



DETROIT, MICHIGAN | SEPTEMBER 25-27



Local Leaders Matter

Dan Gilmartin

Executive Director/CEO

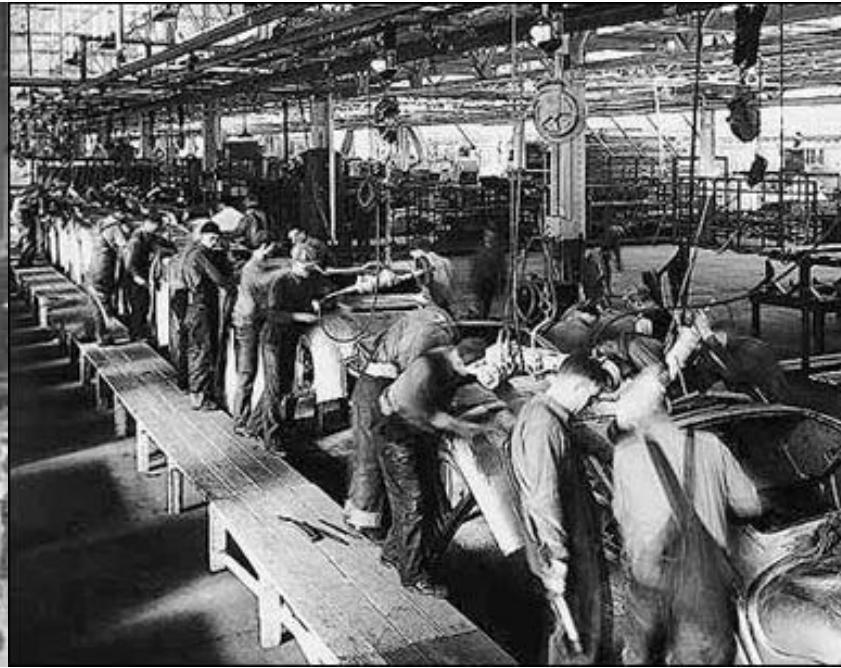
The world is watching communities in Michigan

And for good reason

(Pssst... they always have)

Early leaders in prosperity

Our people, our places, our culture

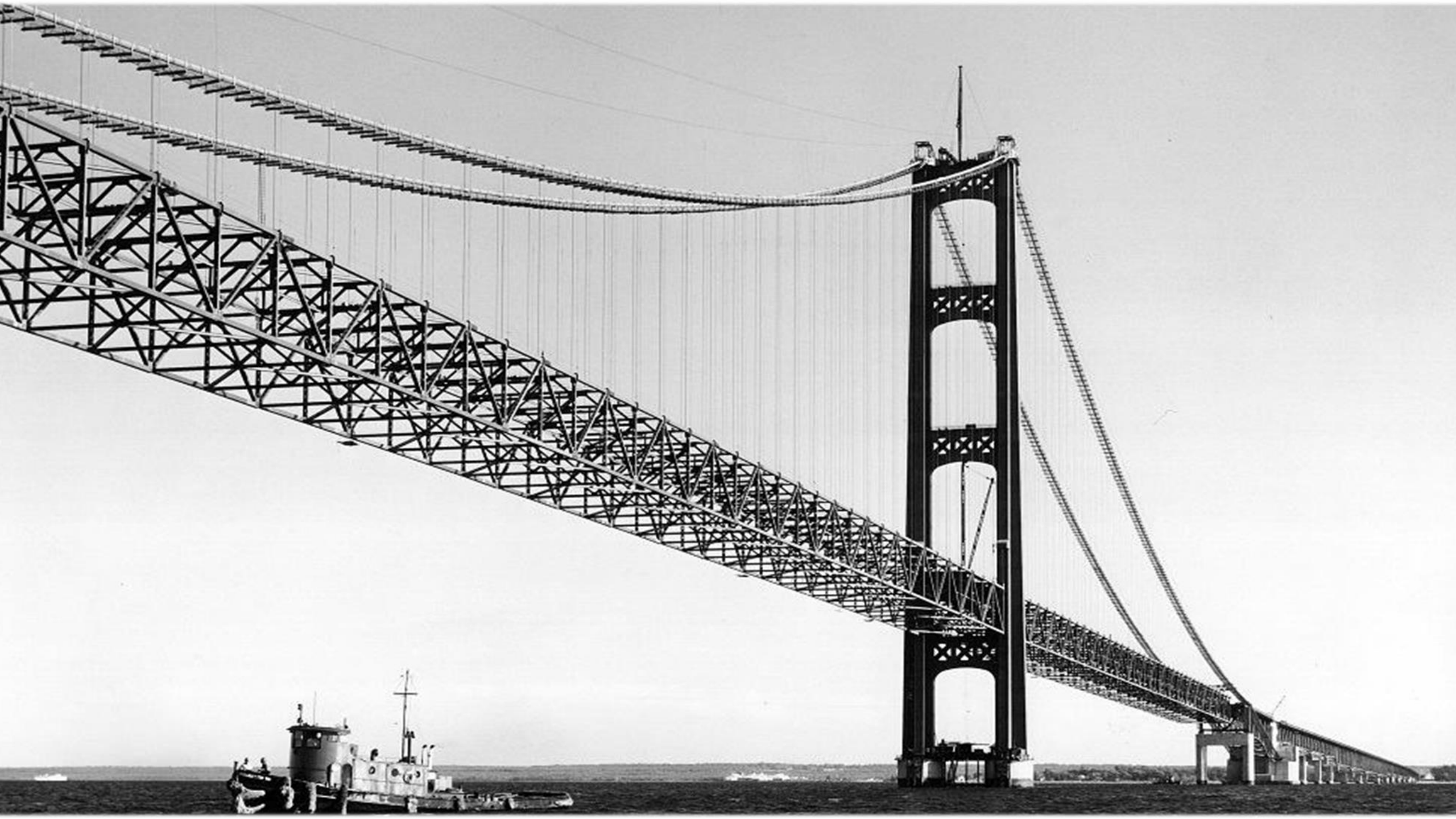


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CONVENTION 

Where were you on April 30, 1952?

