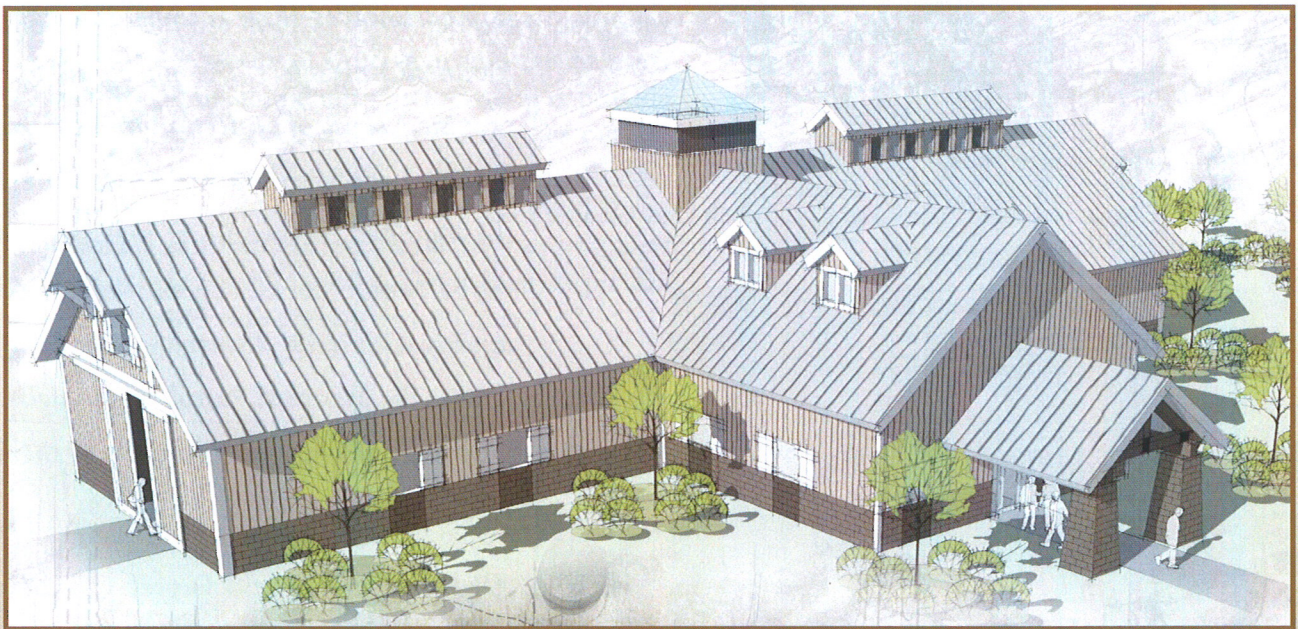


Kent County Sheriff Department Mounted Unit



*Training and Community Riding Center
Capital Campaign*



Grand Rapids has matured and developed into a world-class destination for events and has seen its downtown businesses and investments flourish through the diversity of its activities and people. Part of the allure and majesty of Grand Rapids are the big city amenities without the bother of leaving mid-west values behind. Downtown is highlighted by river walks, bridges, unique architecture and stunning cityscape views alive with distinctive food, music, dancing, and an energy unmatched by other similarly sized cities.

Part of the growth and success of Grand Rapids can be attributed to the commitment by law enforcement officials to provide a safe and enjoyable place to work, live and play. Similar to large European cities and major American metropolitan areas, Mounted Unit police play a critical part in safety, comfort and overall performance of an event. One Mounted Unit officer sits high above a crowd and is the equivalent of ten on-foot officers. They are an effective and efficient policing tool that has been part of the downtown fabric since 2007.

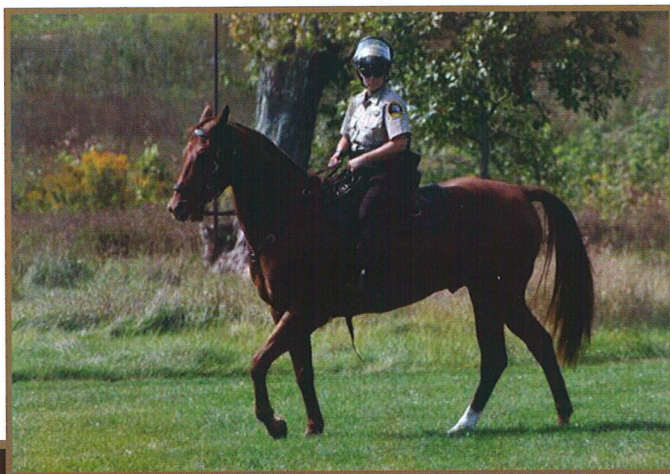
The Kent County Sheriff's Mounted Unit are fully-trained volunteers who contribute thousands of hours annually and save local police departments and officials hundreds of thousands of dollars each year by providing policing and safety detail at major events throughout the city and county. Nearly 80% of the Mounted Unit assignments are in partnership with the Grand Rapids Police Department in the downtown district for events such as ArtPrize, Celebration on the Grand, Blues on the Mall, 4th of July, New Year's Eve, the River Bank Run, Metro Cruise, concerts, ethnic celebrations and more. The Mounted Unit also serves as the one of the few Search and Rescue teams in the State, often called on to find the lost or abducted.

Please join in this important campaign and support the Mounted Unit Division Training and Community Riding Center. Phase 1 of the campaign was successfully completed in 2011 and we have nearly achieved our Phase 2 campaign goals, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO THE FINISH LINE! The Peter Cook Foundation will contribute the last \$150,000 as a Challenge Grant, so our final need is down to only \$250,000.

\$1,140,000	Total Project Estimated Cost
\$890,000	Original Goal
\$250,000	Donated Land
\$200,000	Cash-on-Hand
\$170,000	Funds Already Invested
\$120,000	Outstanding Pledges
<hr/>	
\$150,000	Cook Foundation Challenge Grant Pledged
\$250,000	Estimate Fundraising Goal to Reach Our Goal

“The elevated position of Mounted Officers makes them six times more visible and helps to spot and deter certain types of crime. However, there is something more a Mounted Unit offers. The officer and horse provide a sense of protection to the citizens making use of public areas. On the streets, the Mounted Patrol officers’ high position, visibility and mobility enable them to deal quickly with street disturbances and traffic issues. The Mounted Patrol brings high visibility and presence - connecting them to the community they serve.”

-US Homeland Security Expert



Building and Training Needs

A permanent training facility is needed to ensure the longevity and specialized training of the Unit. The most visible and essential parts of the campaign include an expansive indoor training arena for year-round training and a multi-use auxiliary outdoor arena for our Sheriff Department horses, as well as use for 4-H, local middle and high school equestrian team riders and recreational riding for our Veterans and local emergency first responders. A comprehensive break-down is listed below.

Total Budget and Investment - \$890,000

Indoor Training and Riding Arena for Year-Round Training – 20,000 sq. feet
Public observation area, restrooms, training, meeting & classroom space
Stalls for visiting horses, clinics and competitions

Auxiliary/Outdoor Riding Arena
Public observation and viewing area
Sound and Lighting

Building Infrastructure – roads, utilities, access areas, parking, etc.

2+ new pasture areas, fencing for perimeter

1.5 mile public riding and walking trail

Security details, fire suppression, signage & wayfinding

Community Programs and Initiatives

In addition to Police Mounted Unit training at the facility, we'll offer equestrian programs that will provide residents, young and old, with constructive activities centered on horsemanship, equine sports and education.

Youth Summer Camp
Community Service Learning and Education Credits
Youth Group Discovery Days
Horses For Heroes
4-H, Middle and High School Equestrian Teams

By creating a multi-use facility for community programs and the horses of the Mounted Unit, opportunities to teach and reach youth will be abundant. Such programs provide participants the chance to experience opportunities outside of their neighborhoods and to meet a diversity of people, including other youth and adults. Children will build social skills, teamwork and experience a world far beyond their own, preparing them for life and enabling them to picture their place in the world with endless possibilities.



In 2011, the Kent County Parks Department donated 30 acres of rolling property located in NE Grand Rapids for the Mounted Unit Campaign, valued at over \$250,000.

Since inception, the Mounted Unit has experienced 400% growth in assignments in just 5 years. Last year, the Mounted Patrol were called to duty on 55 separate dates and events.

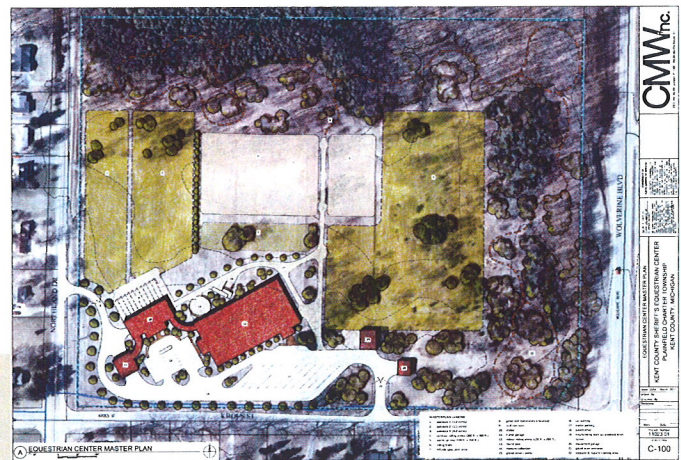
The Mounted Unit of the Kent County Sheriff's Department proudly serves all residents of Kent County, helping our communities provide a safer and more enjoyable place to live and work. You may have seen us on patrol at many of the large community events around downtown or throughout the county. The Mounted Unit also patrols Millennium Park and provides Search and Rescue operations throughout the State of Michigan. We are committed to community and educational partnerships that enhance the quality of life in Kent County. Inner-city youth riding and educational programs, summer camps, field trips for school children and youth groups, recreational riding for military veterans, and local school equestrian competitions and clinics are only a few planned initiatives in our new facilities that help mentor, educate and build-up the character and self-worth of individuals. Thank you for your interest and commitment to our community. Please join me in supporting the campaign.



Larry Stelma
Kent County Sheriff

Please join me in supporting the Sheriff's Department Mounted Unit Campaign. The Mounted Unit is an integral part of the safety and security of downtown Grand Rapids during the most important activities that the City offers. Every significant downtown event requires additional policing and the Mounted Unit is an effective and specialized crowd control Unit that GRPD is proud to call on and partner with. Partner with us in this important campaign. As our city continues to grow, so does the need for a well-trained and well-equipped Mounted Unit.

Kevin Belk
Grand Rapids Police Chief



The Mounted Unit and the Kent County Traffic Squad Safety and Community Action Fund is a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit group and charitable gifts and donations are tax deductible to the extent of IRS regulations. Donations can be mailed to Sheriff Stelma, 701 Ball Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Naming opportunities are numerous and we are happy to share them with you upon your request. Regardless of gift size, all donations will be appreciated and recognized. For additional campaign information, please contact:

Peter Secchia, Campaign Chair
616-235-0010

Chad L. Wieber, Project Advisor
616-366-3780