



mayors
innovation
project

URBAN CONNECTIVITY AND TRANSFORMATIVE PLACEMAKING

Angie Nelson Deutch | Mayor | Michigan City, IN

SUMMER
2024

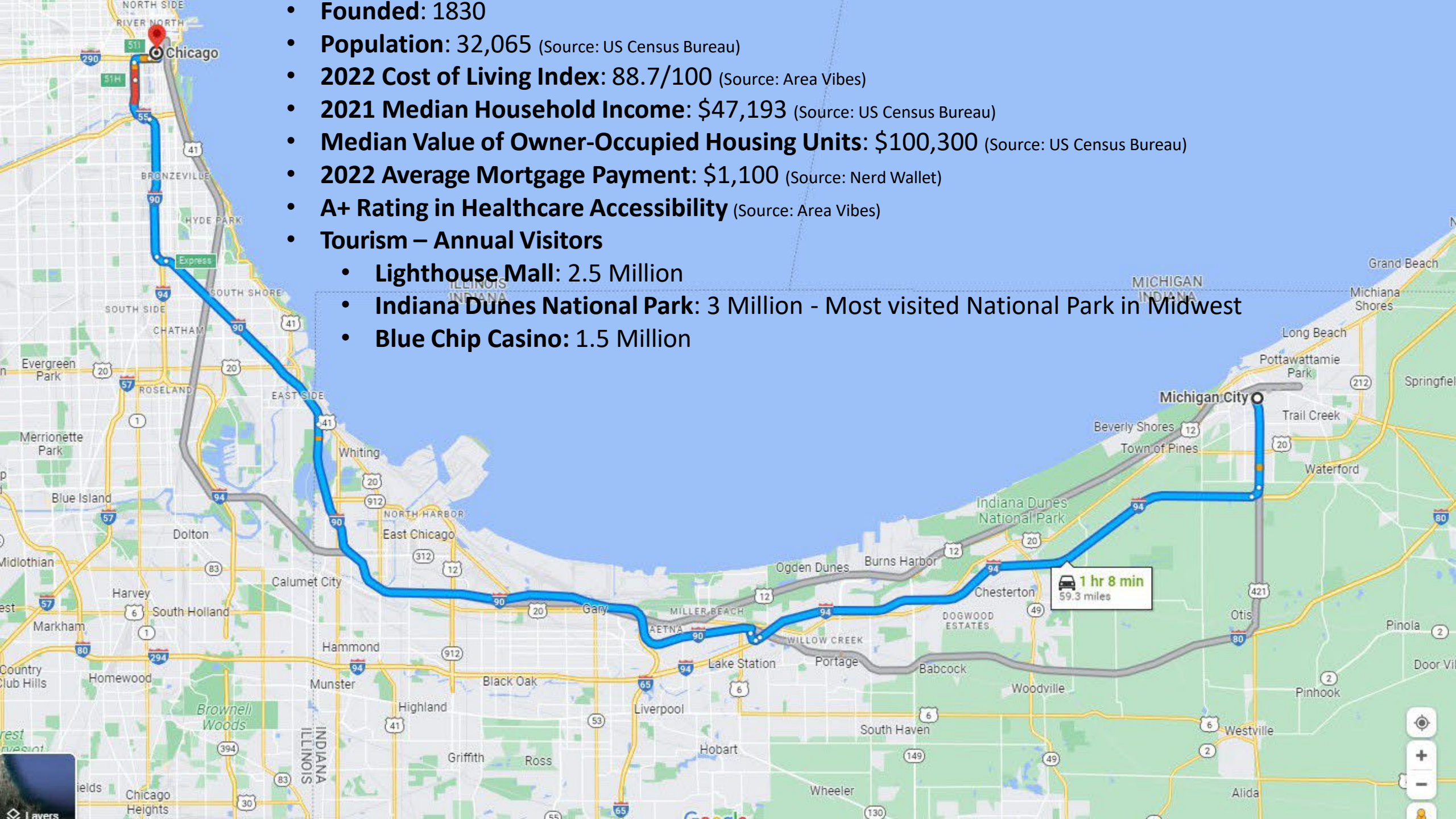


Mayor Angie Nelson Deuitch

Michigan City Indiana



- **Founded:** 1830
- **Population:** 32,065 (Source: US Census Bureau)
- **2022 Cost of Living Index:** 88.7/100 (Source: Area Vibes)
- **2021 Median Household Income:** \$47,193 (Source: US Census Bureau)
- **Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units:** \$100,300 (Source: US Census Bureau)
- **2022 Average Mortgage Payment:** \$1,100 (Source: Nerd Wallet)
- **A+ Rating in Healthcare Accessibility** (Source: Area Vibes)
- **Tourism – Annual Visitors**
 - **Lighthouse Mall:** 2.5 Million
 - **Indiana Dunes National Park:** 3 Million - Most visited National Park in Midwest
 - **Blue Chip Casino:** 1.5 Million



