

THE MICHIGAN PORT COLLABORATIVE

Diverse leaders from port communities launched the Michigan Port Collaborative recognizing that our Great Lakes and coastal assets are absolutely key to growing jobs, businesses and tourism.

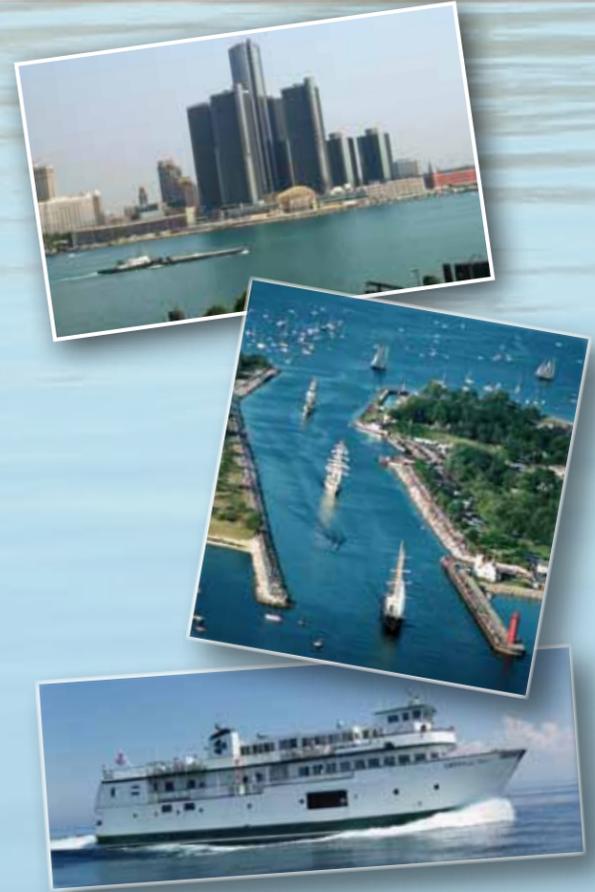
Together, local elected and development officials, cargo shipping, ferry, marina and harbor operators, manufacturing, business, tourism, convention and visitors bureau leaders, museums, lighthouse and underwater preserve groups, consultants, planners, educators, nonprofit groups, tribal leaders, state and federal partners are uniting Michigan's ports to:

- Advance common policy and budget priorities in Lansing and Washington D.C.
- Develop and sustain diverse transportation services.
- Showcase Michigan's rich maritime heritage and bountiful natural beauty.
- Build Great Lakes stewardship.
- Share resources, news, innovative ideas and best practices.

THE MICHIGAN PORT COLLABORATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

John Kerr, Chair
Detroit / Wayne County Port Authority
Lisa Shanley, Vice Chair for Outreach
South Haven Convention & Visitors Bureau
Fred Stonehouse, Vice Chair for Policy
Marquette City Commission
Felicia Fairchild, Vice Chair for Media
Saugatuck /Douglas Convention & Visitors Bureau
Dennis Blue
Small Harbors Coalition
Marci Cisneros
Grand Haven Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Tim Ervin
Manistee County Community Foundation
Deb Evashevski
St. Ignace Downtown Development Association
Marci Fogal
Blue Water Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Don Gilmet
City of Alpena
Beach Hall
Mayor, Rogers City
Linda Hoath
Sault Ste. Marie Convention & Visitors Bureau
Helen Pasakarnis
Tax Increment Finance Authority, East Tawas
Ken Pott
Heritage Museum & Cultural Center, St. Joseph
Greg Stewart
City of Luna Pier
Janessa Smit
Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce
Patti Stowell
City of Bay City
Hans Van Sumeren
Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City

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THANKS THE FOLLOWING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
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-CAROL LINTEAU - MICHIGAN DNRE

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to the Michigan DNRE for the Michigan Port Collaborative



