

APPROVED MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 7:30 p.m., in Room K324, John Lewis Conference Center, South Campus, 14500 E. Twelve Mile Road, Warren, Michigan.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lorenzo at 7:40 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present:

Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson

Shelley Vitale, Vice Chairperson

Kristi Dean, Secretary

Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer

Frank Cusumano, Trustee

Joan Flynn, Trustee

Absent:

Vincent Viviano, Trustee

Also present:

James Sawyer, President

Jeffrey Steele, General Counsel

Patsy Tannahill, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Flynn, to approve the agenda as presented.

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: Cusumano, Flynn, Dean, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated "This is a housekeeping matter; we have something unusual this evening. Clinton Township has asked to place an item on our agenda. The item appears as number 11.7 on the agenda. Pursuant to Board policy, time for commenting on this issue will be provided when item 11.7 is called. Members of the public and/or Clinton Township officials in attendance have up to five minutes each to speak on the issue at that time."

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Information Session Minutes, April 16, 2025

4.2 Closed Session Minutes, April 16, 2025

4.3 Regular Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2025

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2025, information session, closed session, and regular meeting, as read.

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORTS (verbal)

5.1 Board of Trustees Reports

None.

6.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT (verbal)

President Sawyer shared with the audience that this was a particularly celebratory time for the college. The college held the commencement ceremony on May 2nd and hosted several pinning ceremonies for various programs. It was a very positive time for our students, and it truly reinforced the importance of the work we do and the impact we have on people's lives.

President Sawyer thanked the trustees who were able to attend and support these meaningful events.

7.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 Financial Statement – April 30, 2025

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by DiMaria, to receive and file the financial statements for the ten months ended April 30, 2025.

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: Cusumano, DiMaria, Dean, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

7.2 Investment Report – April 30, 2025

MOTION by Dean, supported by DiMaria, to receive and file the investment report of securities held as of April 30, 2025.

ALL IN FAVOR:

AYES: Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS: Cusumano

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

7.3A Property Tax Analysis and Resolution

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Vitale, that the attached resolution for the levy of 2025-2026 property taxes for operating purposes be adopted as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Cusumano, Vitale, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB STATE OF MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION FOR LEVY OF 1.3900 MILL TAX 2025

AT A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb, Michigan, held on the 21st day of May 2025 at South Campus, 14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren, Michigan at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

ABSENT: Viviano

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Cusumano and seconded by Trustee Vitale.

WHEREAS, Act No. 331 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan for the year 1966, as amended, requires the Board of Trustees to determine the total taxes required for the operation of the Community College for any year; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously adopted a proposed additional millage rate as required by Public Act 5 of 1982 and has held a public hearing as required by the same act, and

WHEREAS, the qualified electors of the College District have heretofore authorized the Board of Trustees to levy a tax on real property within the District at the maximum annual rate of 1.3900 mills on each thousand dollars (\$1.3900 per \$1,000) of the State equalized assessed valuation of the property within the District, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that the total taxes required for operation by the Community College District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, amount to be at least \$55,310,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby declared and certified that the approved tax to be levied on the real property with the College District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 shall be at the rate of 1.3900 mills on each thousand dollars (\$1.3900 per \$1,000) of the taxable State equalized assessed valuation of the property within the District which will be reduced as required by the provisions of Act No. 35 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan for the year 1979, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and it is hereby declared and certified, that the total amount of taxes to be raised throughout the College District for the operation of the College for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, shall amount to at least \$55,310,000 and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary is hereby authorized to certify the approved tax rate and the amount of taxes to be raised and the College Treasurer shall notify the proper assessing office of each appropriate city and township within the College District and do whatever else may be necessary and proper in the premises to effectuate compliance with this resolution.

AYES: Cusumano, Vitale, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

7.3B. Open Hearing on Proposed 2025-2026 Budget (verbal)

None.

7.3C. Initial 2025-2026 General Fund Budget

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Vitale, that the Board of Trustees adopt the attached general appropriations resolution for 2025-2026 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Cusumano, Vitale, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

(Macomb Community College)

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the general consolidated appropriations of Macomb Community College for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025. A resolution to make appropriations; to provide for expenditures of appropriations; and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Macomb Community College.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the total revenues estimated to be available for appropriations in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 are \$164,648,738.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$164,598,430 of the total available to appropriate in the General Fund is hereby appropriated for expenditures and, if necessary, fund balance to be used to ensure that the 2025-2026 budget is balanced.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no Board of Trustees member or employee of the College shall expend any General Funds or obligate the expenditure of any General Funds except pursuant to appropriations made by the Board. Changes in the amount appropriated by the Board shall require approval by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Vice President for Administration is hereby charged with general supervision of the execution of the budget adopted by the Board and shall hold the department heads responsible for the performance of their responsibilities within the amount appropriated by the Board of Trustees. This appropriation resolution is to take effect on July 1, 2025.

