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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Monday, November 18, 2019

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# Corridor Improvement Authorities Created to Improve Key Business Corridors

*Michigan Avenue and Saginaw Street Corridor Improvement Authorities  
to Implement Critical Strategies*

**(LANSING)** – Building on a solid 10-year foundation of planning and collaboration with the City of Lansing, two neighborhood-led stakeholder groups are poised to move forward with plans to improve key business corridors in the City of Lansing.

Jobs, growth and walkability were all priorities for Mayor Schor when he took office. Schor proposed updating and improving existing corridors, as well as adding two additional corridor improvement authorities. Corridor improvement authorities will provide the necessary financing tools for redeveloping commercial properties, eliminating blight, making streetscape improvements, promoting economic growth, creating jobs, increasing public safety, developing walkable and transit-oriented neighborhoods and making Lansing a better place for all.

“Corridor improvement has been a goal since my campaign. We want walkable corridors that generate excitement, jobs and vibrancy at the entrances to the City of Lansing,” said Mayor Schor. “Upgrading the Michigan Avenue CIA and the Saginaw Street CIA will have a tremendously positive impact on our east side and west side corridors. These corridors, in addition to the work that’s already started on Grand River in the Northwest of the city and on South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in the southwest of the city, will greatly benefit all who live in and visit Lansing!”

The Michigan Avenue Corridor Improvement Authority (MACIA) and the Saginaw Street Corridor Improvement Authority (SSCIA) both had their Development and Tax Increment Finance (TIF) plans approved by the Lansing City Council today. The plans outline the priorities and goals for the corridors and provide a revenue source to fund corridor improvements without raising property taxes or creating new taxes.

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The improvements outlined in the plans are made possible by reinvesting the revenue growth from increased property values back into the same corridor where it comes from for the duration of the plans, which in this case is 15 years. These funds, when combined with other funding sources available to the CIAs, will be used to implement the plans priorities and promote additional development that in turn generates more revenue to reinvigorate the corridors.

The MACIA has a mission to provide economic resources to improve and maintain public infrastructure, correct and prevent deterioration and promote neighborhood aligned economic growth. MACIA Development and TIF plan proposes to directly support infrastructure upgrades that improve the attractiveness of the corridor and provide for a cohesive, multi modal user experience.

“After nearly a decade of work, we are excited that the City Council is supporting the Michigan Avenue Corridor Improvement Authority’s development plan, which will be a critical tool in continuing to make improvements along the corridor,” said Jonathan Lum, MACIA board chair. “Michigan Avenue is one of the most important corridors in our region, situated right on the path to our State’s capitol. Moving forward, we will be looking to partner with other stakeholders to ensure we are maximizing the impact of our investments.”

Work of the SSCIA focuses on four categories in alignment with the National Main Street Model: design, economic restructuring, organization and promotions/marketing. With this in mind, the SSCIA plan intends to enhance and increase public use of the public portions of the corridor, especially as it pertains to utilization of public transit.

“The approval of the SSCIA’s Development and TIF plan is the result of efforts by the city, business owners, residents and advocates since 2009, and it provides a model to build future development and engagement around for the long-term growth and prosperity of the Saginaw Corridor,” said Jonathon Lukco, SSCIA board chair. “We are excited to continue momentum, develop relationships and advocate for a critical part of our city as we move forward with this plan.”

“Through our contract with the city to provide economic development services, LEAP has been working closely with the CIAs to help prepare and submit these plans to the council for consideration,” said Hannah Bryant, an Economic Development Specialist at LEAP. “We are looking forward to continuing to help both CIAs, in partnership with the City of Lansing, to implement the strategies for improving these two key corridors.”

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