

March 16, 2023

Eagle Township Board of Trustees
Clinton County Planning Commission
Clinton County Board of Commissioners

RE: Proposed Eagle Township Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus

On behalf of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to urge support for the proposed Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus (MMIC) in Eagle Township and the re-zoning required to allow for development on this site. The future of any community is determined by its access to good jobs, creative opportunities, and a good quality of life.

This relatively limited site is surrounded by existing development. There is industrial to the south already poised for continued development and a commercially developed interstate interchange to the north. All on a state highway already busy with trucks and traffic. MSU and 12 adjacent private property owners (farmers) have already willingly entered agreements and have indicated they wish to utilize their private property in this proposed manner.

As we think about our future, it is our duty to secure a prosperous and hopeful community for the generations to come, our kids and grandkids, just as our forefathers and mothers have done for us. States like Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky are working around the clock, right now, to attract high end clean technology companies and talent from all over the country, creating large sites for transformative companies. It's time for us to do the same. That's what the Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus is all about. Our collective future.

This is the only site, not only in our region, but in the state, and one of the few in the country, that is properly suited for such a creative and smart development. As our country urgently re-shores and competes for top technological companies to come back and build/make in the United States of America, creating thousands of good permanent jobs and construction jobs for our working families, we are also securing our country's future in an increasingly dangerous world.

As a region, we are lucky to have such a potentially accessible, rare, and perfect site. It is bookended by an interstate interchange and an industrial park/airport, located on a state highway, and but 15 minutes from Michigan State University, Lansing Community College and downtowns Lansing and East Lansing. This remarkable site offers a truly historic opportunity for us all in Eagle Township, Clinton County, the region, state, and country.

This development will bring engineering and professional service careers to the area, along with production jobs. The site will also have a transformative, positive economic impact, across the region and

state, for locally owned small main street businesses, service providers of all varieties, technology supply chains, places of worship, property values and new net revenue for the public services we all want like schools, roads, parks, police, and fire.

Through the Eagle Township/Clinton County master planning process, we'll be able to work together to attract development while preserving our proud heritage of farming and protecting the integrity of our community. By dedicating about a half percent of current agricultural land in Clinton County for the Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus, we'll be able to attract new jobs and invest in Eagle Township and Clinton County's future.

It has been proven over the 15+ years since past transformative projects like the GM Delta Assembly plant in Delta Township and Jackson National Life in Alaiedon Township, that well-planned greenfield projects that generate good-paying career path jobs produce tremendous economic opportunity, while preserving farmland away from the urban core. The location of the MMIC site in Eagle Township is positioned to do the same.

Change is never easy, but change is happening continuously. The key is to manage it smartly, pragmatically and to have as little impact as possible on rural areas further out from where development, people, and infrastructure currently exist.

On behalf of the Chamber, I ask that you vote to amend the master plan and make the Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus a reality.

Sincerely,



Tim Daman
President & CEO
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce