Members attending in person
Susan Corbin
Quentin L. Messer, Jr.

Members joined remotely
Britany L. Affolter-Caine, participating from Ypsilanti, MI
Paul Ajegba, participating from Lansing, MI
Ronald W. Beebe, participating from Bay City, MI
Rachael Eubanks, participating from Lansing, MI
September Hargrove, participating from Detroit, MI
Charles P. Rothstein, participating from Farmington Hills, MI
Susan Tellier, participating from Grand Rapids, MI

Members absent
Paul Gentilozzi
Cindy Warner

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
Mr. Messer called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. The meeting was held in person in the Lake Michigan Conference Room at the MEDC headquarters building in Lansing with an option to participate virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Messer introduced Katelyn Wilcox Surmann, MSF Board Liaison, who reminded members participating in the meeting virtually to identify their physical location by stating the county, city, township, or village and state from which he or she is attending the meeting remotely, as required under the Open Meetings Act. Ms. Wilcox Surmann then conducted the attendance roll call.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Ms. Wilcox Surmann explained the process for members of the public to participate. U.S. Representative Dan Kildee commented on the importance of the North Flint Food Market project to the Flint community and encouraged Board members to support the grant request.

Others who spoke in support of the North Flint Food Market project included Elizabeth Jordan, Senior Program Manager, Ruth Mott Foundation; Tyler Rossmaessler, Executive Director, Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance; Sue Peters, Vice President of Community Impact, Community Foundation of Greater Flint; Amy Hovey, Special Projects Coordinator, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation; Khalfani Stephens, Economic Development Director, City of Flint, on behalf of Mayor Sheldon Neeley; and Daniel Tellalian, Founder and CEO of City Angels, a financial consultant for the project.

Erich Podjaske, Economic Development Director, City of Grayling, expressed his support for the Sawmill Lofts project in Grayling.

III. COMMUNICATIONS
Ms. Wilcox Surmann advised Board members that the Quarterly Report of the Chief Compliance Officer was provided to them in the briefing packet.
She also advised Board members that letters were received from U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Representative Dan Kildee, State Senator Jim Ananich, Suzanne Wilcox, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Flint, and the Genesee County Board of Commissioners in support of the North Flint Food Market project in Flint.

Letters also were received from State Representative Bradley Slagh in support of the GL Rentals, LLC project in Zeeland and State Representative Daire Rendon in support of the Sawmill Lofts project in Grayling. The letters are attached to the minutes.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA
Resolution 2021-091 Approval of Consent Agenda Items
Mr. Messer asked if there were any questions from Board members regarding items under the Consent Agenda. There being none, Ronald W. Beebe motioned for the approval of the following:

a. June 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes
c. American Center for Mobility (ACM): Board Appointments – 2021-093
d. Life is a Dreamtroit: MCRP Direct Loan Amendment – 2021-094
e. U.S. Roof LLC – MBDP Grant Amendment – 2021-095
f. SBA Award Acceptance, Funding Allocation, and Adoption of Updated MI-STEP and MI-PEP Guidelines – 2021-096 & 2021-097
g. MSU Foundation Pre-seed Fund: Grant Amendment – 2021-098
h. Ford Motor Company: Transfer Request – MSF Designated Renaissance Zone – 2021-099
i. Acceptance of EDA Grant Award and Allocation of Matching Funds – 2021-100

September Hargrove seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

V. COMMUNITY VITALITY
a. Resolution 2021-101 North Flint Reinvestment Corporation and North Flint Ventures: Michigan Community Revitalization Program Grant (North Flint Food Market Project)
Charles Donaldson, Senior Community Assistance Team Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of a $1,250,000 Michigan Community Revitalization Program performance-based grant to support a community development project in the City of Flint. The project is expected to result in total capital investment of $7,052,253. Following discussion, Charles P. Rothstein motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-101. Britany L. Affolter-Caine seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

b. Resolutions 2021-102 & 2021-103 Sawmill Lofts, LLC / County of Crawford Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Michigan Community Revitalization Program Equity Investment Award and Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan (Sawmill Lofts Project)
Dan Leonard, Senior Community Assistance Team Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding these action items. These actions involve approval of a $4,400,000...
Michigan Community Revitalization Program equity investment award and state tax capture capped at $527,123 for Act 381 eligible activities to support a community development project in the City of Grayling. The project is expected to result in total capital investment of $11,197,143. Following discussion, Ronald W. Beebe motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-102. Susan Corbin seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

