

**Lake Michigan Electric Vehicle Circuit Tour
Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”) is made by and between the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin (hereinafter referred to as the “Participating States”).

OBJECTIVES:

The Lake Michigan Electric Vehicle (EV) Circuit Tour, established through this MOU, is a multistate collaboration project between Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin to build the best new road-trip for EV drivers in America. The states will work together with a united effort to design, facilitate the development, maintenance, and marketing of a scenic route with reliable light-duty vehicle charging options along the Lake Michigan coastline (the “Lake Michigan EV Circuit Tour”). The Lake Michigan EV Circuit Tour will target electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE) installations at key coastal communities and tourism attractions such as event venues, parks, lighthouses, resorts, lodging, eateries, and small businesses. This plan’s main goal is to link the new EVSE sites together with existing charging infrastructure networks at tourist attractions in population centers along the Lake Michigan EV Circuit Tour route.

The key objective is to plan and collaborate with the other states to support organizations to build, maintain, and encourage use of a robust EV tourism attraction around Lake Michigan that is the Lake Michigan EV Circuit Tour route itself, and help the regional, states’, and local tourism economies over the long-run and promote the use of state and national parks and lakeshores, as well as support small businesses and municipalities.

- **Accelerate Light-Duty Electrification and Personal EV Adoption:** Through the Lake Michigan Circuit collaboration, Participating States will work to evaluate and remove barriers to light-duty electric vehicles (LDEV) adoption through coordination on charging infrastructure optimization, cooperation on best practices and information sharing to standardize regulations, communications, and charging experience – specifically for LDEVs.
- **Elevate Economic Growth:** Building on the breathtaking, entertaining, and relaxing locations and amenities offered by the Great Lakes Region’s hospitality and tourism industry, the Lake Michigan Circuit will coordinate to advance the ease of access to the some of the region’s greatest tourism attractions by the next-generation of clean and electrified transportation and mobility manufacturing products, safeguard industry

electrification leadership, support growth of the region's share of electric vehicles, and elevate access to tools required to equip the workforce of tomorrow.

- **Advance Ecotourism:** The Lake Michigan Circuit will advance state climate goals by bolstering future tourism trends that includes electrified transportation and ecotourism attractions. The route will provide a reliable, long-distance, surface transportation recreational route for LDEV owners. Route usage would also be intended for prospective EV owners, providing an opportunity for many to understand how EVs can complement all mobility needs of individuals and families, not just daily use and commuting.

Participating states will engage with public and private sector stakeholders who are instrumental in the transition to a more sustainable transportation future, and advocate for regional advancement on a federal level. The Lake Michigan Circuit will help position the region for national and global leadership in applying advanced mobility solutions to improve public health, generate economic growth, and address greenhouse gas emissions through the accomplishment of the following activities.

BACKGROUND:

Support for Automotive and Industry Futures by Facilitating Electric Transportation:

- Participating States have demonstrated economic leadership in the transportation, manufacturing, logistics and distribution, mobility, and automotive sectors, and are positioned to facilitate an economically robust, equitable transition to use of EVs.
- Deploying and marketing publicly accessible electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), or charging infrastructure, will reduce range anxiety for prospective EV owners and promote EV adoption.

Growing our Shared Tourism Economy:

- Facilitating economic growth through vehicle electrification, clean energy manufacturing, and advanced mobility solutions is instrumental to shared regional economic goals.
- Building larger, multi-state EVSE networks, will create a tourism attraction and improve opportunities and access to hospitality attractions and locations. The goal is to supply the Lake Michigan EV Circuit Tour drivers with a valuable resource listing specific charging station infrastructure to give users comfort in ease of travel to point to point destinations on the route. The route will also showcase the beneficial applications of EVs, helping shift consumer attitudes to align with the reality of electric vehicles' practicality as a "first" car.
- Coordinating EV and EVSE investments with supports for small businesses, the tourism and hospitality sector, and rural and urban local governments, will help bolster the region's tourism economy.

Investing in the Resiliency of Regional Energy Infrastructure:

- Deploying EVSE along Lake Michigan will facilitate cleaner mobility and reduce harmful emissions in lake-adjacent areas, where air quality nonattainment has been challenging due, in part, to a highly industrialized past. These areas also tend to correlate to higher population density of people of color.
- Partnering to build and maintain EVSE in larger networks will help states make the most efficient use of resources and maximize benefits of EV integration into the energy grid.

ACTIVITIES:

1. ACCELERATE LIGHT-DUTY ELECTRIFICATION AND PERSONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE ADOPTION
 - A. Participating States will coordinate on regional EV infrastructure siting optimization and deployment strategies with an initial focus on a targeted route of commercial tourism significance around Lake Michigan.
 - B. Participating States will share best practices to inform the design and marketing of the EV infrastructure and to help develop a common customer experience across state lines.
 - C. Participating States will coordinate on best practices and share information for working with energy providers to address electricity demand needs and grid resiliency and sustainability opportunities presented by electric light-duty vehicles.
 - D. Participating States will coordinate with energy providers to support the network's development and longevity.

2. ELEVATE ECONOMIC AND ECOTOURISM OPPORTUNITIES
 - A. Participating States will work together to ensure the Lake Michigan Circuit project generates economic opportunities for tourism and hospitality sector firms and communities, in addition to the ancillary economic opportunities the project will create in the transportation, mobility, marketing, energy, and automotive industries.
 - B. Participating States, through industry coordination, will work to understand shifts in workforce demand in related economic sectors, including tourism and hospitality, and will cooperate on workforce development programs to deliver accessible programs to drive job growth and an equitable transition for the region's tourism and hospitality sectors.
 - C. Participating States will work with the tourism and hospitality sector to identify and understand challenges and desired outcomes to inform route development, maintenance, and marketing.
 - D. Participating States will coordinate on multi-state advanced technology deployments spanning mobility, connectivity, automation, energy, and electrification. Deployments will be considered in collaboration with technology, industry, university, and research partners.

PROCESS

- A. Participating States will maintain a working group comprised of senior leadership from each state.
- B. The working group will meet regularly to establish shared goals, coordinate solutions, and share updates and input on the Lake Michigan Circuit.
- C. The working group will maintain a supplemental document containing specifics pertaining to the Lake Michigan Circuit activities.
- D. The working group will identify barriers to route-related commercial and publicly supported charging station development and work together on recommendations to

remove these barriers to encourage the Lake Michigan Circuit's benefits to regional tourism.

- E. The working group will complete progress reports at regular intervals summarizing progress made towards the goals of the Lake Michigan Circuit.
- F. The Participating States agree to support the working group and its responsibilities.

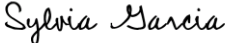
VOLUNTARY INITIATIVE:

This MOU is not legally binding. Any Participating State may withdraw at any time at its sole discretion through written statement submitted to the other Participating States.


ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS:

This MOU may be modified, terminated, or expanded given the collective agreement of the authorized representatives to the working group from the Participating States.

THE STATE OF ILLINOIS


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Omer Osman
Secretary of Transportation
Illinois Department of Transportation
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THE STATE OF INDIANA

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THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

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Secretary-designee Wisconsin

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5/25/2022

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