Governor Whitmer charged the OFME with coordinating a statewide approach for future mobility and electrification that bolsters Michigan's economy, workforce, environment, and infrastructure priorities. That is why OFME is nestled between the four departments responsible for these priorities, creating the "tools" and "extra hands" necessary to help these teams maintain mobility leadership.
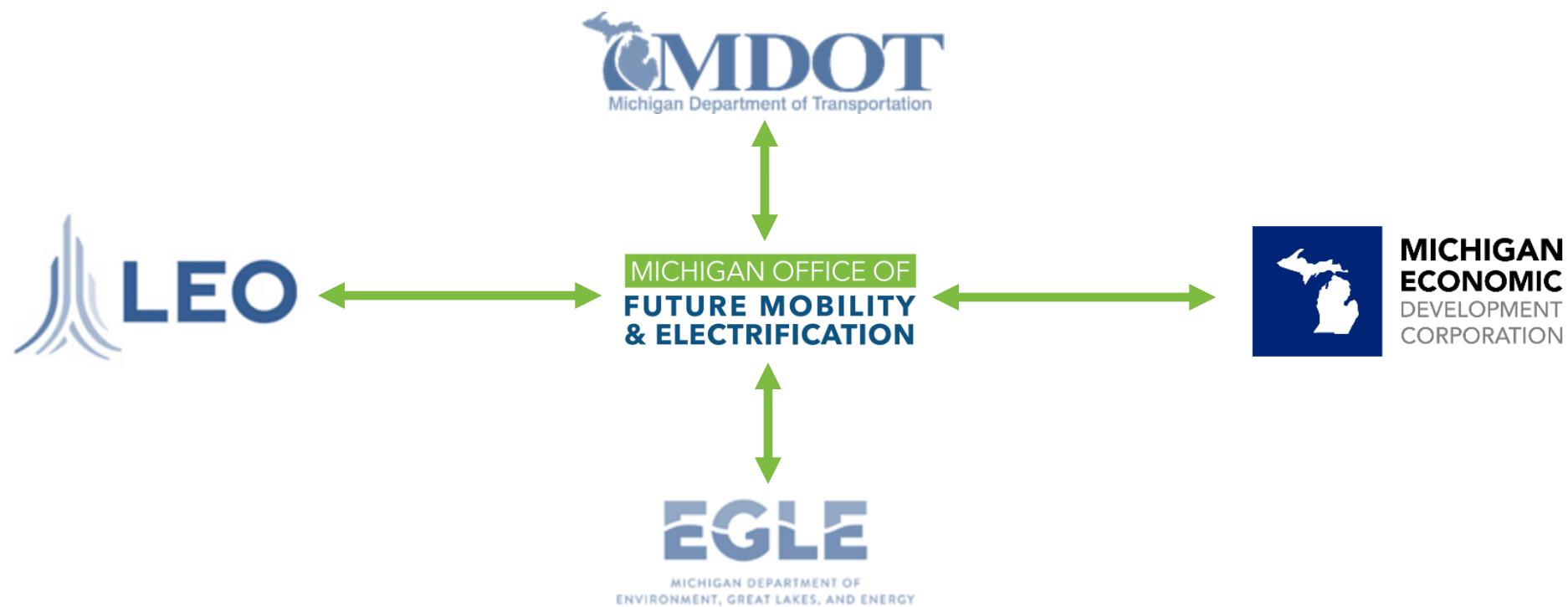
Mobility refers to utilizing clean technologies that enable people, goods, and information by land, water, and air.

AIR

LAND

WATER

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Real World Deployment Grant

✓ Grants ranging from $50,000 - $500,000 per project

✓ Real World Deployments are typically awarded at $150,000 - $250,000 on average

✓ Piloting solutions in public spaces

✓ Partnering with municipalities, stage agencies, businesses

Examples of successful Real World Deployment projects:

- Gridlink partners with Michigan school districts to pilot EV fleet charging software with electric school buses

- Lilypad partners with resorts and marinas to pilot solar-powered boat rental on Lake Leelenau

- Airspace Link partnered with Beaumont Hospital to pilot drone delivery of medical supplies

- Orange Sparkle Ball piloted robotic pickup of residential food waste for composting in North Corktown neighborhood of Detroit

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Test Site Grant

✓ Testing technologies in one of pre-approved closed environment test sites

Examples of successful Test Site grant projects:

- IonDynamics tests their 'FlashBot' autonomous mobile energy storage and charging robot at DSPL

- WeaveGrid tests their V2G software solutions at ACM's EV Charging Basecamp

- MaplessAI tests their remote car operation technology on Mcity test tracks

- Blueflite tests autonomous cargo drone at Michigan Unmanned Aerial Systems Consortium site

How Funds Will Be Awarded

Evaluation and Scoring

Grants deployed via MMFP are awarded after a standardized application, review, and selection process.

