Governor Snyder to Release Findings of Infrastructure Pilot in Early May

Our work continues on the 21st Century Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot. In April of 2017, Governor Snyder asked GVMC in cooperation with SEMCOG (South East Michigan Council of Governments) and WMSRDC (West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission) to develop an asset management pilot.

This year long effort has been very successful and over 60 communities in west Michigan have been participating. The program seeks to:

- Build a culture of asset management across Michigan.
- Develop consistent standards and maintenance practices and also a standardized rating systems for various assets.
- Create opportunities for coordinated planning and communication between both public and private utilities.
- Develop systems that will help communities better understand their infrastructure assets, map those assets and make informed decisions at the local, regional and state levels.

The two pilot areas, west Michigan and southeast Michigan have worked very well together through this process. Also, many state agencies have been involved in developing the pilot.

As the work progressed over 40 Subject Matter Experts met to discuss the most important factors involved in the various infrastructure asset classes. The work involved transportation, drinking water, wastewater, storm water, energy and broadband.

A large part of the work involved collecting data and developing a central depository for a great deal of data. Collecting and interpreting data from communities was a big effort with a great deal of leadership from GVMC/REGIS, WMSRDC, SEMCOG, and also the MDOT.

A great help to our smaller rural communities came from the West

Michigan Prosperity Alliance. Our Regional Prosperity Alliance Board offered mini-grants to help with the resources necessary to organize and collect their data. Without the help of the Prosperity Alliance many small communities would not have had the resources to participate.

Numerous meetings took place during the process and some of our larger communities volunteered to assist smaller communities to participate. This truly was a large scale collaborative effort that involved large and small jurisdictions from our 13 county region.

This was certainly one of the largest inter-governmental cooperative efforts in our state's history.

