

I-69 International Trade Corridor Next Michigan Development Corporation

Project Overview

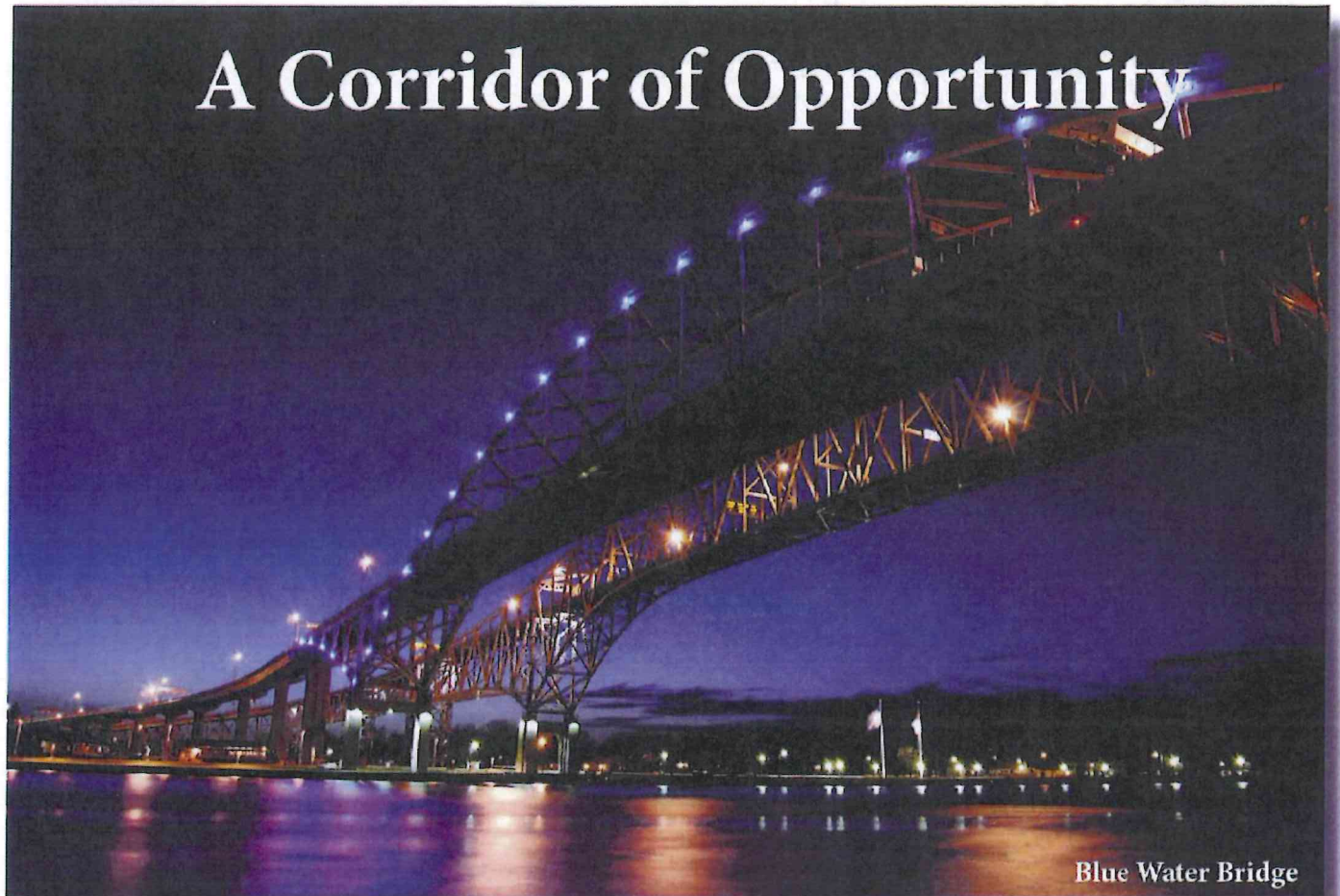


Signing ceremony with 33 participating municipalities

I-69 International Trade Corridor Next Michigan Development Corporation



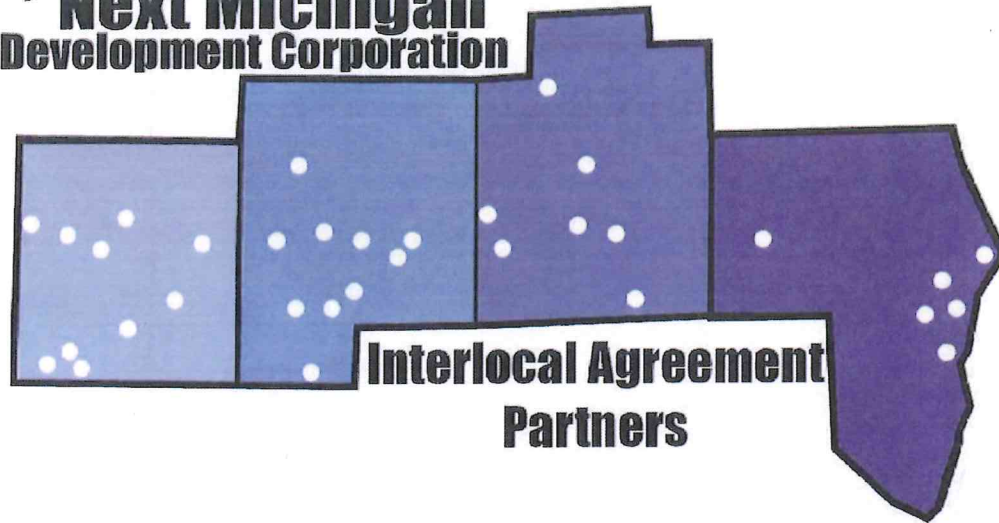
A Corridor of Opportunity



Blue Water Bridge

- **Counties in partnership: St. Clair, Lapeer, Genesee, and Shiawassee Counties**
- **Strategies focus on capturing portion of trade volume passing through our region AND increasing exports by our strong business base**
- **Upjohn Institute Market Study**
 - **Potential for direct job creation of 18,000 direct jobs**
 - **Indirect jobs of an additional 20,700 (Total jobs 38,700)**
- **Assets of the region create a new opportunity for jobs and development**
 - **MDOT "Corridor of International Significance"**
 - **Blue Water Canadian Border Crossing; Bishop International Airport passenger & freight; I-69, I-94, I-75, US-23; CN, CSX and other rail-ways; St. Clair River water ports**

I-69 International Trade Corridor
**Next Michigan
Development Corporation**



Shiawassee County

City of Corunna
City of Durand
City of Owosso
City of Perry
Perry Township
Vernon Township
Village of Lennon
Village of Morrice
Village of Vernon

Shiawassee County Board of Commissioners

Genesee County

City of Burton
City of Fenton
City of Flint
City of Grand Blanc
Davison Township
Flint Township
Grand Blanc Township
Mt. Morris Township
Mundy Township

Genesee County Board of Commissioners

Lapeer County

Attica Township
City of Lapeer
Imlay City
Lapeer Township
Village of Almont
Village of North Branch

