



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebration for Longtime Administrator Daryl Delabbio on June 27

GRAND RAPIDS – The public is invited to celebrate the retirement of Kent County Administrator/Controller Daryl Delabbio. Delabbio retires on June 30, 2017, wrapping up a career spanning four decades in municipal management. **The Community is invited to celebrate during an Open House at DeVos Performance Hall in the Outer Lobby on June 27, 2017 from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. (please see attached flyer).**

Delabbio has held the Kent County Administrator/Controller role since 1998, after three years as Assistant County Administrator. Prior to working at Kent County, he was City Manager in Rockford for 11 years and served in two other Michigan cities. During his tenure Delabbio successfully built partnerships within the community and made it a priority to provide excellent customer service and encourage diversity and inclusion throughout the County.

Delabbio considers his in-house training programs and the formation of the Cultural Insight Council among his greatest achievements. He is humble when discussing his work in public service. "What I appreciate is the service element," Delabbio says of working for the County for more than two decades. "Knowing that you can make a difference for a lot of people. Knowing you are part of something bigger than yourself. Knowing that it is a calling, a vocation - not a job. Knowing that there are selfless, dedicated and committed individuals that earnestly serve our community is rewarding."

Delabbio was part of an initial group of community leaders who worked with Grand Action and the State of Michigan to make the DeVos Place Convention Center a success. He has worked closely with Experience Grand Rapids and The Right Place, Inc., who promote our region on national and international platforms. Delabbio and his staff are dedicated to financial stability, receiving Triple-A Bond Ratings from Standard and Poor's and Moody's Investor Services for 19 consecutive years, including those years when the national economy struggled.

Kent County Board of Commissioners' Chair Jim Saalfeld commented, "When a leader leaves a job, you hope it's left in better shape than when he or she arrived. Today, I believe Kent County is in as good of shape as it has ever been, and Daryl has played a significant role in getting us there, working with the elected leaders, and spearheading successful public/private partnerships with other local units of government, the private sector, and the philanthropic community. It has been a great honor to work by Daryl's side, and more importantly, it is an honor to call him friend."

Assistant Administrator Wayman Britt will act as interim County Administrator. Chair Saalfeld oversees a subcommittee that is currently leading the search for a permanent Administrator/Controller. He anticipates an executive firm will be selected in July to start a nationwide search.

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