Community Initiative

Partnering with:

- State of Indiana Economic Development Corporation
- 2 national non-profits—**Brookings Institute & LISC**
- Community Leaders from various sectors in targeted areas
 - City Stakeholders
 - Regional Stakeholders
 - Community Stakeholders

Goal

Create a “**playbook**” that will help Michigan City “build wealth in underinvested places, while driving more equitable city and regional growth.”- **Inclusive Economic Development.**

History

Brookings Institute & LISC implemented a pilot initiative from 2019-2021 in **L.A., Indianapolis, and Philadelphia.**

The findings from the pilot initiatives are being used as a guidance for other locations to implement a **CCEI** approach.

Other Cities Participating

Warsaw, Indiana
Seymour, Indiana

Community-Centered Economic Inclusion



Priority Areas:

West Side | East Side | Midtown Corridor

Issues Being Tackled:

Affordable Housing
Food Insecurity
Access to Jobs
Public Safety
Economic Development



Community-centered economic inclusion: What is it and what makes it different?

CCEI is an organizing approach that helps places better participate in their region's growth and prosperity by focusing intentionally on uplifting the voices & assets of historically disadvantaged communities.

Equitable resource alignment

Focused on achieving greater economic inclusion for **historically disadvantaged people, places, and small businesses.**

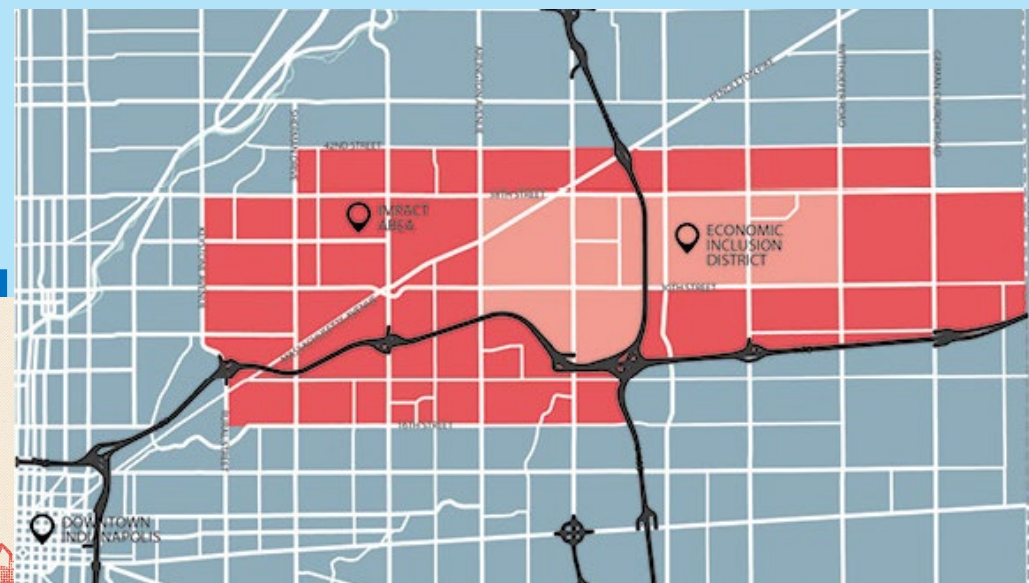
Community voice & power

Designed to **center community voice and shift power imbalances** between disinvested communities and public and private sector power-brokers.

Holistic, cross-disciplinary focus

Aimed at addressing the **economic, built environment, social, and civic infrastructure** that influences community well-being.

