

## I-69 INTERNATIONAL TRADE CORRIDOR



## WELCOME to Michigan's Blue Water Gateway

Pinnacle Foods, Magna, General Motors, Karegnondi Water Authority and other major expansions are underway in the I-69 International Trade Corridor. We invite existing and new businesses to See the Business Advantage of Michigan's Blue Water Gateway.

Stretching across four counties, the region shares a common corridor along Interstate 69 and serves as a strategic commercial gateway between the Midwestern United States and Ontario, Canada. The corridor's multi-modal transportation infrastructure offers a wide range of distribution options including Flint's Bishop International Airport and major freeways – I-69, I-75, US-23 and I-94. We have multiple rail providers including CSX and Canadian National. The Blue Water Bridge connects Port Huron, Michigan to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada with the highest freight value of any U.S. border crossing.

## Let Us Help You

- Occupy low-cost, incentivized locations
- Access a skilled workforce with strengths in design and production
- Benefit from infrastructure and other location benefits
- Utilize supply chain strengths in advanced manufacturing, R&D, and agri-business

## Community Profile

In the Corridor, location is matched only by our highly skilled workers and one of the strongest education training infrastructures in the country. Workforce development programs in the Corridor are closely aligned with economic development efforts.

### Corridor Statistics:

- Nearly 750,000 residents;
- Over 331,000 workers in our four counties and over 1.1 million additional workers within a 45-minute drive of our region;
- Within one hour of all Michigan auto assembly facilities
- Over 40,000 students enrolled in institutions of higher learning;
- Located 68 miles from Detroit, 184 miles from Toronto, 222 miles from Cleveland and 274 miles from Chicago.

## Tools, Resources & Partners

The I-69 International Trade Corridor Next Michigan Development Corporation (NMDC) is the largest in Michigan with 36 municipal partners. The NMDC supports regional economic development by offering incentives to businesses that transport freight by multiple modes. NMDC incentives include property tax abatements on real and personal property as well as tax free Next Michigan Renaissance Zones.

Businesses in the corridor can benefit from other state and local incentives as well as programs that reduce costs and support business goals.

This includes funding and assistance in workforce hiring/training, export marketing, financing, site search, and much more. In addition, the Corridor is served by two Foreign Trade Zones that support international trade activity.





## Multi-Modal Opportunities

The Corridor is home to major multi-modal sites and industrial parks offering high quality/high value industrial buildings and acreage. The Corridor provides a multitude of transportation advantages with NO CONGESTION, according to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

### Air

Flint's Bishop International Airport offers the lowest average air fares in Michigan and is the centerpiece of the Corridor with runways up to 7,800 feet in length. Federal Express occupies one of Bishop's air freight facilities. Passenger airlines include Delta, Southwest, American and United Airlines.

### Water

The Corridor has the advantage of three deep-water ports located along the St. Clair River at the Canadian border crossing.

### Highways

I-69 is one of Michigan's "Corridors of Highest International Significance" according to the Michigan Department of Transportation. The Blue Water Bridge is one of the United States most active crossings to Canada. Interstate 69 intersects with I-75, I-94, and US-23 as well as a host of state highways. Low traffic congestion makes the Corridor the most effective way to traverse the state.

### Rail

The Corridor is home to CSX, Canadian National and host of short-line railroads. Our rail infrastructure provides access to Montreal, Halifax and other deep water ports.

## Major Employers



#### Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership

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#### Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce

Janice Karcher, Vice President of Economic Development  
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#### Lapeer Development Corporation

Patricia Lucas, Executive Director  
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#### Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County

Dan Casey, CEO  
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