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UM-Dearborn's iLabs' eCities research recognizes East Bay Charter Township for supporting business in their community

East Bay Township, March 1, 2022 – East Bay Charter Township has been recognized for its successes and efforts in contributing to Michigan's entrepreneurial growth and economic development in the annual eCities study conducted by researchers at iLabs, University of Michigan-Dearborn's Center for Innovation Research. East Bay Charter Township, along with the City of Traverse City, was honored as a four-star community along with 90 other communities across the state. The Charter Township of Garfield was also honored as a five-star community.

"East Bay Charter Township is pleased to invest in areas which make the community desirable to businesses and residents, such as recreational amenities, utility infrastructure, and quality emergency services." says Beth Friend, Township Supervisor.

The eCities study analyzed publicly available data from communities which represent 71 percent of Michigan's population and 86 percent of the state's commercial property. Researchers focused on the five-year changes in property values, community assets, and tax rates, which can demonstrate the growth, investments, and cost of doing business within the community. For example, over the five-year period of 2016-2020, these communities increased their capital assets by an average of 2.9 percent per year by investments such as park facilities, water and sewer infrastructure projects, and emergency vehicles, while property tax rates increased by less than 3 percent on average per year.

"Each year, the eCities project aims to highlight the successes and continued commitment of cities and townships to grow business and support entrepreneurship within their communities," said Kari Kowalski, iLabs project manager.

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About University of Michigan-Dearborn

Founded in 1959 with a gift of just over 200 acres of land and \$6.5 million from the Ford Motor Company, University of Michigan-Dearborn is a metropolitan university serving southeastern Michigan, committed to excellence rooted in strong academics, innovative research and programming and civic engagement. The university has 8,300 students pursuing more than 100 bachelor's, master's, doctoral and professional degrees in liberal arts and sciences, engineering, business, education, and health programs. A top-ranked university with faculty devoted to teaching and students committed to achievement, UM-Dearborn is shaped by its history of partnering with local leaders and communities, and is committed to finding solutions for the challenges that face the region.

LINKS:

eCities homepage:

<https://umdearborn.edu/cob/business-community/ilabs-center-innovation-research/entrepreneurship/ecities>

List of all four-star communities:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i2DeeZ1mE2ofxCYTkWG31DJ2GOWOgMco/view?usp=sharing>

List of all five-star communities:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IHhrRxx1J2wbQuyyg9i8H20j_MEr4wNI/view?usp=sharing