Tested model

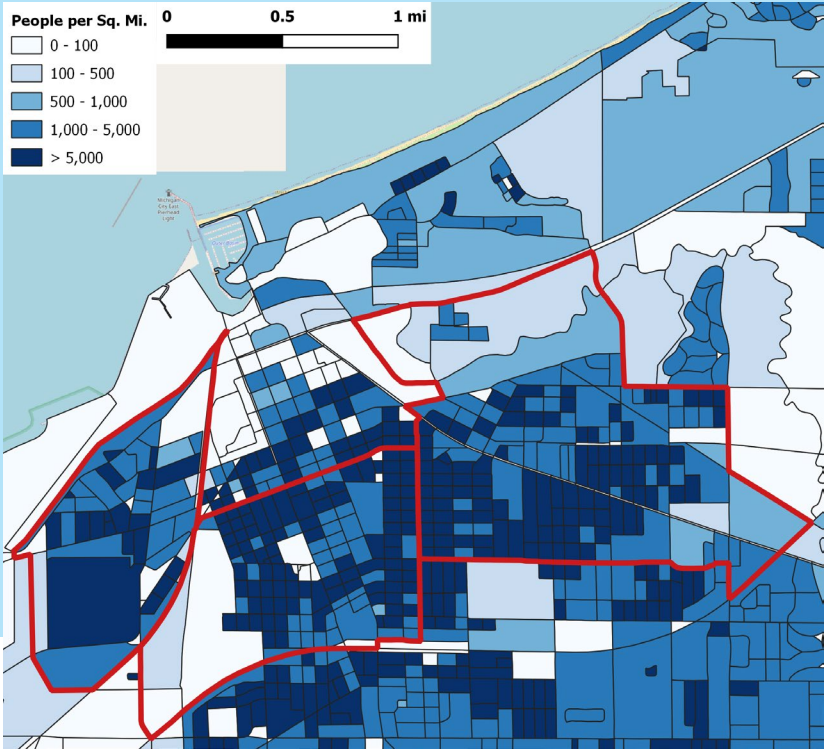
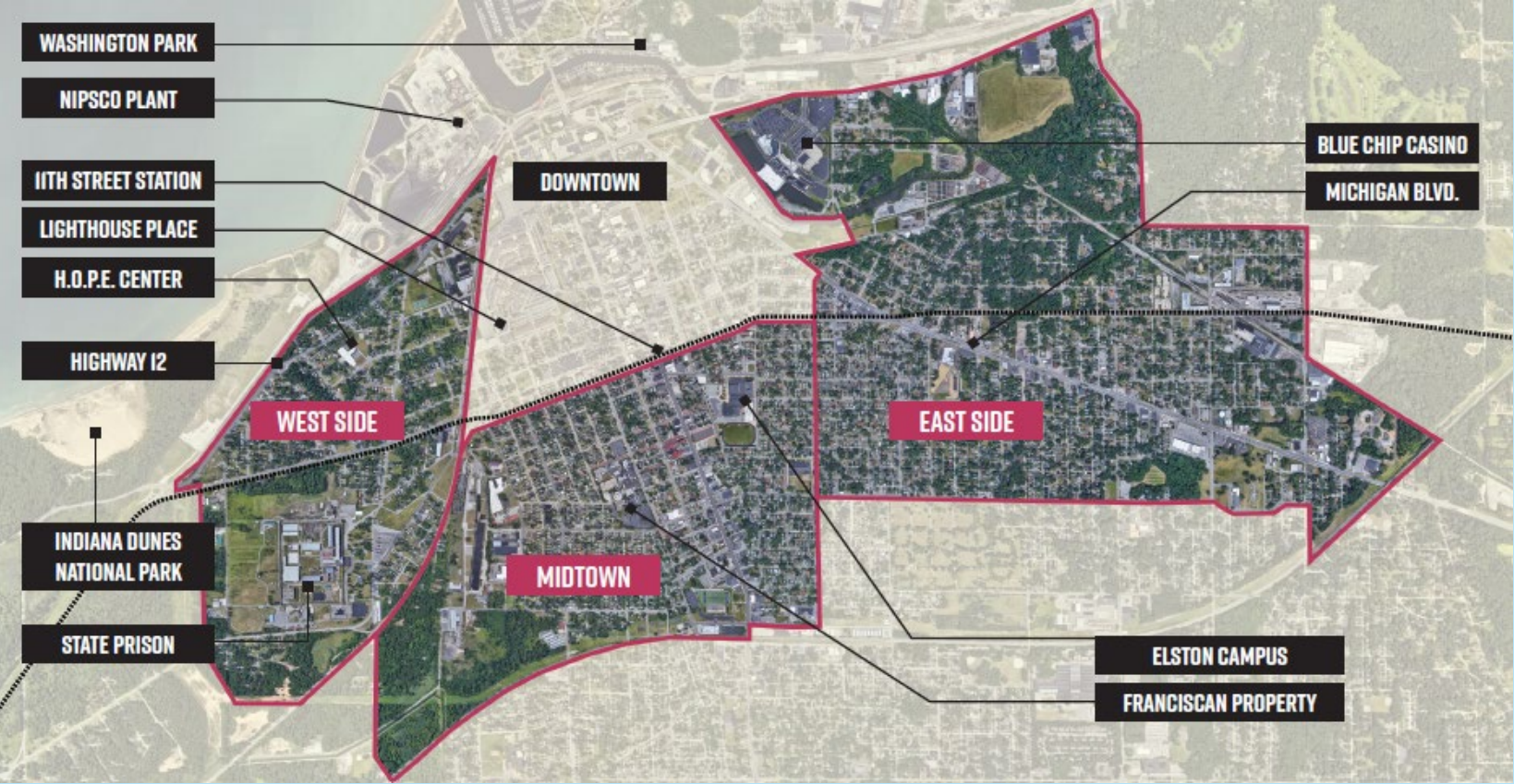


