

Historic North Flint Food Market Groundbreaking Celebrated

New grocery store on Flint's north side will bring access to fresh foods to local residents, renovate longvacant building

FLINT, Mich., May 11, 2023 – The Flint community joined local, state and federal officials on Monday to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony for the historic North Flint Food Market - a new co-op urban grocery store soon to open on the north side of Flint. With more than 900 members already, the innovative project will provide much-needed, affordable, healthy food options to area residents.

The project, supported by the Michigan Strategic Fund, is redeveloping and returning a vacant space in the community to productive use, while providing walkable access to fresh foods and produce. The North Flint Food Market is also expected to generate a total capital investment of \$7 million while creating 27 permanent, full-time equivalent jobs.

"The new full-service grocery store in North Flint will help residents with the access to healthy, fresh food they deserve, and offer a community space that will create meaningful jobs," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Establishing a grocery store at this location meets the need for reliable access to fresh foods for people in the community and will also promote walkability in the neighborhood. The North Flint Food Market is also expected to increase confidence in the local economy, create new tax revenue, eliminate the "food desert" status, and encourage other property investors and owners to undertake renovation projects in the area.

In addition to its more than 900 member owners, the project has received significant local community contributions and financial support from philanthropic organizations including the Ruth Mott Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater Flint, CS Mott Foundation, and Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

"We know that it's impossible for people to be the best version of themselves if they are worried about their livelihood or even their next meal, so we are proud to support this community-driven, communitybased grocery store to bring new opportunity to the residents of North Flint and the surrounding area," said Quentin L. Messer, Jr., MEDC CEO.

About Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)

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