

**VILLAGE OF KENT CITY,  
MICHIGAN**

**Economic Vitality Incentive Program  
(EVIP) Cooperation, Collaboration  
and Consolidation Plan 1-2013**

VILLAGE COUNCIL MEMBERS: John Petruska, President  
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## **Village of Kent City Cooperation, Consolidation and Collaboration Plan**

**January 31, 2013**

The Village of Kent City is submitting a plan to the Michigan Department of Treasury in accordance with the State of Michigan Public Act 63 of 2011. This report will show exiting examples of consolidated services, cooperation between neighboring municipalities and collaboration of ideas of future savings and growth between us.

### **Existing Consolidation of Services**

Fire Department

Tax Assessor

Building Inspector

Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical Inspector

County Policing

### **Collaboration**

Purchasing Items from the county program – [reverseautionbid.org](http://reverseautionbid.org)

Purchasing Items from Kent County Road Commission

Purchasing Items from the state program - MIDeal

REGIS

Senior Neighbors

Road Maintenance-Kent County

### **Previous Proposals**

The Villages of Sparta, Kent City and Casnovia looked at combining bids from outside sources to lower our mobilization fees. Last year the only project that fit this need was striping some of our streets. We will continue to look at combining our purchasing of outside sources to save on expenses.

Our second proposal was to attempt a joint purchase of a mobile vacuum and televising truck for our sewer systems thru a grant for funding. We have a schedule of cleaning and televising a portion of our system every two years which costs the Village of Kent City approximately \$9,000. This proposal was not high on Sparta's list of ideas to try to accomplish this year but will still be investigated.

We are currently looking at a few plans for our proposals for 2013.

The Villages of Sparta and Kent City are looking at a connecting non-motorized trail to connect our two municipalities. This plan could increase non-motorized transportation and increase joint park services.

The Villages of Sparta, Casnovia and Kent City are examining the idea of a regional marketing plan. By combining all of our resources, we can advertise the attributes and amenities of each community as a regional destination to visit, play, work and live.

Another idea that is being looked at is combining the Villages DDA programs. Sparta has a successful program and both Kent City and Casnovia could benefit by combining services by taking advantage of Sparta having a full time DDA director.

During the course of 2012, there were several examples of collaboration between the Villages of Sparta and Kent City. The Village of Sparta had several extra flag holders left over from a project that they sold to Kent City at a very low cost saving our Village over \$1,000. Kent City passed on some information on a source for a new fire truck to Sparta that they added to their bid list and saved them nearly \$20,000.

The Villages are in contact with each other quite often to discuss and share ideas to help maintain and increase services and to pass on information to cut costs. We have a good working relationship between us and this will help us both remain viable for our residents for years to come.