



## Pittsfield Charter Township

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### Office of the Supervisor

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## Pittsfield Township Recognized for Supporting Economic Development



Pittsfield Township (November 3, 2015) – Pittsfield Charter Township is one of six communities across the state of Michigan recognized by University of Michigan’s (Dearborn) eCities initiative, for implementing strategies that foster entrepreneurial growth and economic development.

The eCities initiative is part of University of Michigan Dearborn’s Center for Innovation Research. The program uniquely researches factors that contribute to economic success at the local level. In their multi-year study, the eCities initiative has grown to include 199 communities from throughout the state.

In 2015, the eCities study surveyed 66 communities from 29 counties in Michigan that are home to more than 19 percent of Michigan residents and 10 percent of its college graduates. The study focuses on entrepreneurship because of its importance to expansion and diversification of Michigan’s regional economies and the impact small businesses have on job creation.

Pittsfield Township was selected as one of a handful in the state to receive the highest designation of being a 5-star Best Practices community for clearly identifying and implementing a vision to foster economic success, including articulating a placemaking strategy.

“Establishing a sense of place and community through public gathering spaces, community events, multimodal amenities such as pathways and sidewalks, is one of the central tenants of our master plan. It

is this placemaking strategy that both residents and businesses are increasingly responding to and making Pittsfield their home to do business, live and recreate in,” noted Supervisor Mandy Grewal.

“The eCities project highlights how local governments from across the state of Michigan are cultivating and supporting economic development. These communities show how local governments can work in distinct and strategic ways to energize public spaces, while investing in businesses and job development,” said Tim Davis, Director of iLabs.

“Our primary focus when it comes to creating a positive entrepreneurial climate is to retain, promote, and nurture our dynamic, yet diverse, commercial and business sector,” noted Supervisor Mandy Grewal. “We are honored to be recognized for our community’s successes in economic development.”

Pittsfield Township was honored on Thursday, October 29, 2015, at UM-Dearborn. For more information please visit [www.pittsfield-mi.gov](http://www.pittsfield-mi.gov).

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