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Michigan State University Expresses Its Support for the Michigan Manufacturing and Innovation Campus (MMIC) and Urges Eagle Township Trustees to Restart the Planning Process

Clark Retirement Communities, Clark Foundation Join MSU in Expressing Support for the MMIC

(LANSING, Mich., May 18, 2023)—Michigan State University (MSU), which owns the property involved in the development of the Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus (MMIC) in Eagle Township, has provided a formal letter advocating for the master planning and showing its support for the project. The Clark Retirement Community and Clark Foundation have also joined MSU in submitting a letter of support to the Eagle Township Board.

The proposed MMIC site is intended to attract a domestic semiconductor, chip or EV battery manufacturer to Mid-Michigan, creating thousands of good-paying jobs and bringing our supply chain back to the U.S. MSU will receive 55% of the proceeds from selling the land while the Clark Retirement Community and Clark Foundation stand to receive the remaining 45% of the funds.

David Morris, a well-respected municipal and agricultural leader in Mid-Michigan who “wisely stewarded his community as it navigated the delicate balance between rural traditions and urban development” ([Ag Expo Guide, 2009](#)), donated his land to Michigan State University in 2006 with the intention that it would eventually be sold and the proceeds would benefit MSU’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Clark Retirement Communities in Grand Rapids.

MSU’s letter outlined the impact the MMIC will have on the local community and state, writing “What lies before our shared communities today brings a unique opportunity to blend our passion for the future of agriculture and our pledge for a better, brighter future for our communities, region and state. The eventual sale of this property stands to bring hundreds, perhaps thousands, of good-paying jobs to Eagle Township and our region, boosting the local tax revenue and strengthening the vibrancy of our collective economy. The proposed development will bring engineering and professional service careers to the area and additional collaborations with our university and Lansing Community College.”

The Clark Retirement Communities allow Michigan seniors to remain healthy and active while they age in dignity and safety. Thanks to the generosity of people like David Morris, the Clark

Foundation ensures the residents at Clark have peace of mind knowing they can remain in the Clark community, even if longevity or illness depletes their financial resources.

In their letter, Clark Retirement Communities President Brian Pangle and Clark Foundation Executive Director JoAnn Abraham write that David Morris was introduced to Clark through a dear friend who was a United Methodist Minister, resident of Clark and influential in the lives of David and his wife. In 1986, impressed with Clark's mission, the Clark Promise of Benevolent Care, and the care Clark provided to his friend, Mr. Morris became a significant, consistent benefactor to Clark, remaining so until his death in April 2009.

The letter also notes "David Morris was inspired, passionate, and heartfelt in his desire to assist residents of Clark into perpetuity through this gift of this property, the income it would generate and the proceeds forthcoming from a future sale. We are confident Mr. Morris would be pleased knowing his philanthropic intentions to all parties were fulfilled."

To learn more about the Michigan Manufacturing Innovation Campus, please visit mimanufacturinginnovationcampus.com.

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