



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

INVESTING IN WEST MICHIGAN

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 West Michigan's economy

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) investments:
 - Over \$88 million invested to support over 170 Business Development projects projected to create nearly 4,000 jobs and leverage nearly \$1 billion in private investment.
 - \$64 million to support nearly 50 Community Development projects, leveraging more than \$370 billion in private investment and reactivating more than 400,000 square feet of public space.
- Delivered \$30 million to support nearly 3,000 businesses and retain more than 30,000 jobs through COVID, with 52% of relief going to geographically disadvantaged areas.

Empowering workers in West Michigan

- 11,316 Michigan Reconnect applicants in West Michigan are on tuition-free paths to higher education or skills training.
- 13,131 Futures for Frontliners in West Michigan 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 2,953 new 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 12,028 jobs with Workshare program which allowed employees to collect unemployment benefit while working part-time.
 - Set up four virtual job fairs connecting 118 employers to over 370 job-seekers.

Fixing roads, bridges, pipes, and parks in West Michigan

- Fixed 1,842 lane miles of road and 97 bridges, supporting 5,230 jobs.
- Invested \$14.9 million to upgrade or repair state and local parks.
- Invested \$80 Million in West Michigan to upgrade sewer systems, replace lead pipes, and protect safe drinking water for families.

Investing in students and schools in West Michigan

- Increased per-student funding by \$804 for the 190,000+ students in West Michigan since taking office.
- Expanded free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program to 1,765 more kids in West Michigan.
- Raised childcare funding per kid in West Michigan by 180%.

Building housing and keeping families in their homes in West Michigan

- Constructed 2,459 affordable, attainable housing units.
- Helped 1,230 families with mortgages and down payments.
- Kept 14,104 families in their homes with rental and utility assistance.

Proposals to cut taxes for seniors and working families in West Michigan

- Governor Whitmer's proposal to roll back the retirement tax would save 62,100 families in West Michigan an average of \$1,000 a year, putting \$62.1 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 96,600 working families in West Michigan, putting \$289.8 million in people's pockets and the local economy.