8.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (verbal)

None.

9.0 PERSONNEL REPORTS

9.1 New Hires

9.1A. Tiffany Goliday, Director of Training, Development and Engagement, Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU)

MOTION by Dean, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel action for Tiffany Goliday, Director of Training, Development and Engagement, Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU).

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Dean, Flynn, Cusumano, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

9.1B. Bethany Mayea, Director, Labor and Employee Relations, Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU)

MOTION by Dean, supported by DiMaria, that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel action for Bethany Mayea, Director, Labor and Employee Relations, Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU).

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Dean, DiMaria, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

9.2. Employment Contracts for Exempt Administrators

MOTION by Vitale, supported by DiMaria, that the Board of Trustees approve the contracts as proposed for the exempt administrators listed for the period of July 1, 2025, not to exceed June 30, 2026.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Vitale, DiMaria, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS: Cusumano, Dean

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

9.3. Salary Schedules for Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU) and Non-Affiliate Special Funded (NASF) Employees

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the salary schedules for non-bargaining unit and non-affiliate special funded employees as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS: Cusumano, Dean

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

10.0 REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION – INFORMATION ITEMS (none)

11.0 REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION – ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Donations – April 30, 2025

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Vitale, to accept the donations as presented and acknowledged by the College, with thanks.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: DiMaria, Vitale, Dean, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS: Cusumano

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.2 Change Orders (none)

11.3 Authorization for Purchases

11.3A Festo Facet Electronics Training Systems – Perkins Grant Fund

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the purchase of Festo Facet Electronics Training Systems in the total amount of \$94,814 from Advanced Technologies Consultants.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Flynn acknowledged that the vendor is based in Northville, Michigan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Cusumano, Flynn, Dean, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.3B. CISCO Telephony Systems Managed Services

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees authorize Administration to enter into a contract, upon the approval of General Counsel, with Sentinel Technologies Inc. to provide CISCO Telephony Systems Managed Services for three years in an amount not to exceed \$133,531. This amount includes 10% contingency covering unexpected or out-of-scope problem resolution assistance.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Flynn acknowledged that the vendor is based in Livonia, Michigan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Cusumano, Flynn, Dean, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.3C. Microsoft Enrollment for Education Solutions License Renewal

MOTION by Dean, supported by DiMaria, that the Board of Trustees renews its institutional Microsoft software licensing subscription for three (3) years in an amount not to exceed \$1,382,263 with CDWG.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Dean, DiMaria, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.3D. External Advertising

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Administration to purchase various external advertising through SMZ, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Vitale, Lorenzo

PRESENT: Dean

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.3E. Blackbaud Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Database Renewal

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean, that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to enter a 3-year contract renewal, upon the approval of General Counsel, with Blackbaud NXT to renew the existing customer relationship management database in an amount not to exceed \$270,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, Vitale, Lorenzo

PRESENT: Flynn

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.3F. Michigan Community College Risk Management Authority Self-Insured Property and Casualty Insurance

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean, that the Board of Trustees approve a contribution in an amount not to exceed \$866,686 to the Michigan Community College Risk Management Authority for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano asked if any claims had been denied. General Counsel Steele responded that all claims were honored and carried forward.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.4 Macomb Center for the Performing Arts Handrail Replacement

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed budget for the replacement and renovation of the Macomb Center for Performing Arts handrails and safety barriers, the bids as presented and authorize the award of contracts subject to the review and approval of General Counsel.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Flynn acknowledged all the contractors are based in Michigan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.5 New Apparatus Building at East Campus

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed budget for the New East Campus Apparatus Building renovation, the bids as presented, and authorize the award of contracts subject to the review and approval of General Counsel.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Flynn acknowledged all the contractors are based in Michigan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.6 Center Campus E Building Nursing Skills Lab Renovation

MOTION by Dean, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed budget for the Center Campus E Building Nursing Skills Lab renovation, the bids as presented, and authorize the award of contracts subject to the review and approval of General Counsel.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Dean, Flynn, Cusumano, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

11.7 Clinton Township Request Regarding Dalcoma Drive

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Vitale, for the board of trustees to allow ITC to run electric infrastructure along Dalcoma Drive from their existing facilities on the west side of college property to University Drive and then east to the Henry Ford HealthSystem's facilities.

DISCUSSION:

Chairperson Lorenzo stated the floor is now open for public comment. She asked the participants to raise their hand, and she would call them to the podium. She reminded them they would have 5 minutes to speak and asked that they state their full name for the record.

