

GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM

February 3, 2006

Hello, this is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Michigan officially has Super Bowl fever.

I was in downtown Detroit just yesterday, as final preparations were being made for the big game, and I have to say: the Motor City is absolutely ready to welcome the world to Michigan.

And so, what will the world see when they come to Detroit for Super Bowl 40?

They'll see thousands of volunteers from every part of Michigan ready to lend a helping hand.

They'll see a downtown with retailers and great restaurants.

And most of all, they'll see a three hundred year old city that's making itself new again. The new Detroit.

Strong cities are so important to Michigan. We need vibrant core communities to anchor our regional economies and to be what cities have always been – centers of culture and commerce.

From Grand Rapids to the Traverse City area, and from Marquette to Monroe to Macomb County, over the last three years my administration has found ways to help Michigan's cities help themselves.

We've worked to provide tools to invest in vibrant downtowns.

We've given local communities incentives to construct affordable housing for city-dwellers.

And our Jobs Today Initiative is investing \$3 billion in the infrastructure that's vital to our communities – from roads and bridges, to sewer repair, to brownfield clean-up, riverfront restoration and more.

Of course, our work to grow Michigan's economy will help our cities, too. The \$2 billion Jobs for Michigan Fund, which we're putting to work this month, is a great incentive to attract businesses from other states.

And they'll find a lot to like about Michigan. When CNN/Money magazine picked its best places to live in America last year, four Michigan cities made the prestigious cut: Saline, Rochester, Dewitt and Caledonia. [*Top 100 finalists*]

What a great statement about our quality of life – a quality of life that we're working to maintain for all our families, wherever you live in Michigan, through a comprehensive economic plan.

From investing in infrastructure, to growing new jobs and diversifying our economy, to giving all our children a great education, our plan is all about the opportunity to live a great life in one of our great cities in the Great Lakes state.

Thank you for listening, and have a great Super Bowl weekend.