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MISSION STATEMENT

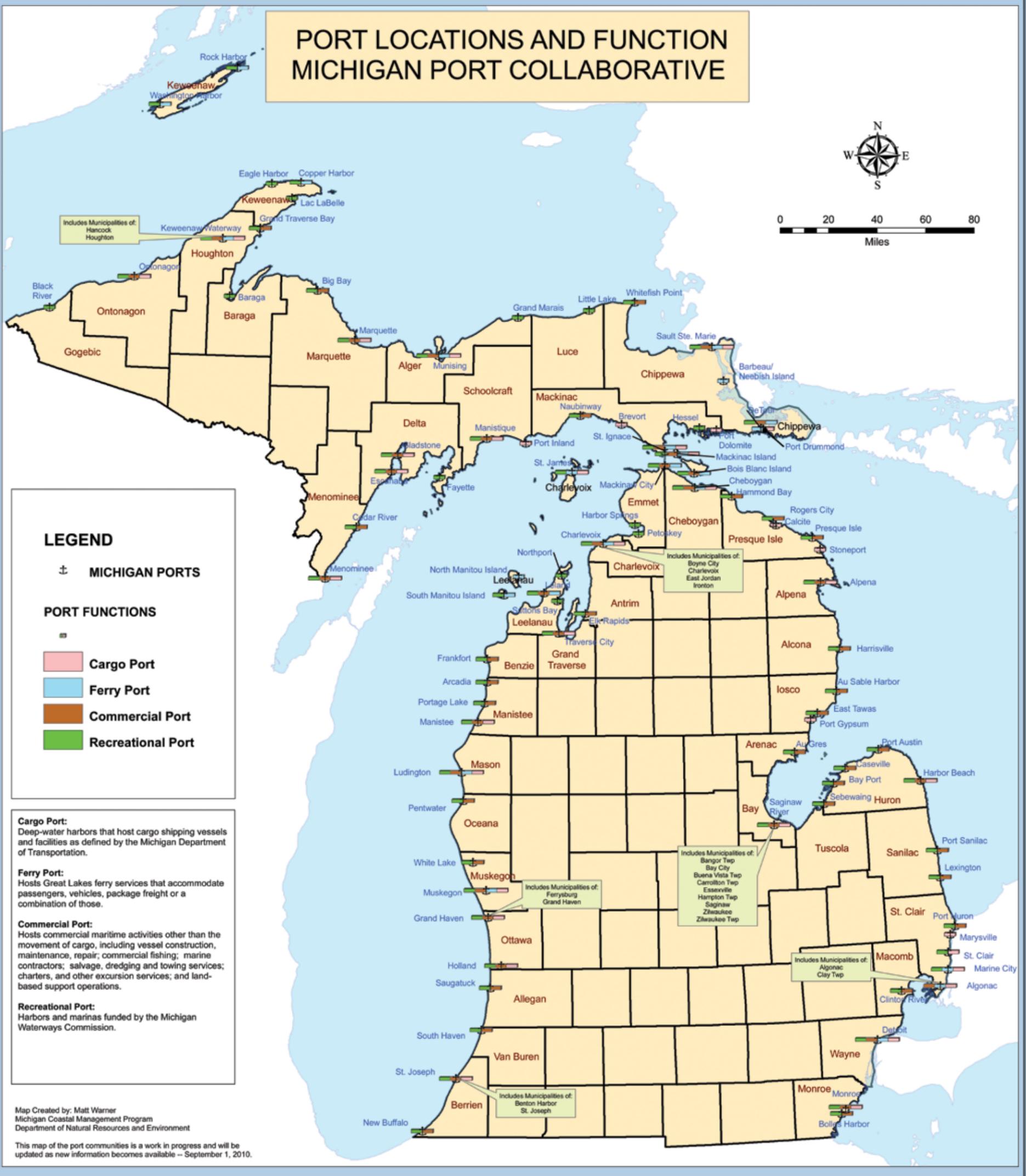
The Michigan Port Collaborative unites port communities working to develop our Great Lakes and coastline as "Michigan's Front Door". We recognize that our Great Lakes, ports and coastal assets are unique in the world and are critical to future efforts to revitalize the Michigan economy. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining a robust waterfront economy that integrates marine passenger and freight transportation, commercial maritime operations, recreation, tourism and maritime history while protecting our Great Lakes.



POLICY PRIORITIES

- **Expand Freight Transport on the Great Lakes and Exempt New Cargoes from the Federal Harbor Maintenance Tax** ... to foster short sea shipping as a clean alternative to our nation's congested highways.
- **Require the Federal Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to be Fully and Solely Used for its Intended Purpose...** dredging, infrastructure, operation and maintenance of federally authorized ports.
- **Improve Access to Michigan Ports for Canadian Boaters and Foreign Cruise Ship Passengers** ... we will work with local, state, US Customs and Border Protection officials to achieve this goal.
- **Promote Passenger Cruises Between Michigan Ports and other US Great Lakes Ports** ... opening Michigan's Front Door to new opportunities in waterfront travel.
- **Maximize and Leverage Funding for Great Lakes Restoration and Protection** ... our freshwater seas define our state, provide us with clean drinking water, recreation, fishing and commerce. We will work to increase funding to keep our air, land and water clean, restore contaminated sites and return them to productive use, protect sensitive habitat and sustain a healthy environment.
- **Position Michigan Ports to Partner in Alternative Energy Development in Michigan and the Region...** renewable energy for Michigan consumers, businesses and vehicles will require our ports and transportation partners to import and export renewable energy equipment, as well as support manufacturing and maintenance of equipment and technology.
- **Advance Education and Training for Port-Related Jobs** ... we are working with businesses, educators and port communities to identify the port-related jobs of the future and advocate for public and private partnerships and funding to meet workforce needs.
- **Preserve and Share Michigan's Rich Natural and Maritime Heritage** ... our Great Lakes and freshwater shoreline offer unparalleled opportunities for recreation, tourism and experiencing authentic maritime history. Additional State and Federal incentives and funding are essential to showcase Michigan's unique and splendid assets, state and national parks, shipwreck preserves, lighthouses and historic places.

PORT LOCATIONS AND FUNCTION MICHIGAN PORT COLLABORATIVE



In 2007, approximately 40 leaders from deep water ports and state government met in Port Huron to explore common issues and opportunities for port communities. Follow-up meetings in Traverse City, Detroit and Lansing recruited additional communities and leaders, and resulted in the formation of the Michigan Port Collaborative by 2009. Today, the Collaborative has established a Steering Committee representing every region of the state and diverse port functions. The organization has officially incorporated as an independent non-profit organization, filed for tax-exempt and tax-deductible status, begun construction of its website, conducted port-related research and set up its initial information clearinghouse. The Collaborative hosts statewide and regional meetings each year and continues to connect to port communities and our partners.