My name is Paul Gielegem. I serve as the supervisor of Clinton Township, and I come to you today on behalf of my elected board, to speak with you as fellow duly elected officials with the respect and appreciation that is appropriately given the long standing history of cooperation, shared values and commitment to building opportunity and a

better quality of life for all of those we mutually represent as public institutions. I grew up in Clinton Township and it is the place where my wife and I chose to raise our families. I've had the privilege of representing the community and then at the state level, the county level, and now the local level where I have always served as an advocate for this great institution of higher learning. For more than 70 years and I think it's actually more than that. But MCC has been a beacon of opportunity for hundreds of thousands of our residents, and I absolutely appreciate that. And I'm, of course, one of them. As well as my daughters and my wife, beyond those heartfelt accolades, though, I am here to speak to you about a matter of great concern to our board, our residents, and our entire community. As deep as our connection to the education mission of Macomb Community College is, my board and I are committed to also maintaining the vibrancy of a great but aging community, Clinton Township, just as importantly, Henry Ford Macomb Hospital is as committed to providing quality healthcare to that same constituency. In that respect, we are codependent on each other. In our mission of service, we do not and cannot consider ourselves separate and siloed institutions of service. As you certainly know, major expansions have occurred at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital, requiring the need for additional power. How that power is provided has become an unnecessary source of division, frustration and uncertainty initiated, quite frankly, by a company which appears to be relying on a divide and conquer approach against us as public entities and the residents we serve. We at the Township have a responsibility to protect our residents and we are speaking to you and asking you to join us in that effort. We prepared this packet that we passed out for all of you to cut through the noise and to the extent we can break this issue down to its core. From the beginning, there have been 2 routes to provide power to the hospital. The current ITC proposed route along 19 Mile Road, which you'll see in exhibit one, which is the map. And the originally proposed route by ITC and the hospital along Dalcoma Drive, which is reflected in Exhibit 10, the map at the end of the packet. The 19-mile Road route would place these power lines within 50 feet of balconies of residential, taxpaying condo owners and as you can see in Exhibit 1, the easement will literally extend into their home. The Township Board believes this is unconscionable. Bending, twisting, crackling, high transmission power lines less than 50 feet from where people live is untenable. We wouldn't want that, as a board, and we don't believe you would want that installed so close to where you lay your head to rest each night. Furthermore, we have a responsibility to protect the economic vitality of a major thoroughfare in our community. 19 Mile Road is such a thoroughfare. So much so that Macomb County has discussed making the medical hub one of its core strategic economic development areas. This will be difficult to champion if it becomes instead a utility corridor. Luckily, there is a viable alternative, so I'd ask you to turn to exhibit 10 and view the route originally proposed along Dalcoma Drive. How do we know that the Dalcoma Drive is the original route? We have emails that demonstrate as far back as 2021 both the hospital and ITC were lobbying Macomb Community College to grant easements of college owned property along Dalcoma Drive. These are the other exhibits in your packet. Board members, the front face of Macomb Community College, particularly the Clinton Township campus is Garfield and Hall Road. Dalcoma is a 2 lane back road originally created to provide access to the hospital. At some point between late 2021 and early 2024, ITC switched their preferred route to 19-mile. Well, when we asked why Dalcoma

was no longer being considered we were provided with a host of answers, all of which have proved to be red herrings. So, let's clear those up. We were told that the Dalcoma route would require wetland mitigation and state environmental regulators will not allow that if a viable alternative route exists. They were speaking, of course, 19-mile Road. We met with EGLE who made it clear that if there are any wetland issues they would be willing to work with ITC as they always do on mitigation. Back up for that is provided in Exhibit 7. The Dalcoma route is not possible, they claimed, because it will interfere with emergency helicopter services for the hospital. The Township hired an experienced helicopter company to evaluate the helipad issue, and they concluded that the obstacles already in existence, such as light poles in the hospital parking lot, the building, trees and building canopy already make it necessary to approach the hospital in a steep manner, and that the existence of power lines 400 feet away will not change that approach. That report is provided as Exhibit 8. They also claimed the power line could not be placed in a drain easement and the Mites drain would force the lines further on to college owned property. Through a brief engagement with the Macomb County Public Works Office, Candace Miller subsequently reviewed the issue, met with ITC, and inform them that co-locating in the drain would be possible. She was clear that she wanted to be part of the solution to ensure that we do what is best for the Community and its residents. We've also been told that the power lines along the colleges back road would be an impediment for future growth. The colleges master plan, which is provided to us and provided to all of you as Exhibit 9, does not have structures near where the power lines could go, just the parking lot, which is not a problem for a power line. No buildings could be located near the lines due to wetlands on your own property. In fact, you cannot build within 50 feet of the existing easement and set back requirements anyways. So, as you can see from the shaded area on exhibit 10, very little college property would actually be required. When you consider the existing road easements, drain easements, and the ordinance requiring setbacks. We are left with one objection to the Dalcoma route, objections based upon aesthetics and view. As is stated in the e-mail, in Exhibit 4. let's be clear high transmission power lines should be placed on back roads and in places where people visit, not where they live. We as the governing board of our community and your host community are here for one reason, to ask that you as an elected board, sacrifice by our estimation less than an acre, For the public good. By doing so, you will be standing with us, with our residents, and standing true to the mission of a public entity that serves residents and communities Without causing harm to them. Henry Ford Hospital, Macomb Community College and Clinton Township are public service entities first and foremost. Together, we pursue the best interest of the people we serve. It would be unethical to act in silos. We draw our mission and our revenue from the same residents. Those residents expect us to act together to do what is right for the Community, and I am asking this board and the administration to hold yourself to that standard and stand with us to make sure that these residents, condo owners, that are going to have these lines 50 feet from where they lay their head at night are not impacted in such a negative and detrimental way. I appreciate your time. I appreciate your indulgence, and I will surrender the floor. Thank you.