Paul Ajegba then motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-103. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

c. Resolution 2021-104 City of Southfield Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan (The Former Northland Mall Redevelopment Project)
Dominic Romano, Community Assistance Team Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of state tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities capped at $26,030,697 to support a redevelopment project in the City of Southfield. The project is expected to result in total capital investment of $402,513,050. Following discussion, Susan Corbin motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-104. Susan Tellier seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

d. Resolution 2021-105 GL Rentals, LLC: Michigan Community Revitalization Program Grant and Property Qualification (238 E. Main)
Dana Kollewehr, Community Assistance Team Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of a $500,000 Michigan Community Revitalization Program performance-based grant and property qualification consistent with the finding and declarations in Section 90 of the MSF Act to support a community development project in the City of Zeeland. The project is expected to result in total capital investment of $1,964,551. Following discussion, September Hargrove motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-105. Britany L. Affolter-Caine seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

e. Resolution 2021-106 CDBG Broadband Infrastructure Mapping Project
Christine Whitz, CDBG Program Director, and Sarah Tennant, Sector Development Director & Cyber Initiatives, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval to allocate $4,500,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) funds for a Broadband Infrastructure Mapping Project as well as approval of the Project’s Request for Proposal (RFP) factors and
members of a Joint Evaluation Committee (JEC). Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. moved to amend Resolution 2021-106 as originally presented to table the funding allocation and adopt an amended Resolution 2021-106 to approve the RFP factors, the JEC members, and authorize MEDC staff to release the RFP. September Hargrove seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Brittany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

VI. CAPITAL ACCESS

a. Resolution 2021-107 Chevron Corporation: Bond Inducement

Chris Cook, Director of Capital Access, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves adoption of a resolution to approve a private activity bond inducement not to exceed $150,000,000 to finance solid waste disposal facilities related to the production of renewable natural gas for transportation fuel sourced from biogas from dairy farms. Following discussion, Ronald W. Beebe motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-107. Charles P. Rothstein seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Brittany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None


Aileen Cohen, Capital Project and Portfolio Manager, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of $2,400,000 in collateral support for a draw to term construction line of credit to support construction of a new facility in the City of Grand Rapids. Following discussion, Susan Corbin motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-108. Susan Corbin seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Brittany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None


Amber Westendorp, Debt Programs Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of $2,500,000 in collateral support for a revolving line of credit to support the company’s operations in the City of Grand Rapids. Following discussion, Susan Corbin motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-109. Charles P. Rothstein seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Brittany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None
VII. BUSINESS INVESTMENT
   a. Resolution 2021-110 City of Highland Park Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan (Means Logistics Park Redevelopment Project)
   Erik Wilford, Senior Business Development Project Manager, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. The action involves approval of state tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities capped at $5,797,404 and designation of 215 parcels included in the Act 381 Work Plan as a Targeted Redevelopment Area to support a business development project in the City of Highland Park. The project is expected to result in total capital investment of $38,000,000. Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2021-110. Susan Corbin seconded the motion. The motion carried: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.

   ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Paul Ajegba, Ronald W. Beebe, Susan Corbin, Rachael Eubanks, September Hargrove, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier; Nays: None; Recused: None

VIII. INFORMATIONAL
   Mr. Messer noted the MSF delegated authority report for the period June 1 to June 30, 2021, was included in the meeting packet. He asked if there were any questions from Board members regarding the information; there were none.

Mr. Messer adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.
July 27, 2021

Michigan Strategic Fund Board
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Sq
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Members of the Board,

I understand Dr. Reginald Flynn’s North Flint Reinvestment Corporation has submitted an application with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation requesting $1,250,000 in Michigan Community Revitalization Program funding. After working closely with Dr. Flynn over the last several years to address the lack of access to healthy food for residents in Flint, I write today in strong support of Dr. Flynn’s North Flint Reinvestment Corporation’s application.

Dr. Flynn’s North Flint Food Market project would establish a full-service grocery store to provide critically needed healthy food options to underserved neighborhoods in the City of Flint. As you know, increasing the accessibility of healthy food to families is critically important to mitigate the effects of lead poisoning caused by the city’s water crisis. With this community’s specific needs in mind, I remain a strong supporter of Dr. Flynn’s vitally important project.

I am working in partnership with Congressman Kildee to secure $650,000 in congressionally directed spending to fund a portion of Dr. Flynn’s project. We are optimistic that this funding will be included in the federal FY22 spending bill. I am hopeful that this federal appropriation, as well as funding through the Michigan Community Revitalization Program, will make this grocery store a reality for the residents of Flint.

As chairwoman of the U.S. Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, strengthening local food systems and ensuring families have access to healthy food continue to be my top priorities. I fully support North Flint Reinvestment Corporation’s effort to create jobs, increase access to healthy food and strengthen the community it serves. I ask you to give this application strong consideration.