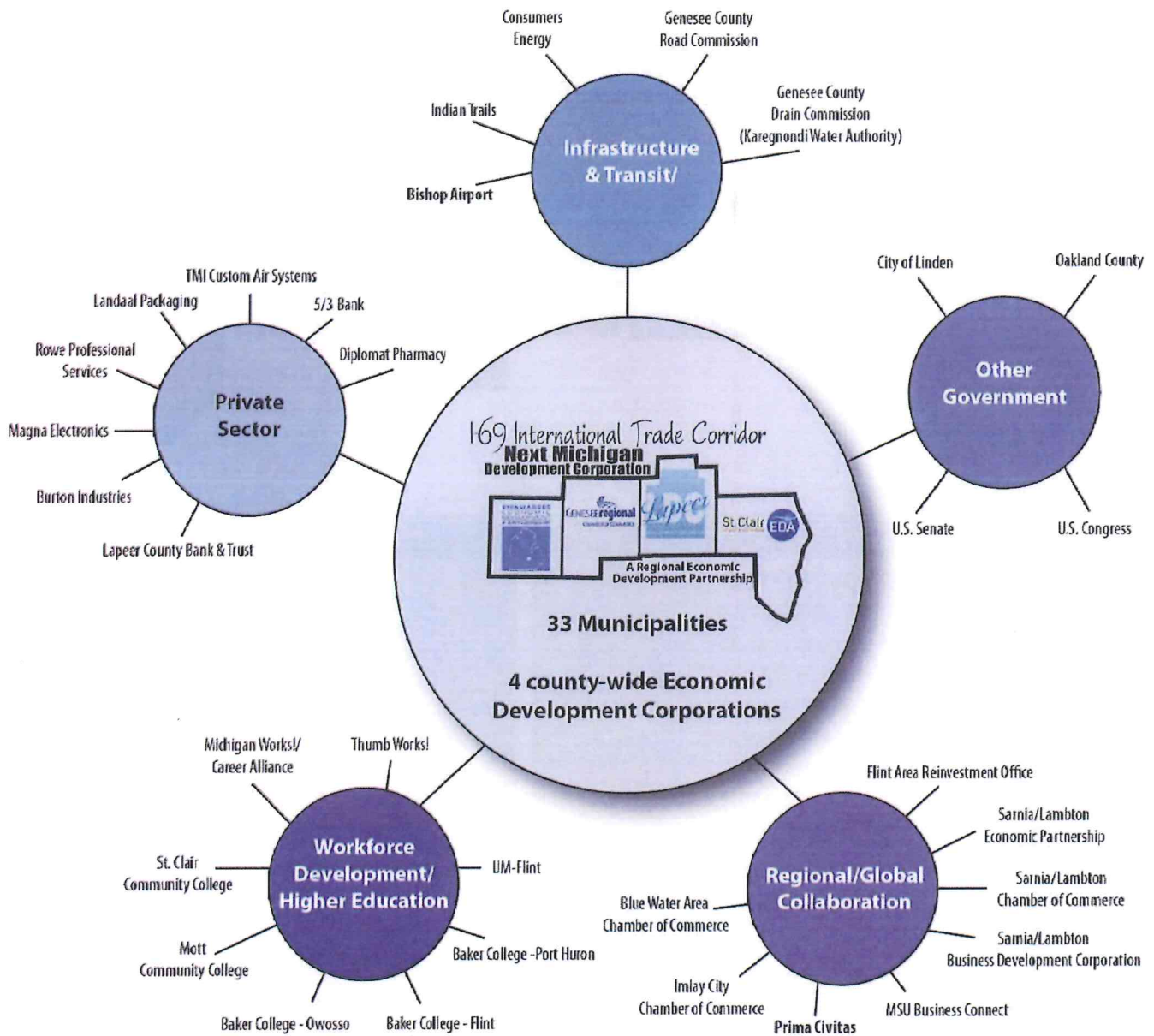
Lapeer County Board of Commissioners

St. Clair County

City of Marine City
City of Marysville
City of Port Huron
City of St. Clair
St. Clair Township

St. Clair County Board of Commissioners

Support for the NMDC



Recent Press Coverage

Aerotropolis designation could mean more than 36,000 jobs for Interstate 69 corridor

Published: Friday, February 17, 2012, 11:18 AM

By Roberto Acosta | racosta1@mlive.com



FLINT TOWNSHIP, Michigan -- Genesee County Commissioner Jamie Curtis called an impending aerotropolis designation for the Flint area and partners in Shiawassee, Lapeer and St. Clair counties a momentous occasion.