My name is Jack Dolan, I'm the attorney for Clinton Township, and I've actually been around the Township. They've let me stick around since all the way back to 1976, so don't hold that against them. I'm here really in what I consider to be a friendship role, I go back many, many years with the Township and I recall many times appearing at the Community College Center for Performing Arts, particularly back in the days when the Severinis were deeply involved at the College, Dominic Severini especially. And I just have great memories going back to many of the performances that I was able to attend and some of the functions. And I'll speak for myself, others can speak for themselves, but I'd like to see a resumption of a closer relationship and more involvement between our township and the college. I think there were times in the past where we did have more communication where there was more of a presence of the Township at the community college and the community college at the township. I love to see that resume. I think as Paul mentioned, we all are extremely blessed and proud to have the college in our community. It truly is a great resource, and it separates us from many other communities that don't have that type of resource. I do want to make a couple points. I do want you to understand how our perspective got formed. When we received some of the materials we took a look at them, and it appeared to us it was pretty clear that there was deep consideration going back in 2021 for that Dalcoma route. I think it's very much indisputable. There was an e-mail sent back on Friday, July 23rd, 2021, and it's phrase to all and included on it are two persons from the college, including your attorney who's here tonight, and in it the statement is made, first of all, it's addressed to all, secondly, it says as we are aware, ITC will be bringing the transmission lines to the site through the Macomb College site, parents see attached preliminary routing, close parent period, I would like to schedule a meeting to start the process for this, let me know your availability on these dates and in the header there's a whole group of people including as I mentioned, a number of people from the college. I think it's pretty clear that anybody reading that would have a reasonable expectation that there was certainly, if not outright approval, very deep consideration ongoing that there was going to be a route through the college. So, I just want that to be mentioned because I think it's pretty much irrefutable that we believe and that there was at one time existing, at minimum, extremely serious consideration, if not an outright willingness to have the lines come through the college. So, with that I want to also point out that we are still in an undecided position in the process, under the process that was selected by ITC, they could have either gone to the Public Service Commission or proceeded locally for the voltage for the line that they're seeking to install, they decided to proceed locally. We have an essential services ordinance and we're still in those proceedings. They have not concluded. So, the matter is not a closed book at this point. There still is the opportunity here for another route to be selected and to be undertaken. I just want to mention those two points as the discussion goes onward so that we have the good perspective and I again I want to thank you for having the opportunity here and thank you.

Good evening, President Sawyer, and the members of the board. My name is Julie Matuzak. I am currently a Clinton Township trustee. Before that, I was Macomb County Commissioner. Before that, I worked for the AFT Michigan, which represents a number of your employees. I've been before this board before. The college and I will also say I have worked very hard on a couple of mileage campaigns for this college. I believe in

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this college. I believe this college is an incredibly important resource and I hear all the time about how the college is a good partner to the community, a good community partner. I really want you to consider that when we're talking about this issue, which I know is not, you know this is about ITC and it's about the hospital building a power station before they had wires to connect to it. I understand all of that, but we as the Clinton Township Board and you, as the College Board, really do have an opportunity to be good neighbors and to really be a partner with Clinton Township and the residents that live along this corridor. We can have a power line that runs sort of along the back road if you will, or we can have one that runs through people's condos. That's what we're here about and I just want to encourage you all to continue to be good community partners so that we can continue to enhance this institution, which I think does a tremendous job but also to enhance our communities. Thank you.

Thank you distinguished board. My name is Shannon King. I'm also a Clinton Township trustee. Prior to that, I was a Chippewa Valley School Board member. And I'll be brief, My colleagues have spoke very articulate manner, the importance of community and I just stressed that this is a great opportunity for us to partner and work together and be in a situation where, you know, we push all the legalese aside and just ask the question, what can we do to partner together and what's best for our community at large? And there's residents who would be greatly impacted by the decision if we go as is and there's a lot of opportunity here for us to be thinking about our community and again to Julie's points, how can we be better partners or how can we just continue to enhance our partnership and the synergy. The bigger the relationship that we have with our education hubs is the stronger our communities are. And I think we all can think about opportunities where we can continue to make those make that relationship stronger. Thank you.