CCEI on-the-ground

Lessons from Michigan City, Indiana



Community-centered economic inclusion in Michigan City, Indiana



Community engagement and 'expanding the table' in Michigan City, Indiana



	AGENDA ACTION TASKS	TOPIC	TIMING	IMPLEMENTERS
1	Support Pathways to Employment for All Ages			
	1.1 Create a Local Opportunity Hub	Economic Civic + Social Built	Mid-Term	CWI, EDCMC, Universities, and Others
	1.2 Overcome Common Barriers to Employment	Economic	Short-Term	Local Non-profits, Local Employers, and Others
	1.3 Engage Youth In Activities and Entrepreneurship	Economic Civic + Social	Mid-Term	Vibrant Communities, Kidpreneurs, and Others-
2	Strengthen Local Commercial Districts and Businesses			
	2.1 Strengthen Michigan Boulevard	Economic Built Civic + Social	Mid-Term	Chamber, Black Business Association, Others
	2.2 Develop an Innovation Center	Economic	Mid-Term	EDCMC, Local Entrepreneurs, Others
	2.3 Support South Franklin and Midtown	Economic Built Civic + Social	Mid-Term	Redevelopment Commission, City Planning, Others
3	Build Healthy and Engaged Neighborhoods			
	3.1 Invest In the H.O.P.E. Center	Civic + Social	Mid-Term	H.O.P.E. Center, Black Business Association
	3.2 Activate Neighborhoods with Creative Placemaking	Civic + Social Built	Short-Term	Lubeznik Center, Public Art Committee, Others
	3.3 Support Neighborhood Associations	Civic + Social	Short-Term	EDCMC, Resident Leaders, Others
4	Construct Safe and Affordable Housing			
	4.1 Build and Rehab Single-family Homes	Built	Mid-Term	Lake Michigan CDC, EDCMC, Others
	4.2 Develop Affordable Neighborhood Housing	Built	Mid-Term	City Planning, Lake Michigan CDC, Others
5	Connect People to Recreation and Nature			
	5.1 Improve Highway 12 to Create Dune and Lake Access	Built Civic + Social	Long-Term	NIRPC, City Planning, and Others
	5.2 Invest In Expanded Trails	Built Civic + Social	Mid-Term	Parks Department, City Planning, and Others
6	Advocate to Transform Legacy Sites			
	6.1 Explore State Prison Reuse Options	Economic Built Civic + Social	Long-Term	Redevelopment Commission, NWI Forum, Others
	6.2 Encourage Community-Serving Reuse of NIPSCO Site	Economic Built Civic + Social	Long-Term	NIPSCO, Redevelopment Commission, Others

Steps to push the Vibrant MC Playbook

- Created a Director of Education and Workforce Development
- Established a Municipal Leadership Program for Interns
- City Council appropriated money for a position to lead the Vibrant Michigan City playbook through 2026
 - Small Business and Entrepreneurship Grants
 - Neighborhood Leadership Academy
- Received a Fellow from the Economic Recovery Corps
- Submitted State and Federal Grants to support the playbook
- Prison Redevelopment Study underway

