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NEW STUDY ANALYZES IMPACT OF US-127 ON SAFETY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN MID-MICHIGAN

Middle Michigan Development Corporation and Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. Team Up to Determine Impact of US-127 Limited-Access Highway Gap.

MT. PLEASANT, MI, February 5, 2018— According to a new study released by Middle Michigan Development Corporation (MMDC) and Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. (GGDI), upgrading the current 16-mile limited-access highway gap between Ithaca and St. Johns may result in safer travel, reduced cost for local businesses and improved business attraction to the region.

“This study allowed us to take first steps towards objectively analyzing the impact this stretch of US-127 has on Clare, Gratiot, Isabella and Clinton counties,” states MMDC President and CEO James McBryde. “This study will allow us to begin a conversation with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) that addresses the everyday challenges this 16-mile stretch of US-127 imposes on the businesses, organizations and people we work with and represent.”

Middle Michigan Development Corporation and Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. received grant funding from the Regional Prosperity Initiative Mini-Grant Program, administered by East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG), a federally designated development district for 14 counties of East Central Michigan to support the commission and completion of a comprehensive study of the 16-mile stretch on US-127.

“The funding and support we received from the East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG) allowed us to work with the Economic Development Research Group, Inc. out of Boston, Massachusetts who facilitated the study,” James E. Wheeler, President of GGDI, states. “This allowed for third party validation and for objective, impartial conclusions to be made. We look forward to presenting our findings to MDOT within the next couple of weeks.”

If you would like more information about this topic or a copy of the study to review, please contact either James McBryde at (989) 772-2858 or email at jmcbryde@mmdc.org or James E. Wheeler at (989) 875-2083 or email at jim.wheeler@gratiot.org.