Thank you for your time and thank you for allowing us to address this matter before you today. My name is Tony Sokana, and I am a co-owner in my beautiful community of Westchester Village Condominiums, on 19-mile between Hayes and Garfield. A few years ago, myself and 191 of my fellow neighbors were served a lawsuit by ITC condemning an easement on the common land within our community through eminent domain in spite of the fact that they put the buggy before the horse by filing this suit before even applying for the proper permits with Clinton Township. At first we were confused and worried. The board of our association immediately sought legal counsel on the matter, and we quickly realized power lines were going up on 19-mile, which required access on our beautiful property to make happen. For as long as I can recall the message we were constantly given was this is going to happen whether you like it or not so you might as well embrace it and pursue max compensation. Our board of directors immediately went to work doing just that. To be clear, we didn't want this or the money and never did. But we reluctantly accepted our fate. And then we find out that there's another viable route. A route that won't disturb and wreak havoc on our community, and it won't be such an eyesore for the many Michiganders that pass through 19 Mile Road every day, let alone the residents and people who live and work there every day. A route that doesn't see much traffic and most people would never know the lines are even there. It just makes sense. Unfortunately, common sense isn't so common. After it became common knowledge that Dalcoma was a viable route ITC went to work to

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deceit, lie, and coerce many stakeholders involved in this matter to let ITC have its way at any cost and by cost I'm referring to ITC's offer to our community in the amount of \$1.25 million. An offer that's more than four times the original amount offered to us before the road Dalcoma was ever mentioned, which shows how desperate and worried they are that the 19-mile route might slip through their hands. This offer is currently up for vote within our community, but I assure you it will not pass. As a side note, a condition to that settlement offer and you're going to laugh when I say this, a condition to that offer is the community must show public support for the 19-mile route. As you can see before you today, we did not get that memo. You would understand our frustrations if you experienced the kind of intimidation and bullying that ITC has used as a game plan to get their way. No amount of money will be accepted for a project that can easily be completed on another viable route. As a former student of Macomb Community College, I have great respect for this institution. However, I truly cannot understand the logic behind your arguments as to why you don't want this. To be fair, nobody wants it. But it's clear that the Dalcoma offers the best path forward with minimal controversy. After all it's a road less traveled and from Macomb College's view, is only visible from the parking lot. Macomb College clearly has influence on the matter because if they didn't, ITC would have easily pursued the same legal maneuvers that our community is currently experiencing and has been for the last few years. Please contribute to this community and its residents in the same reciprocity that the community and residents have contributed to you over the years by embracing this project on Dalcoma. I promise you myself and the rest of the community, and Clinton Township residents will forever be grateful. Thank you for your time.

Hi, my name is Georgia Kontoudis. I'm also a condo owner at Westchester Village. I appreciate everything that the trustees have said, everything that Tony has said, he is representing all of us and how we feel. Thank you for listening. I'm just really here to beg you to please allow the transmission towers to run along Dalcoma instead of in front of our community. Thank you.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated "Is there anyone else who would like to be heard? Thank you for your comments and for your time. The time for public comment is now closed. I would ask if the Board of Trustees have any comments that they would like to make at this time."

Trustee Vitale stated "I have one comment to just thank you for being courageous enough to come up and talk in front of an intimidating situation and the board represents the entire community and as well as the students and also the people that work here too. So, we are representatives, we don't represent the college, we represent the community."

Chairperson Lorenzo asked General Counsel Steele for his comments.

Thank you. I know it's late and I know people probably want to get out of here, but I do have several things to say. Let me begin with a broad overview. Henry Ford Macomb Hospital on 19-mile needs power for a new addition that was completed in 2023. ITC Holdings is responsible for getting that power to Henry Ford. ITC has clearly and consistently said that the best and possibly only way to get power to the Macomb hospital is down 19-mile Road. ITC has confirmed that decision over and over again through extensive study, including detailed analysis of alternative routes. In that

