

## Dear Mayor Schor,

September 30, 2022

After careful consideration and thoughtful deliberation, the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) will be supporting the city of Lansing Public Safety Bond proposal on the Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> general election ballot.

Our business community and Lansing residents all agree on the important role of public safety for our economic growth. In voter research conducted by the Chamber in 2021, survey respondents in the City of Lansing identified public safety as their highest priority, rising above other traditionally top-of-mind issues including jobs, economy, roads, and infrastructure. Earlier this summer in the city's 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, survey respondents indicated that public safety was a top 3 priority outside of roads and neighborhood investment.

The Lansing Regional Chamber believes Public Safety is an essential government service and should be a top priority for every municipality to 1). Provide a safe environment for residents, 2). Ensure neighborhoods are safe for families, 3). Give confidence to employers that their employees and customers are safe, and 4). Ensure that every visitor to our state's capital city can enjoy the amenities our communities offer safely.

Collectively, we need to demonstrate strong community support for the work our public safety officers are doing to assist with attracting and retaining top talent. Updating the infrastructure is a critically important component but we must continue to work towards improving public safety overall.

If voters approve this proposal on Nov. 8, we strongly encourage the city and its owner representatives to incorporate deferred maintenance into the proposal budget. Without this commitment, we will be dealing with the same challenges in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this bond proposal. We are pleased to be a partner with the city on this important public safety campaign.

Sincerely,

Tim Daman President & CEO Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

cc. Lansing Deputy Mayor Shelbi Frayer Lansing Police Chief Sosebee Lansing Fire Chief Sturdivant Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope Lansing City Council River Caddis