



Myth: Building the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan will eliminate critical farmland from our state's vital agricultural industry.

FACT: Michigan is home to 300 different agricultural products, and Michiganders understand and value the importance of agriculture to our economy, history and culture. We have seen first hand that communities can increase economic opportunities while preserving and respecting our deep agricultural roots. Michigan is home to 10 million acres of farmland and more than 3 million of those acres are under permanent farmland preservation agreements. In 2021, the state had a record high \$2.5 billion in food and agriculture exports sold abroad.

Blue Oval Battery Park Michigan will be built on 1,800 acres of land, which is just a fraction of the available agricultural land in Michigan.

Myth: Partnering with a Chinese company on the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan will undermine national security.

FACT: The battery plant will be entirely owned by Ford and will utilize technology and services provided by CATL, the world's leading battery manufacturer. The company is simply using CATL's technology and services to make our EV vehicles more competitive. And by using CATL's technology here, our country will be able to reduce our reliance on foreign manufacturing and build our capacity and industry right here in the United States.

The future is going to be driven by EV technology and batteries and Michigan is poised to lead in this critical space. We are proud to have the Marshall area play an important role in this developing technology and we're proud to help bring our supply chain back home and manufacture the vehicles of the future right here in Michigan. We're very confident that the agreement with Ford owning and operating the plant, while using services from CATL, will allow us to create jobs, be a leader in EV technology, reduce our reliance on foreign manufacturing and protect our national security.

Myth: *Developing BlueOval Battery Park Michigan will damage the environment and pollute our waterways.*

FACT: Ford has aggressive sustainability goals that includes its pledge to becoming carbon neutral globally by 2050. On the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan project, the company has committed to protecting 245 acres at the southern edge of the site along the Kalamazoo River for a nature and recreational area. It is intended to be "preserved for future generations to come," and the Ford Fund will contribute resources to this conservation easement that, in the long term, will be developed into a park with trails.

An environmentally conscious planning approach is at the forefront of the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan. The Ford battery plant will be regulated by federal and state regulators, including the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Every phase of development will be subject to the state's environmental regulatory and permitting processes and considerations.

Myth: *State and local leaders are moving forward with the development of BlueOval Battery Park Michigan despite objections from area residents.*

FACT: There is growing local support for investment in and development of this area because it will create jobs, raise property values and pump millions of dollars into local small businesses. Public input has been and will continue to be a key part of the process from community forums, public meetings and town halls.

Myth: *Property owners near the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan are being forced out of their homes.*

FACT: All property acquisitions made for this project have been done voluntarily through negotiations with local landowners. Marshall Area Economic Development Alliance (MAEDA) does not have the power to use eminent domain to acquire property.

Myth: *Developing the BlueOval Battery Park Michigan will require building new utilities and public service costs, causing taxpayers in Marshall Township and the City of Marshall to see their bills and taxes go up.*

FACT: The development will be a magnet for billions of dollars of new capital investment into our region, funding road improvements and infrastructure projects, which will help improve the overall quality of life in the area. A payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT)/municipal services agreement will be in place to absorb any potential utility cost increases to taxpayers and our research shows the project will not increase taxes for residents in Marshall Township and the City of Marshall.

MYTH: *Adding this manufacturing development to our area will impact the small-town feel and local charm that makes Marshall special and is the reason people want to live there.*

FACT: We strongly believe it is possible to leverage new economic opportunities while preserving our way of life in southwest Michigan with our distinctive character and our agricultural roots and history to make this project truly a “win-win.” This one-of-a-kind opportunity must be balanced with our shared desire to preserve our unique culture and way of life, rural character, and vibrant downtown with its charming shops, restaurants and sycamore tree-lined streets.