process, ITC has studied and ruled out the Dalcoma route at least once. Arguably twice. So, to be clear, ITC wants to run the lines down 19-mile. ITC is not proposing tonight, nor to my knowledge, has it ever proposed that the power lines run down Dalcoma Road. Nevertheless, Clinton Township, which is not responsible for getting power to the hospital, asked the college to agree to have lines run down its property down Dalcoma. In other words, an entity that does not design and build power lines has asked the entity that does design and build power lines to do something that hasn't been requested. Now Clinton Township has presented us with the request to put the lines down Dalcoma. But it's important to note that ITC has not posed that request to us. Clinton Township came to us with a 2 1/2-page letter, the letter when it was presented had no attachments, no blueprints, no proposed routes, no approval from regulatory agencies, no nothing. Now we have a diagram of a proposed route, but I'll get to that later, that was given to us tonight. What does the letter contain, it contains some, shall we say, let's say problematic statements, which we believe misrepresent some facts and use clever phrasing to create a false impression that the college is the only thing that stands in the way of the lines running down Dalcoma and that would be a false impression indeed. The Dalcoma route is not all set to go if the board votes yes tonight, far far from it. ITC would need to draw up detailed engineering blueprints for the proposed route. ITC would have to run those plans by regulatory agencies such as Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), the Road Commission, the Drain Commission, the FAA, Michigan Department of Transportation. One of the exhibits they gave us tonight clearly shows that those permits have not been applied for. Those agencies would have to study the proposal, probably come out to the property, and evaluate it, and determine whether they can grant the permit, grant the license consistent with whatever mission they have to protect. And if these agencies approved, ITC would then need to draw up some sort of formal proposal that would be presented to the college, and we'd have to consider it. Then, if we objected, they'd have to take us to court to condemn the property. We're talking about a process that could take years. And in fact, Clinton Township wants this board to vote yes before any of this happens. They want the board to make a blind decision based on a hypothetical. They want the board to say that if ITC, at some point in the future, presents us with the proposal to run lines down Dalcoma, we should accept that now, prospectively, even though we don't know what the terms of that proposal might be, even though we don't know whether the route has been studied. Even though the ITC has repeatedly said, in public, that it doesn't believe the Dalcoma route is viable. I can't recommend that. Frankly, I submit that voting yes when we have basically no information would be irresponsible, even reckless. One more thing that the Township suggests that diverting from 19 mile to Dalcoma will benefit the residents who live on 19-mile. But a document I FOIA from Clinton Township, makes it clear that the Westchester Condo Association has voted overwhelmingly in favor of having the route down 19-mile road, I got it right here from an attorney representing your agencies there may be some people who object. It appears to me that shifting the route from 19 mile to Dalcoma will have increased residential impact because there's a lot of condos that run down Dalcoma. And in fact, as I'll get to later, one of the studies that was commissioned by the ITC said that the routes that Clinton Township has suggested have increased residential impact. For these reasons, I will be recommending to the board that it reject Clinton Township's request.

That said, even if there was a clear, understandable, viable proposal that this board could act upon, which there isn't, I would still advise against it because this college believes that we should preserve the limited land resources that we have on center campus so that we're there to meet future community educational needs. Now, I want to walk through this step by step. Step one, the hospital needs more power. Apparently that power must come from overhead power lines. ITC Holdings builds, operates, and maintains electrical infrastructure, that is, they're in charge of providing the power to the hospital. To my knowledge, Clinton Township plays no role in that process. Step 2, ITC decided that the power line should go down 19-mile Road. ITC, again, the entity that will be providing the power has always preferred that the lines go down 19-mile. That point was made loud and clear at a recent Clinton Township Board meeting when an ITC representative repeatedly stated on the record that the 19-mile route has always quote always been the preferred route. Moreover, there's an exhibit from Clinton Township, which I believe Clinton Township presented to ITC, which indicates that the 19-mile route is the quote ITC original route. Step 3, the 19-mile plan was studied by a third party, which confirmed that the 19-mile route was the best and only viable option. This study was conducted by an engineering and construction firm called Black and Veatch. Black and Veatch studied 6 different routes for the proposed power lines, including the Dalcoma route. In doing so, Black and Veatch looked at numerous factors, including land usage, environmental impacts, land ownership, safety concerns, wetland interference, and residential impacts. After looking at all that and more, Black and Veatch concluded that the 19-mile Road option was the best and only viable option. And if I'm reading this report correctly, and I think I am, the Dalcoma route was actually ranked 4th of 6th, so near the bottom. This was explained to Clinton Township in a letter, from the ITC's Council, which states quote ITC considered 6 potential routes for the project, ultimately, all but one of these routes were determined to be infeasible due to high level issues and constraints, including that they one crossed the helicopter flight paths for the hospital and thus were eliminated due to safety concerns, two had significant environmental impacts, such as they would not be approved by EGLE, three, they are in close proximity to existing structures, including residences. ITC therefore determined that the route to the east along 19 mile and to the north into the substation was the best route for the project with the least overall impact and the only route capable of being constructed to service the project. Step 4, ITC adopted a plan and put significant resources into the 19-mile route. When the original idea was confirmed by study, ITC put it to paper, and they drew up a formal proposal to run the lines down 19-mile. They submitted a formal request for the 19-mile route. And they did significant work in pursuit of that route. They created detailed architectural and engineering diagrams of exactly where the poles would go, the height of the poles. They did photo overlays which showed a picture of various areas and where the lines would run, it showed diagrams of the type of foliage that would be permitted near it. They figured out the types of parcels of property that they would need to acquire to develop this route and to run it down 19-mile. They created an EMF calculation which I believe to be looking at the electromagnetic issues that may or may not be present with the lines. And they drew up a long-detailed memoranda or correspondence that looked at all the legal and regulatory obstacles of the 19-mile route and showed how the 19-mile route satisfied all of them. They also, as you heard tonight, made affirmative offers to acquire the property and even conducted