This process includes:

- Standard application

- Internal review to ensure projects meet minimum qualifications

- External reviews by a minimum of 10 industry experts including scoring in 8 categories and open-ended feedback

- A final selection committee comprised of members of various Michigan State Agencies (MEDC, LEO, MDOT, etc.).

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How Funds Will Be Awarded

Evaluation and Scoring

The eight categories applications will be scored on are:

- Eligibility – Pass/Fail

- Proposed Project – 20 Points

- Project Team & Partners – 20 Points

- Technology and Interoperability – 20 Points

- Project Costs – 5 Points

- Industry Matching Funds & In-Kind Contributions – 5 Points

- Financial Sustainability – 10 Points

- State Mobility Plan Alignment – 10 Points

- Overall Project Quality – 10 Points

Full Scoring Methodology – 100 Points Total

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Timeline

Two Rounds of Funding

2026 Round 1

Monday, January 26, 2026 — Application Opens (available for 30 days)

Friday, February 27, 2026 — Applications for Round 1 no longer accepted

- The application will not close but any applications submitted past 11:59 pm on Friday, February 27 will be considered during Round 2

Thursday, March 26, 2026 — Selections and Notifications Made

2026 Round 2

Friday, May 15 — Applications Closed

Friday, June 12 — Selections and Notifications Made

Application

Noteworthy Requirements

- A minimum of one Michigan-based project partner. Partner(s) can include municipalities, state agencies, test sites, Michigan-based companies or organizations

- Letter(s) of Commitment and/or Letter(s) of Support from project partners including but not limited to test sites. You may also optionally include Letter(s) of Commitment and/or Letter(s) of Support from partners on previous projects

- Matching funds information including partner financial contributions to the project as well as in-kind contributions

- The lead applicant (organization submitting application) should be a technology provider not a municipality, university, test site, incubator or accelerator

- Company W9

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Desired Outcomes

Grant recipients (beneficiaries) will be required to report on a quarterly basis both financial obligations and expenses as well as key performance indicators. These key performance indicators may include:

- Total Number of businesses served
- Number of businesses served by program activities
- Number of businesses served for the first time by network services/referrals
- Number of Minority-Owned Businesses served
- New partnership starts
- Loans, venture, angel or other financial investments obtained ("facilitated industry investment")
- Jobs retained / created
- Company growth including but not limited to increased revenue / facilitated revenue
- And other factors as determined by the OFME

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Test Site Grant

✓ Grants ranging from $50,000 - $500,000 per project

✓ Test site projects are typically awarded at $50,000 – $150,000 on average

- Advanced Power Systems (APS) Labs at Michigan Technological University
- American Center for Mobility (ACM)
- Detroit Smart Parking Lab (DSPL)
- Gerald R. Ford Airport's Ford Launchpad for Innovation Technology and Entrepreneurship (FLITE)
- Great Lakes Research Center at Michigan Technological University
- Kettering Mobility Research Center
- The Keweenaw Research Center at Michigan Technological University
- Mcity at the University of Michigan
- MSU Mobility
- The Transportation Innovation Zone (City of Detroit)
- Urban Tech Xchange

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Michigan Technological University

Houghton, Keweenaw Peninsula

- APS Labs
  - Advanced Power Systems
  - ICE, torque converters, hybrid powertrains, fuel cells, alternative fuels and noise suppression

- Great Lakes Research Center
  - Underwater, ecology and fish biology focus
  - Autonomous subsurface vehicles, including under-ice
  - Maritime more broadly

- Keweenaw Research Center
  - Over 900 acres of proving groups
  - Specializing in cold weather and deep snow testing

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Michigan Technological University

Houghton, Keweenaw Peninsula

- APS Labs
    - Jeremy Worm, Executive Director
    - jjworm@mtu.edu

- Keweenaw Research Center
    - Scott Bradley, Executive Director
    - sabradle@mtu.edu

- Great Lakes Research Center
    - GLRCinfo@mtu.edu

American Center for Mobility

Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County

(Powered by Michigan Technological University)

- Full suite of testing services to support light to heavy-duty vehicle development
- On-road and off-road test tracks
- Highway speed proving ground
- EV charging basecamp for interoperability testing
- Engineering services
- Cybersecurity testing and V2X

