



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## INVESTING IN THE BAY REGION

The Whitmer-Gilchrist administration has invested in every region of Michigan to deliver on the kitchen-table issues that matter most to families, communities, and small businesses.

### Growing the Bay Region's economy

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) investments:
  - Over \$25 million invested to support over 30 Business Development projects projected to create over 400 jobs and leverage over \$400 million in private investment.
  - \$57 million to support over 20 Community Development projects, leveraging more than \$20 million in private investment and reactivating more than 1 million square feet of public space.
- Delivered \$18 million to support over 2,000 businesses and retain more than 16,000 jobs through COVID, with 64% of relief going to geographically disadvantaged areas.

### Empowering workers in the Bay Region

- 5,300 Michigan Reconnect applicants in the Bay Region are on tuition-free paths to higher education or skills training.
- 6,421 Futures for Frontliners in the Bay Region who served on the frontlines of the pandemic have been accepted to get on tuition-free paths to receiving a diploma or attending community college.
- Created 1,497 knew registered apprenticeships with a focus on supporting opportunities for underrepresented populations: veterans, women, people of color, those with disabilities, and young Michiganders.
- COVID relief:
  - Saved 2,297 jobs with Workshare program which allowed employees to collect unemployment benefit while working part-time.
  - Set up eight virtual job fairs connecting 248 employers to over 520 job-seekers.

### Fixing roads, bridges, pipes, and parks in the Bay Region

- Fixed 1,026 lane miles of road and 102 bridges, supporting 3,660 jobs.
- Invested \$5.5 million to upgrade or repair state and local parks.
- Invested \$20.4 million into water infrastructure in the Bay Region to upgrade sewer systems, replaced lead pipes, and protected safe drinking water for families.

### Investing in students and schools in the Bay Region

- Increased per-student funding by \$809 for the 111,000+ students in Mid Michigan since taking office.
- Expanded free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program to 655 more kids in the Bay Region.
- Raised childcare funding per kid in the Bay Region by 169%.

### Building housing and keeping families in their homes in the Bay Region

- Constructed 375 affordable, attainable housing units.
- Helped 853 families with mortgages and down payments.
- Kept 4,541 families in their homes with rental and utility assistance.

### Proposals to cut taxes for seniors and working families in the Bay Region

- Governor Whitmer's proposal to roll back the retirement tax would save 34,300 families in the Bay Region an average of \$1,000 a year, putting \$34.3 million back in people's pockets and the local economy.
- Governor Whitmer's proposal to triple Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit would deliver an average combined tax refund of \$3,000 to 46,000 working families in the Bay Region, putting \$138 million in people's pockets and the local economy.