Something **MIGHTY** happened that day in Michigan



Tough times on the late 20th and early 21st centuries



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Tangible infrastructure is the “hardware” that supports the intangibles of regions and communities.

Roads and Bridges

Water Infrastructure

Parks and Facilities

State and National View

Societal experiences with greater economic struggles and restructuring lead to less integration of its people

Less integration leads to social disengagement, disconnectedness, lower growth and, eventually, radical political movements

How states and federal governments respond

‘Big Dig’ style projects

“Take back what is ours!” and protectionism

There is a better answer

Long-term fixes for what is ailing us

This is where you come in!

The intangible infrastructure comprises the knowledge and transaction networks in all their social, economic, and cultural dimensions. The intangible infrastructure is both fluid and dynamic.

Education

Reskilling

Culture

This provides the secret sauce for a truly resilient community

Leading Happiness Factors

Stable family life

Equality within society >>> Higher level of prosperity

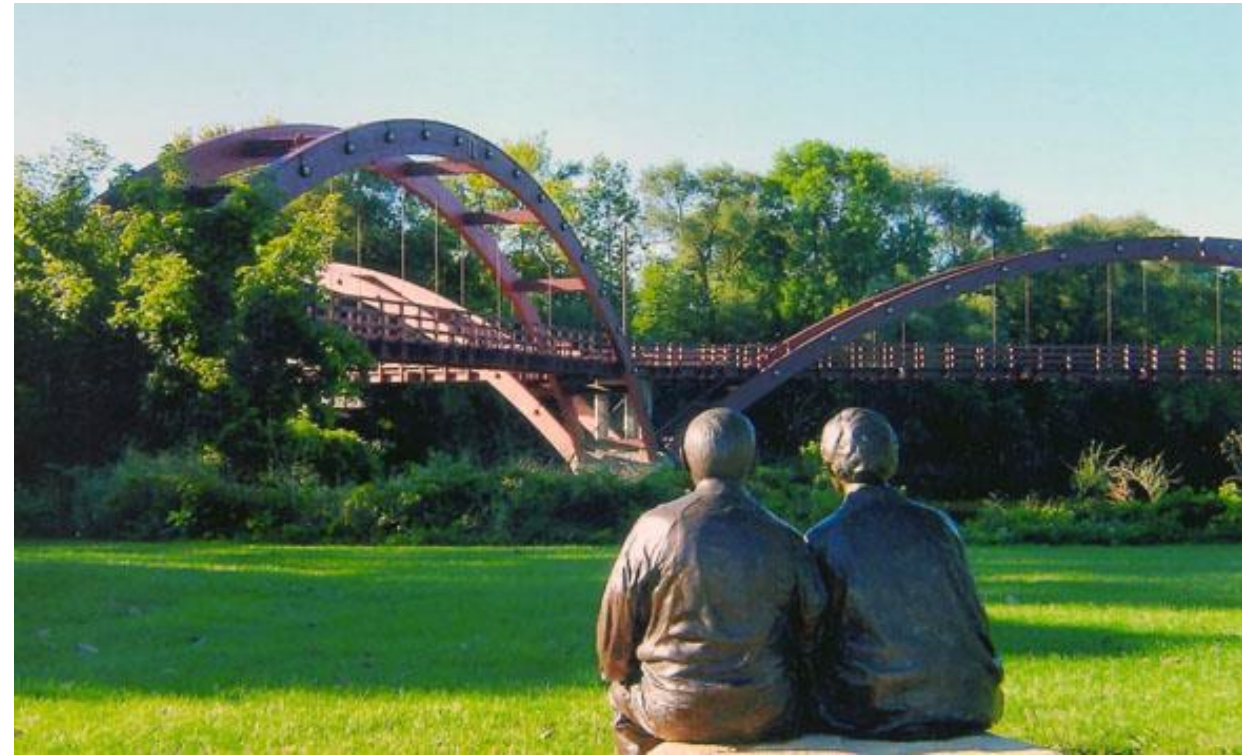
Strong mental health

**If you don't think city hall impacts these things,
think again**

Shout Out to the City of Midland!

... for their work on improving community resilience through positive psychology

positive psychology
civic engagement
social capital
fairness
belonging
community



A new period of innovation for Michigan, led by our communities



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While our state and federal partners in governance search for the political will to enact positive change, local leaders will still LEAD

Gauge CITY STRENGTH through practical approach to policy creation and service delivery (adapted from *The Levelling* by Michael O'Sullivan)

Remember the importance of intangible infrastructure and its capacity to bring people together—higher ed, reskilling, culture, etc.

Be Impactful in your community—choose your own adventure

- This week is a celebration of what “we” can do to transform our corners of the world
- No silver bullets, no big solution—many small ones
- A new localism—learn about adaptive reuse, new transportation strategies, talent attraction, opportunity zones, civic engagement, recession proofing, clean energy technology and more
- Local government is a party that you WANT to be invited to attend!

Don't Wait. Lead

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