportation Department is responsible for managing long range, Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the **\$471.5 million** 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and the Annual Transportation Improvement Program for our region. This budget anticipates projects that will leverage **\$11.4 million** in local match to obtain **\$99.9 million** in state and federal revenues in FY2021. The Department is responsible for administering these programs using strict guidelines established by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). Transportation programs are generally funded on an 80/20 basis with the 20% local match being utilized to leverage 80% state and federal dollars. *The 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program Activities and Budget below was previously approved by the GVMC Board of Directors on May 7, 2020.*

In order to meet the federal and state requirements of the programs and provide the highest levels of coordination, there are six major focus areas for the Transportation Department. Also, I have provided the degree at which GVMC leverages local funding to obtain state and federal grants.

**1. DATABASE MANAGEMENT** – Listing the work tasks needed to monitor and analyze area travel characteristics and factors affecting travel such as socio-economic and land use data, transportation system data, and environmental issues and concerns. Priorities include data collection and analysis, monitoring, and GIS capabilities development and update. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$36,581	\$201,549

**2. LONG RANGE PLANNING** – Identifying transportation system planning tasks related to long range transportation systems planning. Priorities include the development/maintenance/update of the MTP, identification of long range transportation needs, goals, objectives, policies, improvements, monitoring, and updating and maintaining of the travel demand model. In cooperation with MDOT and ITP, develop, adopt, and implement performance based planning measures and targets that will help assess the performance of strategies aimed to improve the conditions and functionality of the transportation system. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$44,476	\$245,048

**3. SHORT RANGE PLANNING** – Identifying transportation system planning tasks related to short range transportation systems planning. Priorities include performance measurement, the development/update of the TIP, providing technical assistance and special studies to the MPO members, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) planning, safety planning, freight planning, non-motorized planning, managing the Clean Air Action Program, and performance measures/target implementation and monitoring. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$97,245	\$525,593

**4. TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS** – Listing the work tasks needed to monitor area travel characteristics and factors affecting congestion and pavement conditions. Priorities include collecting transportation system data and analysis, coordination with MDOT and local transportation providers, development of congestion and pavement investment plans, and implementation and monitoring of ITS solutions. GVMC is also involved in a statewide effort to develop, collect data, coordinate with MDOT on performance measures and targets for the NHS system, and implement Michigan’s Asset Management System. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$79,794	\$463,636

**5. PROGRAM COORDINATION** – Describing task functions required to manage the transportation planning process on a continual basis, including program administration, development, review, and reporting. Priorities include the UPWP, public involvement, environmental justice, timely submittal of documents, MPO scheduled meetings, and coordination with all MPO member units. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$49,567	\$273,096

**6. LAND USE MONITORING AND TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION** – Linking land use decision-making and transportation planning throughout the region in a more effective way. Priorities include monitoring the development of local land use and transportation plans and coordinating with regional partners; updating land use related socio-economic data for use in the travel demand model (TDM); ongoing meetings with GVMC membership to coordinate local plans and policies related to land use and transportation with the intention of bringing about region-wide consensus for sustainable development and providing support for the basic

elements of livability, environmental protection/enhancement, economic viability and performance measures; updating socio-economic (SE) land use data for use in the travel demand model; scenario planning; other long- and short-range planning needs studies in compliance with the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process; and collaborating with REGIS to contribute to the maintenance of the regional zoning and future land use geodatabases. Revenues for the activities under this are listed below.

LOCAL	TOTAL
\$9,530	\$52,509

### **REGIS- Regional Geographic Information System**

For the past 21 years, REGIS has been a single centralized GIS department for 19 local governments. REGIS operates on annual revenues of **\$761,356.07** and expenses of **\$756,307.25** This budget anticipates the addition of one additional GIS Analyst in the second quarter 2021 and does not replace the REGIS Director position. The REGIS Directors duties have been assumed by the GVMC Executive Director. In addition, REGIS has a Capital Fund budgeted of approximately **\$252,000,00.** for future equipment needs. We are planning to invest **\$150,000** of our Capital Fund to implement our 5-year System Upgrade. REGIS is one point of service to local governments, the private sector, the education community and our citizens. Once again, we are anticipating revenues for REGIS beyond the dues structure. In the past member dues were close to 100% of REGIS revenues, that percentage lowers each year as the REGIS team works as integral part of GVMC.

In addition to the significant financial gains and collaborations achieved through the REGIS reorganization, operational changes resulted in the establishment of several very active committees. REGIS has a Board of Directors, Advisory Committee, and Technical Committee. The Technical Committee are a group of higher skilled GIS leaders that meet regularly to discuss issues, strategies and system and service enhancements. The Advisory Committee is directly involved in operational decisions and service priorities that will improve REGIS services at the user level. Working closely with REGIS staff, the REGIS Board and each-other, the committees are helping to determine the future operational direction for REGIS. System leadership and direction is directly determined by the members.

REGIS/GVMC organized and will continue to lead the West Michigan GIS Users Group. This collaborative effort that was part of our REGIS Reorganization Plan has over 40 members representing local government and private companies from throughout West Michigan. We are very pleased to continue to play a leadership role in GIS throughout Michigan.

In July of 2016, the REGIS Board of Directors approved an equity-based dues structure with fixed multipliers for all member based on population and parcel count. This budget continues the equity-based system. In the past four fiscal years REGIS has rebated **\$550,000** to its 19 member communities.