"It's history in the making. This is a one-time opportunity," said Curtis of the designation that would allow for tax incentives for 33 communities -- including 10 in Genesee County -- along the Interstate 69 corridor. "This is the tool for the toolbox to bring jobs to the area."

The partnership has been in the works for nearly one year. The idea was made possible through state legislation passed 2010 in December.

"I look at what we have today, and I am very proud," said Jim Rice, director of Bishop International Airport, during the Next Michigan Development Corp.'s first meeting Thursday. "What it means is you all, right here, are working to make our future brighter."

An application is being sent to the Michigan Strategic Fund to make the I-69 corridor an aerotropolis. Approval of the application, possibly during the Feb. 22 Michigan Economic Development Corp. meeting, is the final step.

Gov. Rick Snyder has already signed off on the corporation's approval, soon to be one of five in the state and third behind groups in the Lansing area and Wayne County. Traverse City has also shown interest in the aerotropolis designation.

The move would allow the group's partners to offer tax incentives to businesses hoping to do work or move into the area. The intent is to attract work in multi-modal



Roberto Acosta | Flint Journal Community and business leaders from four counties gathered Thursday at Flint Township's Bishop International Airport during the first Next Michigan Development Corporation meeting.

transportation opportunities, including airports, rail lines and highways.

Janice Karcher, vice president of economic development for the Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce, said a market study performed during the process found 21,000 jobs could be created over a 20-year period with another 15,000 possible through residual business.

"This allows us to promote ourselves and it registers with different parts of the world," she said.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said with the city's location between Toronto and Chicago, "We offer a great location for new companies in any type of shipping and transportation."

Rice said the airport could expand with jobs in shipping by manufacturing companies or the cargo sector, while also

handling public and private air travel. Dan Casey, chief executive officer of the Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County, called the move important to regain control of perspective for communities.

"We have shipping on the Great Lakes, the ports are still there, but they're not being utilized like they should be," he said. "(This move) will create a new tax base, create new jobs, create new energy."

Curtis emphasized the need to work with other communities, so none are left behind in a changing business environment.

"If we don't collaborate and come together as a region, you won't have the opportunity to bring those businesses here," he said.

"There's no borders anymore" in business.

Recent Press Coverage

Officials set up intercounty trade group

Argus Press

Posted: Friday, February 17, 2012 12:00 pm

By CHRISTINA GUENTHNER, Argus-Press Staff Writer

FLINT TWP. — Representatives from nearly 33 municipalities Thursday formally agreed to create the I-69 International Trade Corridor Next Michigan Development Corporation during a meeting at Bishop International Airport.

Gov. Rick Snyder's recent approval of the interlocal agreement moves the partners one step closer to the culmination of a year-long effort to form the consortium, which will focus on promoting the area as a transportation hub.



The Argus-Press



Argus-Press Photo by Christina Guenther

Shiawassee County Administrator Margaret McAvoy, front right, and Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership President and CEO Justin Horvath, seated left, take part in a "mock signing" of an interlocal agreement that will create the I-69 International Trade Corridor. Representatives from 33 municipalities participating in the collaboration are gathered around them. The agreement has been approved by Gov. Rick Snyder, but awaits final approval from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

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ECONOMIC development officials and county government representatives from Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer and St. Clair counties conducted a ceremonial signing of the I-69 International Trade Corridor's application Thursday afternoon, Feb. 16, at Flint's Bishop International Airport as many regional public and private sector partners looked on. The application is for a Next Michigan Development Corporation (Aerotropolis).

Shiawassee County's signers were (at left) Justin Horvath, president and CEO of the Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership, and Shiawassee County Administrator Margaret McAvoy. To Horvath's left is Don Crawford, Owosso's city manager. Standing behind Horvath is Durand City Manager Amy Roddy, who is the SEDP's board chair.

(Courtesy Photo/GENESEE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)