



Media Contact: Stephanie Baron, Press Secretary

Phone: 313-967-1039

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Next Michigan Development Act Passes Senate, Moves Michigan and Aerotropolis Forward

Projected \$10 billion in economic investment, 64,000 jobs projected

Lansing, MI – At 5 a.m. this morning, a critical decision was made to transform the landscape of Michigan. After more than four years of tireless work, the Next Michigan Development Act (NMDA) passed the legislature, thus now allowing for continued aggressive courtship of private investment around the regions most valuable assets: Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run Airport.

“This is about jobs, jobs, jobs, and getting people back to work. Now, we await the governor’s signature in the coming weeks to make things official,” stated Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano. “I want to commend and thank the legislature for seeing the importance in this set of bills, as they are pivotal in continuing regional collaboration and elevating Michigan as the place to do business.”

NMDA, made up of six bills, includes tax incentives throughout the nine communities, all of which have signed an intergovernmental agreement to be part of the Aerotropolis Development Corporation (ADC). Included in the package are up to 12 Renaissance Zones, pivotal to further development of the 60,000 acre development area.

“This provides Michigan with a huge advantage when competing with other cities, many of which have already started exploring their own Aerotropolis development. We now have the ability to use our unique assets to put Michigan back to work.” Ficano said. “This was a tremendous bi-partisan effort, and I’d like to thank Senators Bishop and Allen, as well as Representatives Geiss and Walsh for their perseverance.”

Business Leaders for Michigan (BLM) commissioned an independent study on the economic impact of the Aerotropolis. The study projected \$10 billion in economic activity and 64,000 jobs over time.

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Supporters and endorsers of the Act include:

Governments, Civic Organizations, Elected Officials

Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation

Wayne County, Washtenaw County, City of Romulus, Charter Township of Van Buren, City of Taylor, City of Belleville, Ypsilanti Charter Township, City of Ypsilanti, Huron Charter Township

City of Detroit, City of Grand Rapids, Conference of Western Wayne, Downriver Community Conference, Michigan Municipal League, Wayne County Airport Authority, Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Department of Transportation, The Center for Michigan

Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County Executive

L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive

Businesses, Business Leaders & Organizations:

Businesses/Organizations

Detroit Regional Chamber, Business Leaders for Michigan, Michigan Business & Professional Association, Michigan Hispanic Chamber, NextEnergy, TechTown, Ghafari Associates, Ashley Capital, Indian Trails, Inc., NEAPCO Drivelines LLC, People's Transit, Ricardo, Inc., PVS Chemicals, New York Life Insurance, DTE Energy, Client Focused Solutions, LLC, UPS, U of M College of Business – Dearborn, Wade Trim

Business Leaders

Doug Rothwell, CEO, Business Leaders for Michigan; John Rakolta, CEO, Walbridge; John Donofrio, Visteon Corporation; Philip M. Skarich, IRIS Design Inc.; James A. Murray, AT&T; Paul Fontaine, Fontaine Urban Design; Reginald Turner, Clark Hill PLC

Labor Groups

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 58, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324, Ironworkers Local 25, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Michigan Teamsters Joint Council 43, UAW Region 1A

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