

VILLAGE OF SARANAC

Cooperation, Collaboration and Consolidation of Services Plan

Prepared Pursuant to Public Act 63 of 2011

Economic Vitality Incentive Program

January 22, 2013 (revised May 2013)

Available for public review at 27 N Bridge Street, Saranac (Village Office) and at www.villageofsaranacmi.org

PLANNED SERVICE CONSOLIDATIONS – *previous year status update*

<u>Description of Service</u>	<u>Participating Units</u>	<u>Estimated Cost Savings</u>
Emergency Medical Services & Fire Protection	Townships of Boston, Keene, Easton & Berlin	\$75,000 (annually)

An Amended and Restated Fire Department Cooperative Agreement (new cooperative agreement) was signed by The Village of Saranac and Boston Township, in January 2012. The entities first discussed the need for a new agreement, in March of 2009. As part of the new cooperative agreement, Boston Township is sharing in a larger percentage of capital outlay items (from 50/50 to 60/40, Boston/Village), thereby creating a cost savings for the village. In addition, an Amended and Restated Emergency Medical Services and Fire Protection Agreement (new EMS & FP agreement) was signed by the Saranac Community Volunteer Fire Department (SCVFD) and Keene Township. Easton Township is expected to sign a new EMS & FP agreement as well, thereby maintaining that relationship and further clarifying cost sharing. The only barrier encountered was with Berlin Township. The agreement currently in place, does not address Capital Outlay items. The SCVFD included in the new EMS & FP agreement, a provision for paying a percentage of capital outlay items, as well as operating costs. In a recent letter addressed to Sharon Darby, Saranac Village President, Berlin Township expressed their desire to continue a relationship with the SCVFD, where they contribute to operating expenses only, not Capital Outlay items. The SCVFD has not formally addressed this as of yet and continues to operate under the existing agreement with Berlin Township, which is renewable in one year terms unless one party notifies the other in writing of its termination.

Rail Trail Construction – Ionia to Saranac	City of Ionia, County of Ionia, Michigan DNR, Michigan DOT, Friends of Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail	\$100,000 (one time)
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This project has not been completed, however the cost savings noted in last year's CCC status report is still expected. The Village of Saranac was formally requested by the City of Ionia to be part of the planning/development process of the portion of the trail from Saranac to Ionia in November 2010, however Village officials and personnel began attending meetings of the West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition as early as November 2008. The project is expected to go out for bid in June 2013, with construction completed by the end of summer, 2013. The project was set back from its original completion date due to the fact that the project limits had to be reduced as well as the budget, for the Transportation Enhancement grant.

Election Services	Boston Township	\$1,000 (bi-annually)
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The Village did not conduct an election in 2012. Amendments to village election law, effective March 27, 2013, require village general elections be held at the general November election, which is conducted by Boston township. Therefore, from this point forward, the Village of Saranac will not conduct their own elections, resulting in an approximate bi-annual savings of \$1,000.

PLANNED SERVICE CONSOLIDATIONS – new

Road Maintenance Projects	Ionia County	7 – 14% (per project)
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In the past, the Village of Saranac has entered into road maintenance projects with Ionia County. Fleis & VandenBrink, engineers for the village and the county estimate that both entities realize an approximate cost savings of 7 to 14% of the project cost, when collaborative efforts are utilized. This includes cost savings on engineering services as well as construction. It is surmised, that combining the projects may attract more competitive bidders, resulting in a cost savings for both entities. There are currently no collaborative projects slated for the 2013/2014 budget year. However, the village DPW Director communicates with county personnel on a regular basis (quarterly, or more often if opportunity arises), as it pertains to road maintenance collaborative opportunities.