



GVMC DAS Tower Update

The GVMC DAS Tower Consortium is a collaboration of over 20 Michigan local governments that worked collectively with local telecommunication providers to establish a model permitting process and fee structure to: (1) create regional consistency, (2) be business friendly, (3) recognize the need for increased cellular capacity, (4) be good stewards of the public ROW, and (5) recognize our individual community nuances.

They also created a model ordinance and permitting process that can be adopted by your community. Its development has demonstrated a proactive and thoughtful way of establishing a permitting process and fees in concert with the telecommunication agencies. If you are interested in implementing a model ordinance and permitting process within your community please contact Gayle at mccrathg@gvmc.org. You do not have to be a GVMC member to participate in the DAS Consortium.

Our DAS Consortium recently submitted a brief to the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of our region in response to a Mobilite (DAS provider) petition to the FCC. Mobilite is contesting local government's ability to control its own rights of way, to administer the rights of way as they see fit and to charge for usage of the public rights of way. If you have questions about this issue or would like to read the brief submitted on our behalf please feel free to contact us.

*Mark Rambo,
Kentwood Deputy City Administrator*

Kent County Crisis Intervention Team



Over the past several months GVMC has been working with the Kent County Chiefs of Police Association and the Kent County Sheriff's Department in creating a Kent County Crisis Intervention Team (KCCIT).

The KCCIT is a driven by law enforcement to improve police-citizen interactions by fostering better understanding. Historically, mental health training for law enforcement has been an afterthought due in large part to limited resources and the need to train in so many other critical areas. KCCIT will change that.

The team relies on two essential components: an established working relationship between key stakeholders and training for police, dispatchers and corrections personnel to effectively engage with the mental health system of care.

Nationally, studies indicate that creation of a Crisis Intervention Team has many positive outcomes: a reduction in the use of

force, fewer officer injuries and fewer injuries to the person in the crisis.

Our May Board of Directors meeting will be dedicated to this initiative with presentations from law enforcement and medical leaders.

GVMC Board Of Directors Welcomes New Members



At our March Board of Directors Meeting, GVMC was pleased to welcome four new members. Three new Township Supervisors and one City Manager joined our Board. Robyn Britton is the new Supervisor of Nelson Township. She along with supervisors Rob DeWaard of Gaines Township and Adam Elenbas of Allendale Township took the oath of office. City Manager Michael Burns of the City of Lowell also officially joined us.