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American Center for Mobility

Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County

(Powered by Michigan Technological University)

- Kevin Kelly, Director of Business Development
- Kevin.Kelly@acmwillowrun.org
- 517-712-9194

Detroit Smart Parking Lab (DSPL)

Detroit, Wayne County

- Led by Bedrock Detroit, with support from OFME, Ford Motor Company and NextEnergy

- Physical parking structure officering open innovation and collaboration site for testing

- Focus areas include:
    - Parking-related mobility technologies
    - Logistics and first and last mile delivery
    - EV Charging and interoperability
    - Drone and UAS testing

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Detroit Smart Parking Lab (DSPL)

Detroit, Wayne County

- info@detroitsmartparkinglab.com

Urban Tech Exchange (UTX)

Detroit, Wayne County

- Led by Bedrock Detroit, with support from Kodelabs, Bosch, Cisco, and NextEnergy

- Lab for tech providers, developers, educators and researchers committed to building equitable and sustainable cities

- Focus areas include:
    - Energy
    - Accessibility
    - User experience
    - Community health
    - Buildings and real estate
    - Sutainability

Urban Tech Exchange (UTX)

Detroit, Wayne County

- info@urbantechxchange.com

Transportation Innovation Zone (TIZ)

Detroit, Wayne County

- Built to bridge the gap between mobility innovation and regulatory compliance

- Expedited permitting process for pilots in region of Detroit surrounding Michigan Central and stretching to (and including) the Detroit River

- Example projects:
    - First and last mile delivery
    - Sensing and perception technology
    - Micromobility solutions
    - Maritime
    - Drones and UAS
    - Car share

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Transportation Innovation Zone

Detroit, Wayne County

- Konner Petz, Head of Special Projects, City of Detroit Office of Mobility Innovation
- konner.petz@detroitmi.gov

GM Mobility Research Center (MRC) at Kettering University

Flint, Genessee County

- ADAS and Autonomy
  - Pedestrian and bicycle soft targets
  - Global soft vehicle target
  - Automatic Emergency Breaking

- Connected Vehicle & Smart Infrastructure

- EV Charging and Battery Innovation Lab
  - High voltage battery pack simulator
  - Cell-level BMS and fault injection
  - Fast-charger emulator

GM Mobility Research Center (MRC) at Kettering University

Flint, Genessee County

- mrc@kettering.edu

Mcity and M-air at University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Mcity

- Makerspace for today's mobility and transportation innovators with a next-generation test track, AI data engine, virtual environments, and onsite workspaces
- 16 acres of roads and traffic infrastructure, simulating complex urban, rural, and suburban settings
- Sensors for data collection and control of site features via app
- Conduct remote testing with MCity 2.0, the cloud-based, augmented-reality CAV testbed available to researchers nationwide

M-air

- Multiplem 'blue' UAS pladforms
- Part 107 certified pilots
- BVLOS low-altitude airspace connector to Michigan Central (under construction)
- Batter lab access for prototyping cells & modules

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Mcity at University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Email

Mcity@umich.edu

M-air@umich.edu

MSU Mobility at Michigan State University

East Lansing

- MSU Mobility takes a multi-disciplinary approach to mobility related research and testing
- Talent development, IP commercialization and our own campus operations
- As a collaborative platform to enable more holistic mobility research
- MSU Mobility combines expertise from the MSU colleges of:
  - Engineering;
  - Business;
  - Law;
  - Communications,
  - Arts & Sciences;
  - Education;
  - Social Sciences;
  - Natural Sciences;
  - and Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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MSU Mobility at Michigan State University

East Lansing

- Judd Herzer, Director of Mobility Innovation
- herzerju@msu.edu

Ford Launchpad for Innovation Technology & Entrepreneurship (FLITE)

Grand Rapids

- Automation & Analytics: Improving operational efficiency and optimization of workforce and other resources through automation and analysis of data.

- Electrification & Sustainability: Switching fossil fuel vehicles and infrastructure to electrics and other decarbonization projects.

- Safety & Security: Strengthening passenger and worker safety and security throughout the airport campus.

- Door-to-Door & Terminal Guest Experience: Improving the efficiency of getting to and from the airport and improving the pre-boarding experience.

- Advancing Aviation: Exploring the enabling infrastructure and implications of emerging commercial aviation use cases.

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Ford Launchpad for Innovation Technology & Entrepreneurship (FLITE)

Grand Rapids

- Kaylee Page, Program Manager
- kaylee@seamlessventures.com