Sincerely,

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator
Mr. Quentin L. Messer, Jr.
Chair
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 North Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Mr. Messer:

I am writing to express my support for North Flint Reinvestment Corporation (NFRC) and North Flint Ventures’ application for a Michigan Economic Development Corporation Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) grant to support the construction of a grocery store in north Flint. The North Flint Food Market is a consumer-owned cooperative that will operate as a full-service grocery store in north Flint.

NFRC will renovate a vacant 21,000 square foot building to improve access to affordable, fresh and locally-sourced produce for residents. It will also create quality jobs and give residents the opportunity to invest in their neighborhood. As a full-service grocery open to the public, this cooperative will ensure access to high-quality, healthy food in a city that does not currently have an operating grocery store within its city limits. Many regional and national chains have closed their grocery store locations in the area, creating a local food desert in the community.

In Congress, I included this project as one of my ten “Community Project Funding” proposals, which is a new opportunity the House Appropriations Committee created for Members of Congress to direct federal resources for certain projects with demonstrated community support. I believe NFRC’s project is a good use of federal taxpayer funding because it will provide quality, fresh food options to the community, help create local jobs and spur further economic development. Furthermore, the grocery store has strong support from the community. The key criteria for a Community Project Funding request to be included is having community support. I received letters from the North Flint Neighborhood Action Council, the Ruth Mott Foundation, Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) Flint, Foundation for Flint, Mount Carmel Baptist Church, and Eagles Nest Academy in support of this initiative.

NFRC’s proposal was selected by the Appropriations Committee to be fully-funded within House’s Fiscal Year 2022 government spending bill. NFRC’s proposal has advanced through a key committee and will be on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives as soon as this week.
for a vote. An MSF grant could help leverage this potential federal investment and expand their positive impact in north Flint.

I strongly support North Flint Reinvestment Corporation application, and I hope you will look favorably upon the proposal to the extent federal law and agency regulations apply.

Sincerely,

Daniel. T. Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
July 26, 2021

Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Chairperson  
Michigan Strategic Fund Board of Directors  
300 N Washington Sq  
Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Request for MSF Funding to Develop a Co-Op Urban Grocery Store in North Flint

Dear Chairman Messer and Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

As the State Senator representing Flint and its surrounding communities, I am writing in support of the North Flint Reinvestment Corporation’s request for a $1,250,000 Michigan Community Revitalization Program performance-based grant to support a community development project in the City of Flint.

As their application indicates, the North Flint Food Market Project will redevelop a dilapidated, vacant building into a new co-op urban grocery store, bringing together over $7 million in total capital investment and creating 27 jobs in my district. The location slated for this project is near the corner of Pierson and Clio Roads, in the heart of one of the largest food deserts in the state.

Throughout my time on Flint City Council and in the State Legislature, residents of north Flint have been expressing the need for a grocery store, and I have been proud to support Pastor Reginald Flynn and local advocates who have been working diligently to secure the necessary investment. Many residents rely on public transit, and it is currently impossible for these individuals to access low-cost healthy food. Since the water crisis, this project has taken on an even greater level of urgency as we understand that access to produce is critical to mitigate the effects of lead exposure.

In addition, utilizing a co-operative ownership model will allow the community to participate in ownership of the grocery store and not feel that an out-of-state corporation is making decisions without understanding the unique needs of north Flint.

The North Flint Reinvestment Corporation and Pastor Flynn have secured substantial local support for this initiative. This support includes the following grants, in addition to others: a $200,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the City of Flint, a $480,000 grant from the Ruth Mott Foundation, a $550,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, a $500,000 grant from CS Mott Foundation, and a $200,000 grant from Healthy Food Financing
Initiative (HFFI). The requested $1,250,000 support from the Michigan Strategic Fund will enable these fantastic organizations to come together and make this project a reality for the residents of my district.

In conclusion, I am proud to support the North Flint Reinvestment Corporation’s request for Michigan Strategic Fund support to develop an urban grocery store in north Flint. I hope you will take this into consideration as you review their request for support. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jim Ananich
Senate Minority Leader
District 27
June 22, 2021

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48933
Attn: Charles Donaldson

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

The City of Flint is committed to implementing creative community and economic development strategies that advance our neighborhoods. More specifically, the City of Flint’s Department of Planning and Development supports the work of local community development corporations like North Flint Reinvestment Corporation (NFRC) implementing a comprehensive, multi-phase, place-based health and wellness hub in the city’s Pierson Road Corridor. NFRC operates and manages Eagle’s Nest Early Learning Center, Eagle’s Nest Academy, and the Great Lakes Baptist District Association Technology Center. Currently, NFRC is in Phase 2 of developing a community-driven, membership-owned food cooperative grocery store.