litigation and support. They also presented voluminous information to Clinton Township, which Clinton Township had at its board meetings. So, step 5, Clinton Township pushed back and asked ITC to consider other routes, including the Dalcoma route, which I believe the ITC had already ruled out. Parenthetically, the routes that the Clinton Township asked ITC to consider seemed to belie the township's current claim that they're concerned with residential impact. You look at this document, which I believe, and I could be wrong, but I believe Clinton Township prepared this and submitted it to ITC in support of their proposed alternative routes. The routes have, in my view, significantly greater residential impact. 1 route, proposed by Clinton Township, cuts dead center through Westchester Village condos, so instead of having one side affected by the power lines, their route has two sides, and this route also goes by the Carlyle Place Apartments. Another route proposed by Clinton Township goes all along the entire South side of the Lakeside Village Apartments and the northside of the Carlyle Apartments. Another route proposed by Clinton Township goes all along the north side of the Lakeside Village Apartments and the South side of the Colony Condominiums. And in the Dalcoma route that we're talking about tonight, it goes down Dalcoma and there's numerous condos along Dalcoma to the right if you're coming from Hall Road, you look to the right, there's all kinds of condos that you pass. So, which leads me to step 6, ITC studied these routes and rejected them, including the Dalcoma route for various reasons, including increased residential impact. A law firm representing ITC explained this to Clinton Township in a letter that states quote, as ITC previously explained to Township staff, following the 19 mile corridor was determined to be the best option for the project, each of the other routes considered parent, including those proposed by the Township, suffer from fatal flaws including combinations of 1, significantly greater impact on residences as compared to following 19 mile 2, safety concerns posed by crossing the flight path of emergency helicopter services for Henry Ford Macomb Hospital 3, significantly greater wetland impacts, which would make obtaining a permit from EGLE infeasible and 4, conflicts with other utilities or county drains. ITC met with staff on several occasions, and it was understood and agreed that the route selected, i.e., the 19-mile route, was the only viable route for the project. The letter also says quote when ITC met with staff for the Township in March of 2024, it listened to the township's concerns regarding the route and reviewed the five alternative routes proposed by the Township on March 5th, 2024. However, each of the Township proposed routes had greater impact on the community than the route selected for the project by ITC. This was discussed at length with the Township. So, step 7, ITC reiterated to Clinton Township Board just last month in open public session that the 19-mile route was the original best and possibly only viable option. At an April 28th meeting of the Clinton Township Board, an ITC representative said regarding the 19 mile route quote we have worked in earnest to ensure that the route we have proposed is the best option and after spending several months in collaboration with the Township, it is clear that the only option that clears these hurdles out of the way and electrifies Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in a reasonable timeline and an efficient manner is the proposed route. He also said regarding the 19-mile route quote after considerable effort and double and even triple confirmation still remains the best and most feasible route to construct. He added quote various alternatives that have been offered throughout the process have been revisited, vetted, and determined to be either completely

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inviably or at a minimum, hold a highly uncertain outcome. The ITC representative also told Clinton Township's board that crews and equipment were ready and prepared to begin construction almost immediately and that if the lines ran down 19-mile, they could have Henry Ford Hospital electrified within weeks. So, step 8, Clinton Township, despite all this, sends us this 2 1/2-page letter asking for this issue to be put on our agenda tonight. The letter described the route only vaguely, it didn't have any diagrams or anything. Has a diagram tonight that they presented to us with, but I'll again get to that in a minute. But I think the most important thing about this letter is that it doesn't show that there's any kind of formal offer from the ITC. And there's very few documents to support the claims in the letter, and in fact, some of the things that they've cited I think contradict the claims that they made. And there's certainly no evidence that there has been any approvals from the regulatory agencies that would need to be cleared in order to have the Dalcoma route pass. The letter also contains some statements I disagree with factually. The first concern I have with the letter is a factual concern, the letter claims, without support, that the ITC proposed the Dalcoma route to the college several years ago, that just isn't true. Most obviously, that claim was clearly and directly debunked by the statements of an ITC representative made at Clinton Township's own board meeting when he repeatedly said that the 19-mile route has always been, always been, the ITC preferred route. So where does Clinton Township get this claim? From an e-mail, sent four years ago back in 2022, well, this is an interesting e-mail, it wasn't drafted by the ITC, remember the ITC is the entity that runs these power lines. Not anyone else, this e-mail was sent by an employee of Henry Ford Hospital. To say that this wasn't sent to the President of the College, it wasn't sent to the business office, to say that this is a formal proposal. So, let's take a look at this e-mail. There's no formal offer to buy college property. It didn't contain any formal blueprints. It didn't come from the ITC. What it did have was 2 photographs. It had one photograph of a tall monopole that just showed one of these big poles, which presumably is the type of pole that would be used for the project. It also had this document, which appears to be a screenshot from Google Earth. It shows part of center campus; it shows the hospital, and it shows some residential property to the West, and it has a red line just drawn down the side by Dalcoma Road. There are no specs, there's no clear indication of how deep these lines would have to go into the property, no dimensions, no statement about the type of easement that would be necessary, no statement about the type of setbacks or clearances that would be required. And in fact, to say that this is a formal proposal is, I do not know, it says preliminary on it three times, including once in big red letters. It also talks about where the substation would be, where it would connect to the hospital. That substation is listed here as the approximate location of the substation. So, I would classify this, not as a formal proposal from the ITC, but more like early brainstorming from Henry Ford employ. Yes, this was copied to someone from the ITC, and it was copied to me, and it was copied to another employee of the college, but there's no indication that the ITC pursued it. There's no indication that the ITC took this and ran with it and came up with some sort of proposal. And I think I'll be able to show very clearly in a minute that the ITC did not because they haven't applied for the permits or the clearances that they need to have these lines built. Regardless, even if this rough Google map print out with a red line drawn down Dalcoma suggests that the ITC somehow took an initial look at the Dalcoma Route way back when, in 2021, the

