



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bay Future, Inc. Awarded \$100,000 for Economic Development Activities in Bay County

BAY CITY, Mich. – Bay County has been selected among 31 other Michigan communities to receive grant dollars aimed to bring properties with economic development potential a competitive advantage in business attraction and expansion projects by bringing available sites closer to “shovel ready” status.

Tuesday, August 27, the [Michigan Economic Development Corporation \(MEDC\)](#) announced 45 sites throughout the state had been awarded \$3.3 million through the new competitive Michigan Build Ready Sites program, the targeted grant program of the Michigan Site Readiness Improvement program. The award to Bay Future, Inc. had been the maximum award possible.

Bay County was already selected as a participating community in the initial phase of a site readiness initiative in the fall, working closely with MEDC officials, local officials, utility providers, engineers, and site selection consulting firm [Olsson](#), to identify key site information and barriers to “shovel ready” status in an effort to proactively work toward a pathway to a vetted site.

“This grant award is an affirmation and culmination of the work of the team we were able to coalesce in the fall. It affirms and leverages the work of that team, allowing us the opportunity to apply for and secure funds for the Michigan Build Ready Sites program. We are excited because this award brings our community closer to the pre-emptive and pro-active development work that is required of sites like this. That pro-active work is a major component of the specialized work that Bay Future, Inc. provides to the wider community,” said Trevor Keyes, President & CEO of Bay Future, Inc.

[Announced in April](#), the Michigan Build Ready Sites program aims to assist with the development or enhancement of industrial sites to help them get closer to having [Vetted Site Standards](#) and make them more competitive during the site selection process. Local and regional economic development or community partners had until June 1 to submit applications that demonstrated a plan and pathway to a vetted site. Grant funds under the program could be used for activities including site development studies or site material development, site implementation or land assembly activities, and more. For the full list of grant recipients and descriptions of the projects, [visit here](#).

Bay Future, Inc. in partnership with Monitor Township officials, Monitor Township DDA officials, Bay County officials, the Bay County Road Commission, the Bay County Department of Water and Sewer, Bay City Electric Light and Power, Consumers Energy, AT&T, Spicer Corporation, and others provided input and support for the program.

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Established in 2004, Bay Future, Inc. is a public-private alliance of government, business and other organizations that support economic growth in Bay County and the Great Lakes Bay Region. Bay Future, Inc. is dedicated to facilitating economic development strategies that promote and secure opportunities for business retention, growth, and the attraction of new industries that create quality jobs for community residents.