In the City of Flint’s Master Plan, the Pierson Road Corridor was identified as one of the most undersupplied retail markets in Flint. It is also one of three target areas identified in the City’s 5-Year Consolidated Plan. In addition, the USDA has designated the corridor as a food desert. As a result, the City seeks to target this sub-area for commercial growth. In 2016, we invested $1.7 million to demolish the formerly blighted Glen Acres apartment complex on West Pierson Road. Moreover, we partnered with the Genesee County Land Bank to demolish and remediate two additional commercial properties in the corridor totaling $525,000.

Access to healthy affordable food is a high priority for our city, especially in light of the Flint Water Crisis and COVID-19 pandemic. In 2019, we committed $200,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support pre-development work associated with launching the North Flint Food Market. We are in support of the launch of the North Flint Food Market as an Urban Grocery solution to our food desert. We will also review future applications for property tax exemptions and local funding support to the Market once it is operating.

We encourage MEDC to join with the City of Flint and our local funders to not only expand access to healthy food, but also spur economic development through the creation of 42 new jobs to the Pierson Road Corridor.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wilcox
Director of Planning and Development
July 21, 2021

RE: Support for the North Flint Food Market

To Whom It May Concern:

The Genesee County Board of Commissioners supports the North Flint Reinvestment’s plans to construct the North Flint Food Market in the Pierson Road Corridor. For the past several years, the Genesee County Land Bank has invested $475,000 in demolition and environmental remediation grant funds toward clean-up of the site. We are also collaborating with North Flint Reinvestment and LISC to develop the property immediately adjacent to the grocery store location.

Since the Flint Water Crisis, and subsequent closure of two national grocery stores chains in north Flint, NFRC has done an outstanding job to mobilize residents, block clubs, neighborhood organizations, faith community leaders, small business owners, and 900 food cooperative member-owners to launch the North Flint Food Market, a consumer-owned cooperative that will operate as a full-service grocery store at 5402 North Clio Road in north Flint.

The Genesee County Board of Commissioners believe construction of the North Flint Food Market is an essential investment in north Flint to (1) Improve access to affordable, fresh and locally-sourced produce in a predominantly African American low-income community; (2) Employ a cooperative ownership model, giving residents and member-owners the opportunity to invest in their neighborhood and control their food retail destiny; and (3) Create quality jobs with benefits, providing a living wage, and opportunities for training and growth.
We, the Board of Commissioners, hope you will join us in partnering to advance this most important project in the City of Flint and Genesee County.

Bryant W. Nolden  
District 1

Ellen Ellenburg  
District 3

Mark Young  
District 5

Meredith Davis  
District 7

Gary Peppin  
District 9

Charles H. Winfrey  
District 2

Domonique Clemons  
District 4

Shaun Shumaker  
District 6

Debra Newman  
District 8
Dear Chairperson Quentin L. Messer, Jr.,

I am writing to communicate my support for GL Rentals, LLC’s request for funds from the Michigan Community Revitalization Program to further a community development project in downtown Zeeland.

The current building from the first phase of the project is currently fully occupied, utilizing lots which were once underused in the city. The proposed second phase of the project will add more commercial office space as well as residential housing space. This walkable residential space is much needed in an ever-growing and thriving community. This project will max out the lot space and duplicate the existing phase one footprint, thus representing $1,964,551 in total capital investment. It is in close proximity to schools, restaurants, and shops in the community and will contribute to Zeeland’s ongoing growth. In addition to these numerous benefits, the project has gained support locally and will expand the existing tax base for the City of Zeeland.

Allocating funding for the completion of this project will have a significant impact on the community. I encourage you to seriously consider approving this grant request for GL Rentals, LLC.

Sincerely,

Bradley Slaugh
State Representative
90th District
July 26, 2021

Quentin L. Messer, Jr.
300 N. Washington Sq.
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: Sawmill Lofts Project and Crawford County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority request for incentives

Dear Chairman Quentin,

I write to you today in full support of both the Sawmills Lofts Project in the City of Grayling and the Crawford County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority in their request for funds.

The Sawmill Lofts Project touches on one of the cornerstone issues my district has faced for many years. Housing availability has been a difficulty in the area, and it has resulted in commutes across different counties and less than ideal living situations for many of my constituents.

As representative I have been told repeatedly by constituents about how tough it is to find a housing situation that suits their lifestyle, family, and work location. This project would be an excellent way to begin to bridge that gap. In addition to new rental apartments, the commercial space and improved public space surrounding the site would be a tremendous benefit as well.

The Crawford County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority request for approval of a Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan would encourage more redevelopment and investment.

As representative I fully support both requests and I know just how big of an impact they can make in a community. I encourage the Michigan Strategic Fund to support these projects and approve the funds.

Sincerely,

Daire Rendon
State Representative
District 103