

Village of Concord
110 Hanover Street
P.O. Box 306
Concord, MI 49237

(Concord Cooperation Plan)

As part of the new Michigan government requirements to improve intergovernmental cooperation throughout state and local governments, the Village of Concord has developed this report for our residents.

The Village of Concord hopes that you enjoy this document and find its contents useful to you. If you have any questions about the content of this document, please contact the Village Office, either by personally visiting the office at 110 Hanover Street, by phone at 517-524-8534 or through email at concordvillage@cablespeed.com.

Village of Concord, Michigan

Plan to Cooperate, Collaborate and Consolidate Services

Category 2 of the State of Michigan
Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP)

The Village of Concord has a long history of collaborating with other governmental entities, especially with Concord Township. In many cases, we could not provide some of the services that we do without the collaboration with the township. The level of services that we can provide to our residents is much greater than if we had to provide these services to our residents by ourselves. We have found that many of the services enhance both the Village of Concord and Concord Township greatly.

We do find that the cost savings is difficult to calculate. We are a very small Village and any cost savings to us is great. This plan is required to list the cost savings for each collaboration. We have tried to list them as accurately as possible.

Please bear in mind that not all collaborative efforts are undertaken for the cost savings reasons. Sometimes the effort is just good public policy and a joint approach makes life easier for the residents involved. This report will be focused on the cost savings to the Village of Concord only. It will not attempt to calculate the overall net savings of the collaboration.

Current Collaborations and Consolidations:

The Concord Fire Department is a shared service with Concord Township. Without a collaborative effort, it would be virtually impossible for the Village of Concord to provide fire protection to our residents. By working together, we have a greater level of service. The 2012 fire budget is \$107,930.00, which is shared equally with the township. Because of this collaboration, the fire department was able to purchase a new fire truck in 2011, which will benefit the entire community. By combining this department with the township, we are able to have a larger and better equipped department than we could otherwise afford and without the township, we would probably have to either downsize the department and service levels, try to raise revenues or completely dissolve the department altogether, due to funding. Our cost savings for 2012 is \$52,965.00.

The Village of Concord is a member of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, which is a joint venture with many other government agencies to provide liability and property insurance for the Village. Our partners are 200 Michigan cities, villages, townships, counties and special districts, with a total budget of \$45,763,461, of which the Village of Concord contributes. Our cost savings is very difficult to estimate. It is sometimes difficult to purchase commercial insurance for a municipality and being a member of MML insures us that this joint venture will always afford us the luxury of having a competitive price for insurance.

The Village of Concord is also a member of the Michigan Municipal League's Worker's Compensation Fund, which is a joint venture to handle worker's compensation claims. Our

partners in this venture are 845 Michigan cities, villages, townships and counties with an annual budget of \$27,734,243, of which Concord contributes. The cost savings is very difficult to even estimate.

Our Police Services are offered to the Village of Hanover and to Concord Township. While the Village of Hanover pays a flat hourly fee, the township of Concord pays approximately 40% of our police budget each year. The police budget for the Village of Concord for the year of 2012 is \$143,817.00. Cost savings to the Village is roughly 50,632.00. Again, if there were not this arrangement with the Village of Hanover and with Concord Township, we would probably not be able to afford police protection on our own.

The Village of Concord participates in the Michigan Municipal League drug and alcohol testing program for all of our employees who possess a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Under federal regulations, all employers who have positions that require CDL certification must have a random testing for drugs and alcohol. Our partners in this endeavor are not only the village, but also the Michigan Municipal League and many other Michigan cities and villages. The pool provides administrative oversight and organizes the testing program. Having an outside pool select the candidates for testing helps ensure the randomness of the choices and also ensures that the Village of Concord remains in compliance with the rules.

A couple of other things that we are involved in currently is the procurement of office supply items through Jackson County and have cooperative fuel purchasing with the Police Department and the Concord Fire Department. The cost savings is unknown, since we just began this in late 2011.

Upcoming Avenue of Cooperation:

An upcoming collaboration is with Concord Township. The Village of Concord needs to have a new Master Plan and so does the township of Concord. The two entities have met and agreed to have Region 2 do both plans at the same time and Region 2 will split the cost between the Village of Concord and Concord Township. An approach from the village by itself would have cost about \$6,800.00, but now will only cost the Village approximately \$3,400.00