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Contact: Press@Michigan.gov

Governor Whitmer Announces Initiative for Nation-Leading Wireless EV Charging Infrastructure in Michigan

Wireless charging advances Governor Whitmer's goals for EV adoption and environmental sustainability in Michigan

PONTIAC, Mich. – While participating in the opening ceremony at Motor Bella today, Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced a new initiative to develop the nation's first wireless charging infrastructure on a public road in the U.S. right here in Michigan. The development of a wireless dynamic charging roadway in Michigan is a step forward in addressing range anxiety and will accelerate the transition to all-electric transit fleets in Michigan, and beyond.

"Michigan was home to the first mile of paved road, and now we're paving the way for the roads of tomorrow with innovative infrastructure the will support the economy and the environment, helping us achieve our goal of carbon neutrality by 2050," said **Governor Gretchen Whitmer.** "This project reinforces my commitment to accelerating the deployment of electric vehicle infrastructure in Michigan and will create new opportunities for businesses and high-tech jobs amidst the transition to electric vehicles."

The Inductive Vehicle Charging Pilot is a partnership between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Office of Future Mobility and Electrification that will deploy an electrified roadway system that allows electric buses, shuttles and vehicles to charge while driving, enabling electric vehicles to operate continuously without stopping to charge. Electrified roadways have the potential to accelerate adoption of electric vehicles by consumers and fleet operations alike by enabling continuous vehicle operations and turning public streets into safe and sustainable shared energy platforms. As the first in the nation to deploy this forward-looking infrastructure, Michigan continues to secure its reputation as a leader in future transportation solutions and accelerate progress toward our carbon neutrality goals.

MDOT will release a Request for Proposal on **Tuesday, September 28, 2021** to design, fund, evaluate, iterate, test and implement the Inductive Vehicle Charging Pilot along a one-mile stretch of state-operated roadway in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties. This partner will work closely with MODT, the Office of Future Mobility and Electrification, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy on this project. The RFP (Requisition 3524) will be posted to eProposal; which can

be accessed through MILogin at MILogin for Third Party or at the following link starting on September 28.

"At MDOT, we know the future of mobility involves connectivity, and this initiative dovetails nicely with our other successes linking vehicles and infrastructure through technology," said **MDOT Director Paul C. Ajegba**. "This is a model we will build on across the state to further promote the governor's broad and ambitious vision."

To date, MDOT has activated the largest vehicle-to-infrastructure technology deployment – nearly 600 miles – in the United States, including a first-of-its-kind connected and autonomous vehicle (CAV) corridor. Michigan is also home to the most diverse collection of automated vehicle and drone testing environments in the world, more mobility-related patents than any other state, and more engineers per capita than anywhere else in the world.

Today's news builds on announcements by the administration in the past month, including the **first round** of **Michigan Mobility Funding Platform** funding grants to accelerate mobility and EV investments in the state, a **robot delivery program** to address last-mile delivery challenges in Detroit's Corktown neighborhood; **Detroit Smart Parking Lab**, a new public/private sector collaboration launching the nation's first-of-its-kind, real-world test site for parking solutions, also in Corktown; and a **MOU between Michigan and Ontario** on cross-border activities to spur technology innovations and transportation solutions that enhance crossings by land, air, and water.

"We're in the midst of the most significant shift in the automotive industry since the Model T rolled off the assembly line more than a century ago, and Michigan is once setting the course manufacturing the vehicles of the future and deploying charging solutions that make EV adoption more widely available" said **Trevor Pawl, Chief Mobility Officer with the Office of Future Mobility and Electrification**. "This electrified roadway has the potential to accelerate autonomous vehicles at scale and turn our streets into safe, sustainable, accessible and shared transportation platforms."

Learn more about how Michigan is leading in transportation mobility and electrification visit www.michiganbusiness.org/mobility.