### **Environmental Programs Department**

Our goal in creating an Environmental Department was to elevate GVMC and our member communities as significant and recognized environmental leaders in our region. Local government is responsible for water quality; wastewater and storm-water management and our members are very much at the forefront of these issues. As we worked and planned for, we have experienced tremendous but focused and managed growth in our programs, influence and

public awareness. GVMC is one of the largest and most influential environmental programs in Michigan. Budgets and revenues are cyclical and grant driven. As such, we anticipate fluctuations in the program and grant opportunities and priorities change.

LGROW is an agency of GVMC managed through our Environmental Programs Department and is dedicated to the preservation, improvement and monitoring of the Lower Grand River. LGROW is an excellent example of cooperation and collaboration in our area. As a broad stakeholder organization dedicated to the ongoing health, use and enjoyment of the Grand River. The Lower Grand River Watershed covers 1.8 million acres of property, 2,900 square miles and all or portions of 10 counties.

The 23 municipalities in the Lower Grand River Watershed and Grand Valley State University (four campuses) are required to have NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits. They are working together through LGROW to comply with stormwater discharge permits required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. EGLE is still reviewing those applications and contracts are in place for GVMC to manage the program on behalf of our members into the future. We anticipate that new discharge permits will be issued in fiscal 2019-2020 dramatically increasing our responsibilities in assisting our members to maintain compliance with the new regulations. Funding for the Environmental Programs comes as earned revenue from fees for the MS4 program, LGROW memberships and grants. The total budget for our Environmental Program is **\$845,241.86** with expenses **\$835,733.70**. In the past we received \$250,000 per year from the State of Michigan for the SAW Grant. These funds were directly applied to the NPDES program costs to provide services and projects of regional stormwater significance without increasing dues. The end of the SAW program and reduction in the RCPP program and other grants will result in a revenue decline of over \$93,000. Our programs have been adjusted accordingly.

LGROW's Annual Grand River Spring Forum saw record attendance even though Covid-19 forced it to be a virtual seminar. Our leadership and involvement have dramatically raised the profile of GVMC as an environmental leader and collaborator while providing additional opportunities and services to our members. Our Environmental Programs staff will continue to expand our GVMC influence and involvement in a wide variety of programs that impact West Michigan's environment.

## **STRATEGIC INITIATIVES and VISION**

In the past, the Board of Directors adopted nine Strategic Initiatives in which to focus our efforts in collaboration and cooperation. Those initiatives are:

1. Managing Emerging Issues
2. Encouraging Collaborative Service Sharing
3. Coordinating a Region-Wide Training Exchange
4. Nurturing a Regional Economic Development Partnership
5. Planning for Sustainable Communities
6. Regional Leader in Collaboration Efforts-Facilitator
7. Communicate/Educate Regarding GVMC and Regions
8. Focus on Core Competencies (Transportation, Environment, GIS, Regional Prosperity Initiative, Council of Governments)

## 9. Increase Lansing/Washington Connection

By focusing our efforts on these nine strategic initiatives, we have made dramatic improvements to our communications, involvement, transparency, member participation and influence in each of these critical areas.

### **GENERAL FUND BUDGET AT A GLANCE**

**Net Revenue \$1,968,886.00 to expenses of \$1,917,145.00** equals net income of **\$1,741.00**

As in the past, this budget is conservative in nature and no contingent funding is included.

Through conservative budgeting and operational controls GVMC has significantly improved our financial stability over the past eight years by leveraging our financial resources and controlling costs. This effort has resulted in improved stabilization of our financial resources.

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021 we will continue to privatize finance resulting in a dramatic decrease in cost for financial administration. We will continue to share the services of our finance director with the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council which is the MPO for the Holland/Zeeland area. This partnership has resulted in a significant reduction in costs for GVMC and even more for MDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

### **BUDGET ALIGNS WITH GVMC'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

This budget includes sufficient resources to support GVMC's strategic goals, objectives and initiatives for the entire fiscal year and all Transportation, Environmental, REGIS and GVMC program needs. Our goal in this budget is to continue to advance the resources, staff skills of GVMC and to align our resources with the needs of our members while bringing increased value. This effort will involve continued evaluation and evolution of GVMC and the Executive Director and Executive Committee are constantly monitoring our programs.

The budget also supports our on-going collaborative initiatives with the other agencies, the Governor's Office and agencies of state government, Members of Congress, federal agencies, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, The Right Place, private business and others. We are also working closely with many of our member governments on a wide variety of issues involving legislation, taxation and discussions on enhanced cooperation and collaboration. Our past leadership of the Regional Prosperity Initiative has also increased our exposure on a regional and state-wide level and has brought increased opportunities for GVMC to participate on broader regional and state-wide issues. In addition, through the chairmanship of the Michigan Infrastructure Council, the Executive Director has direct contact with infrastructure leaders throughout Michigan in both the public sector and private utilities and senior leaders in state government.

### **MONITORING COSTS AND CUTTING EXPENDITURES**

Employee health care costs are projected to rise ten (10) percent. Estimates for our dental insurance coverage will not be available at this time, but an increase has been factored into our budget. Due to the nature of our policies and coverage's available our increase is not anticipated beyond ten percent. As in the past, we have been very diligent in working with our staff and insurance consultants to hold down employee health care costs. Historically, GVMC's health insurance costs have been held to a minimum because each year, as we prepare the next fiscal year budget, we take steps to modify GVMC's employee health insurance plan to control costs.