

Investment in Action

Lenawee **now** 2024 Annual Report

Investors

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB



PRESIDENT'S CLUB



PACESETTER

Adrian Insurance Agency
Adrian Mechanical Services
Adrian Steel
Charter Township of Adrian
Charter Township of Madison

City of Morenci
Clift Buick GMC
Dailey Engineering, Inc.
Dempsey & Dempsey, P.C.
Greater Ann Arbor Region (GAAR)

Gurdjian Insurance Group, Inc.
HB Steele
Kriehoff Lenawee Company
Meredith A. Francis, CPA, P.C.
Midwest Energy & Communications

Rima Manufacturing Company
Rudolph/Libbe Companies
Sage Foundation
Spectrum Printers
Village of Clinton



From the **Executive Director**

To our partners and community members,

2024 was a year of meaningful progress for Lenawee County. Together, we've advanced projects that strengthen our economy, create jobs, and improve quality of life.

The former Bixby Hospital site is being cleared by Collier-Gibson, LLC to make way for new development. Ross Design & Engineering expanded its Cement City facility by 16,200 square feet, adding new welding capacity to support future growth. In agriculture, Zeeland Farm Services acquired and is revitalizing the former Valero Energy Riga facility to enhance grain storage and shipping. And Behavioral Health Consulting Partners of North America is redeveloping the former Herrick Hospital in Tecumseh to provide much-needed mental health and substance use services.

These projects reflect not just private investment, but also the collective work of local governments, community partners, and our team at Lenawee Now to support site readiness, streamline approvals, and attract catalytic employers and developers to our region.

As we look to 2025, we do so with optimism. We anticipate continued growth in our manufacturing, agricultural, and healthcare sectors. We will remain focused on workforce development, housing, and quality of life improvements, because we know these are the foundations that support thriving communities.

Lenawee County is building momentum. And while our rural roots remain strong, our outlook is ambitious. Thank you for your continued support of Lenawee Now. Together, we are shaping a future full of promise and purpose.

Board of **Directors**

Mindy Bradish-Orta, Chair

Consumers Energy

Jim Kapnick, Vice Chair

Kapnick Insurance

Jason Hess, Treasurer

Krieghoff-Lenawee Co.

Kathryn Mohr, Secretary

Mohr Budds Law

Arell Chapman

Gleaner Life Insurance Society

Rick Gurdjian

Gurdjian Insurance Group

Mark Haag

Lenawee Intermediate School District

Jim Williams

Premier Bank

Dr. Julie Yaroach

ProMedica

Jed Engle

RIMA Manufacturing

Successes | 2024 Projects

COLLIER GIBSON

Bixby Hospital Redevelopment

Collier-Gibson, LLC has purchased the former Bixby hospital site and is clearing the existing structure for future development.



Ross Design & Engineering

Established in 1989, Ross Design and Engineering has an extensive history in the manufacture of Material Handling components. RD&E added 16,200 square feet to their Cement City facility to accommodate a new welding line.



ZFS Riga

Zeeland Farm Services is a 74-year-old agribusiness based in Zeeland. They purchased the former Valero Energy Riga facility and are rehabilitating the grain receiving and storage areas of the plant to receive, store and ship grain.



Behavioral Health Consulting Partners of North America

BHCPNA purchased the former Herrick Hospital in Tecumseh and will update the building to provide community-based mental health and substance use disorder services.

Successes | Investment and Jobs

2024 Projects



Manufacturing

\$1.2 MILLION

3 PROJECTS



Retail/Services

\$3.2 MILLION

2 PROJECTS



Real Estate Development

\$20 MILLION

1 PROJECT

2020-2024 Jobs and Investment Success

567

JOBS CREATED

2,353

JOBS RETAINED

9.61

AVERAGE JOB
PER PROJECT

36

EXPANSIONS

7

ATTRACTIONS

16

START-UPS

\$100,915,934

TOTAL INVESTMENT

2020-2024 Community Grants Secured

Workforce Development:

State: \$10,662,000

Federal: \$290,000

Community Development:

State: \$18,000,000

Federal: \$4,000,000

Business Development:

State: \$730,000

Federal: \$680,000

\$29,392,000

STATE

\$4,970,000

FEDERAL

\$34,362,000

TOTAL



Lenawee and Jackson Counties Hosted Site Selection Tour

Lenawee Now, in its ongoing commitment to promoting economic growth and fostering a vibrant business environment, partnered with the Enterprise Group of Jackson and Experience Jackson to host a group of prominent site selectors for a comprehensive familiarization tour of our region. This tour, held from August 15 to August 18, was part of our strategic effort to showcase the communities' unique assets, business-friendly environment, and growth potential to key decision-makers in the site selection industry.

Executives from Thomas and Hutton Engineering, Cushman and Wakefield, and Webster Global Site Selectors visited Lenawee and Jackson Counties to become immersed in the communities and discover the benefits and opportunities to doing business in the area. The tour provided participants with insights into the community's character and quality of life. Throughout the weekend, our guests gained an understanding of living and working in Southeastern Michigan by visiting established businesses, experiencing region-specific recreational activities, and attending networking dinners. The tour culminated at Michigan International Speedway with the NASCAR FireKeepers Casino 400.

“This familiarization tour was an excellent opportunity for us to demonstrate what makes our counties a competitive choice for business investment and expansion. By hosting these influential site selectors, we’ve taken an important step toward attracting new businesses, creating jobs, and boosting our local economy.”

Pat Farver,
Executive Director of Lenawee Now.

Fall Economic Club Luncheon

featuring keynote speaker, Brian Calley



Lenawee Now and the Align Center for Workforce Development brought together thought leaders in business, education, and government at the 2024 Fall Economic Club Luncheon on November 19. This event was held at The Centre, welcoming over 90 patrons from across the region. Attendees heard from keynote speaker Brian Calley, former Lieutenant Governor and the current President and CEO of the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM).

Calley served as the Lieutenant Governor under Rick Snyder. As Lieutenant Governor he made Michigan more economically competitive and lifted the state's business tax climate from the 49th-worst to the top 10. Since 2019, Calley has been the President and CEO of SBAM, advocating for businesses throughout the state. When speaking at the Economic Club Luncheon, Calley addressed key economic trends and legal developments that would shape the small business climate in the coming year.



In his presentation, Calley highlighted Inflation, income growth trends, and the impact of the consumer price index. In addition, he noted how the labor force participation rate, job growth, and the national debt affected federal rate cuts and the economy. Following his discussion of economic trends, he highlighted upcoming government regulations and the implications for how businesses registered personal information, dispensed sick time, and dealt with contractors.

Year in **Social**

329,165

IMPRESSIONS

24,937

ENGAGEMENT

5,137

FOLLOWERS

Staff

Patrick D. Farver
Executive Director

Timothy S. Robinson, CEcD, EDPF
Director of Operations

Randy Yagiela
Development Director

Michele Pisano Spence
Business Support Coordinator

Gary Clemetson
Director of Entrepreneurial Services

Dottie Grzebik
Executive Administrative Assistant

Sky Armstrong
Marketing Specialist

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LenaweeNow

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