



Millennial Mayors Congress Millennial Vision for Metro Detroit

The Millennial Mayors Congress envisions a metropolitan Detroit that works collaboratively to address shared problems, empowering individual communities to take local action towards regional change. Together, the region will elevate sustainability, equitable opportunity and access, a creative and innovative environment, and openness to new people and ideas.

Our vision consists of...

Economy

- A healthy, sustainable economy powered by **entrepreneurship and innovation**.
- An abundance of jobs across skill level and education, providing workers—especially young talent—with access to **diverse employment opportunities**.

Vibrant Places

- A vibrant region characterized by a network of **compact, mixed-use spaces**.
- Development, redevelopment and adaptive reuse that support and enhance existing neighborhoods and highlight the strong, **authentic character** of individual communities.

Transportation

- A **regional transportation** network with many travel **choices**, including biking, walking and transit, that allows residents to easily, reliably and affordably **access** amenities across the metro area and within their own cities.

Education

- An **equitable primary and secondary education system** in every community that prepares all students for the new economy.
- Affordable and accessible **higher education**.

Government

- Representative, responsive, accessible and efficient **local government**.

Environment

- **Energy efficiency** and increased use of alternative energy sources.
- Abundant and healthy **open space, waterways and outdoor recreation** opportunities.

Call to Action

Help us make this vision a reality. We'll be refining this document and its language over the next few months. Contribute to the vision by giving us feedback: do we describe your ideal future? In December, the Millennial Mayors Congress will adopt this vision as its own, calling on its member communities to do the same. We'll then seek to implement our vision, adopting specific issue protocols that will transform our cities and the region.

To achieve these ideals, the Congress seeks to give a voice to diverse leadership and embrace the distinct and authentic identities and strengths of our member communities. It's up to us to shape our ideal future and create a stronger, sustainable, more vibrant metro Detroit. Join us at millennialmayors.org.

Background

On May 22, 2010, the Millennial Mayors Congress voted to create a Millennial-supported regional vision. This vision seeks to revitalize member communities by focusing on the issues most important to metro Detroit Millennials, all within the framework of sustainability and regionalism. Congress representatives agreed that a visioning initiative would encourage regional cooperation, and ensure that future initiatives undertaken by the Congress are rooted in the desires of local Millennials and other community members.

In pursuit of this, the Congress conducted an online survey of over 550 18-35-year-old residents of Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties. The Congress also held a series of three focus groups that explored more deeply how local Millennials would improve metro Detroit and their own communities. The Millennial Mayors Congress's vision for the region is directly informed by the findings of the survey and the focus groups, as well as outside research on Millennial priorities, and guided by the program's mission to unify member communities and empower young leaders.

The Millennial Mayors Congress is an inter-generational partnership of civic leaders who work toward a more vibrant metro Detroit through sustainable, interest-based initiatives. Each participating community is represented by a city official and a Millennial resident. Together, we work to develop solutions to economic, social and environmental issues of regional significance.