



September 8, 2023

Lansing City Council
124 W. Michigan Ave.
10th Floor City Hall
Lansing, MI 48933

Lansing City Council members,

On behalf of our combined organizations, we are writing regarding the upcoming fall agenda and the incredible opportunities that lie ahead. With the recent state budget approval of millions of dollars secured for our region, it's imperative to highlight the overall efforts to advocate for these dollars in the context of our broader regional aspirations with the main focus on the city of Lansing.

Central to our endeavors is the understanding of the pivotal role that a vibrant downtown plays not only for our city but also for the entire region and the state of Michigan. Our capital city's downtown is more than just a geographical center; it is the heart of our community, a symbol of our shared identity, and a cornerstone of economic and cultural vitality. A thriving downtown has positive effects that impact the entire region, attracting visitors, fostering innovation, and contributing significantly to the state's economic prosperity.

In recognition of the critical importance of positioning our region for future growth more than a dozen regional and statewide organizations joined together to embrace what we called the Capital Region Improvement Support Package. We spent a lot of time talking to our partners to make sure we're all on the same page about what's important. The package had different parts, like helping our small businesses and communities, making sure people have good skills and jobs, fixing our water and electric systems, improving our roads and transportation, and supporting social services and housing.

Once we had the plan in place, we spent months working with our Capitol Caucus members, specifically, Senate Appropriations Chair Sarah Anthony and House Appropriations Chair Angela Witwer on the package of regional requests during the budget process. By the end of the process, we were able to secure more than \$240 million for our region with a majority of those funds being appropriated for the city of Lansing.

This fall, this Council has a tremendous opportunity to show everyone where our city is heading. Support for several of these projects will make a difference in how our city grows and changes for the better. Your work as the Lansing City Council is important, and your decisions will shape what happens to our city in the years to come.

We look forward to working with you this fall and advancing several of these projects so we can position our city for future growth and success!

Sincerely,

Tim Daman
President & CEO
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

Laurie Strauss Baumer
President & CEO
Capital Region Community Foundation

Bob Trezise
President & CEO
Lansing Economic Area Partnership

Jim Snell
Executive Director
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

Julie Pingston
President & CEO
Choose Lansing

Bob Showers
Board Chair
Clinton County Board of Commissioners |
Capital Council of Governments

Scott Keith
President & CEO
Lansing Entertainment & Public Facilities
Authority

Jim Mott
Board Chair
Eaton County Board of Commissioners | Capital
Council of Governments

Meghan Webber
CEO
Greater Lansing Association of REALTORS®

Ryan Sebolt
Board Chair
Ingham County Board of Commissioners |
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Nicole Noll-Williams
President & CEO
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