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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 7, 2016

**COUNTY TAKES TWO MAJOR STEPS TOWARDS COMPLETING GRATIOT JAIL**  
**Settles Jail Construction Case with AECOM and Ghafari**  
**Retains Carter Goble Associates, LLC (CGL) to serve as the County's Owner's Representative**

**DETROIT** — Today, based on the recommendation of Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and Corporation Counsel, the Wayne County Commission approved a settlement with AECOM and Ghafari, the original design engineers/architects for the Gratiot Jail site. The agreement provides Wayne County with a \$2.5 million payment from AECOM and Ghafari, dismissal of all counter-claims against the County and the Building Authority and undisputed ownership of all design documents including documents outlining a new design for a Gratiot jail. These documents are essential for the County to move forward with completing the jail.

Wayne County Commissioners also approved a nearly \$4 million contract with Carter Goble Associates, LLC (CGL). CGL will serve as the County's Owner Representative on the jail project. The South Carolina based company has extensive experience building jails. CGL's scope of services include the development and issuance of the design-build RFP and any other subcontractor agreements, reviewing RFPs and contractor selection, project plan review and managing the project budget. According to the Wayne County Office of Auditor General's Report, a major problem leading to the debacle of the partially-built jail was the County's failure to have a consistent, competent and conflict-free owner's representative overseeing the jail project.

"The Commission's decision to approve the settlement agreement with AECOM and Ghafari puts us one step closer to removing the eyesore that the unfinished jail site has become," said County Executive Evans. "Now that we have settled with AECOM and Ghafari, we can focus on completing the Gratiot jail, the next step is preparing and then issuing a Design/Build RFP. CGL will be instrumental in helping the County with the significant task of preparing this RFP."

In December 2015, Wayne County entered into an Interim Settlement Agreement with AECOM and Ghafari which required the preparation of concept plans and cost estimates to complete the jail. The Interim Settlement Agreement also provided a detailed road map for project completion. However, after extensive discussions with CGL on the best way for the County to proceed, it was the

Administration's recommendation to approve the current settlement agreement in lieu of the Interim Settlement Agreement.

"Wayne County is moving forward with plans to finish the jail on the Gratiot site because it meets the needs of the County and the County believes it is the most cost-effective option," said County Executive Evans. "However, until the Design/Build RFP process is complete and a bid has been received that the County desires to accept for completing the jail on Gratiot, the County will cooperate with the group headed by Dan Gilbert and Tom Gores or those associated with that group in exploring alternative sites. The County will not use any of its funds to explore alternative options and it will only consider an alternate option that meets the County's needs at no additional cost to its taxpayers. "

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