

Flint, Michigan Renewal Community

ID	Renewal Community Name	OLAS#	Population	Sq Miles	Poverty	Unemployment	Low-Income Households
16	Flint, MI	MI0004	48,297	10	47%	28%	71%

Flint, Michigan has a Round I Enterprise Community (EC) that has, in part, been designated as a Renewal Community (RC), thus Flint lost its EC designation when it received an RC designation on January 1, 2002.

The Flint RC Course of Action includes the six required goals and actions, which will be outlined briefly below.

Reducing Tax Burdens Although the City of Flint has been experiencing fiscal distress due to a decline in the overall amount of tax revenues, the objective of reducing tax burdens will be pursued in order to attract new investments into the Flint RC which will lead to future economic and tax base growth. A number of programs are in place that reduces tax burdens such as the Michigan Renaissance Zone, Industrial Tax Abatements, and Neighborhood and State Enterprise Zones.

Improving Local Services The Flint RC will continue in the efforts undertaken by the Flint Area Enterprise Community in terms of improving the local services through job and skills training, education, transportation and supports services to use the RC tax incentives. A Renewal Community Skill Development Task Force will be established through the CoRA to respond to the specific labor needs of businesses attracted by the RC designation. A variety of organizations work with the Flint RC to accomplish this goal such as community colleges, Mass Transportation Authority and community based organizations.

Reducing Crime The Flint RC will continue the work of the Flint EC in terms of community based crime prevention in order to create a safe environment in which businesses are willing to invest and families feel secure in their neighborhood. The Flint Police Department is committed to continuing the programs of Community Policing through the C.O.P.S. (Community Officers Patrolling the Street) Program, Weed and Seed Program and 97 Block Clubs and Crime Watches.

Reducing Government Requirements The City of Flint has revised its procedures for implementing community redevelopment projects, which require the establishment of a Citizens District Council for each project.

Involving Community Partners The Flint RC will continue the work of the Flint Area EC by actively involving community partners in economic development through the Flint Area Investment Fund and other initiatives. The Flint Area EC, Downtown Development Authority and Flint Economic Development Corporation are a few examples of the community partners in the Flint RC.

Soliciting In-Kind Donations In order to fill in the gaps in public funding programs to provide local services and promote investment in the RC, in-kind donations are solicited from an array of foundations, businesses, and organizations. The Community Foundation of Greater Flint supports many neighborhood based projects and is anticipated to donate to the RC. Under the Abandoned Property and Land Reutilization Plan abandoned properties will be made more attractive to non-profit and economic development organizations.