



# CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 28, 2023

City Council Members  
City of Marshall  
323 W. Michigan Ave.  
Marshall, MI 49068

Dear City Council Members,

We are writing to express our support for the necessary zoning approvals needed to facilitate the development of the highly anticipated Ford BlueOval Battery Plant proposed for the Marshall Area.

The region has experienced difficult job losses over the past several years. With the departure of Eaton Corporation and State Farm, we know that impact has been felt in the Marshall area as well. As a region, we look for every opportunity we can to reverse this trend. The Ford BlueOval Battery Plant project is such an opportunity and one we believe we cannot afford to lose.

Ford's \$3.5 billion investment is expected to bring 2,500 plus new jobs to the region and increase the number of residents living in the county. Ford has committed to hiring a local workforce to ensure that wages will circulate locally resulting in millions of dollars of direct, indirect and induced financial benefit to the area. The result will increase the funding available for new capital investment and for critical community services including roads, police, fire, and schools.

We urge you to vote in favor of this zoning request as an essential step forward in the ongoing development of this once-in-a-generation project that is certain to benefit our community.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Behnke  
Mayor

Rebecca L. Fleury  
City Manager