evidence overwhelmingly shows that the ITC quickly abandoned this Dalcoma idea, never pursued it to offer, never got the studies that it would need to get to clear the Dalcoma offer, doesn't prefer it now, hasn't obtained the necessary approvals and doesn't believe it can withstand scrutiny based on their public statements. A second factual issue I have with the letter was repeated here tonight. It implies that the college's only objections to the line are aesthetics and view. Apparently this is an attempt to cheapen any opposition to the lines running down Dalcoma. But that claim clearly overlooks everything I said tonight. It also overlooks inexplicably, what President Sawyer twice communicated to the Clinton Township supervisor. And I'll let President Sawyer address that himself. That said, I submit that while not the only or even most important factor, aesthetics is a legitimate concern. The Dalcoma route would likely require the raising of hundreds of trees along Dalcoma Road. So, we're tearing down hundreds, maybe thousands, of trees on center campus. The third issue I have with the letter is the suggestion that Dalcoma is a better route because it goes by the college, and nobody lives at the college. Well, with all due respect, what about the college employees who work at the college every day and the 10s of thousands of college students who come to center campus every year? Also, as I noted earlier, the documents I obtained via FOIA from Clinton township show that 98% of the residents of the Westchester Condo Association are in favor of selling to the ITC.

Clinton Township also fails to mention that if the lines went down Dalcoma, it would run by numerous residences along the colony condos. And again, the second study I mentioned show that the Clinton Township's proposed alternative routes have a greater residential impact than the 19-mile route. The next issue I have with the letter is it suggestion that the college only contemplates a parking lot where the power lines might run. Well, the plan that I think they're referring to was done 22 years ago, a site plan. Well, that plan does represent one idea for prospective use, it does not foreclose other options. Options that may come about as things change, and indeed things change. The 5th issue begins a series of what I believe to be unconvincing attempts to debunk the safety and viability of the concerns raised by ITC. And remember, these safety and viability concerns have been raised by ITC, not the college. And I believe these statements are designed to create the false impression that Dalcoma is like ready to go as long as this college would agree. It's just not the case. The first concern has to do with air traffic. To set this up a bit, Henry Ford Hospital has a helipad on top of its emergency room, the lines that Clinton Township proposes run down the Dalcoma and then take a turn, and they go down University Drive. That would mean that there'd be very tall poles and wires within very close proximity to the helipad. Now. I haven't had time to digest their study, but I think what the study is saying is that because there's buildings to the, I guess, to the southeast then that means you have to land kind of straight down, but it doesn't seem to make a lot of sense to me that a helicopter company would say, well, there's already some obstacles to the two sides, so if there's obstacles to another side that doesn't pose a safety risk. It seems a little absurd to me. Regardless, Clinton Township hired this helicopter company, so there's a question of bias. And I also suggest that the ITC representative, who was at the Clinton Township Board meeting, made an important point, he said it's not a helicopter company that we need to be concerned about when we look into the safety of the helicopter route. The people we need to

consult are the FAA, Federal Aviation Administration and Michigan Department of Transportation Aeronautics Board. And I don't see any indication in any of these documents or anything that was presented which wasn't much, that suggests that they that Clinton Township or anyone else has consulted these agencies to get a clearance to determine whether or not there's a safety risk. The 6th issue is another unconvincing attempt to reduce the significance of ITC's concerns, and that has to do with the wetlands along Dalcoma. Now Clinton Township, in their letter, says that EGLE will quote work with ITC to evaluate wetland impacts. Well, we'll work with you, that really doesn't mean anything. It doesn't even say there's no wetlands. It doesn't say that a permit's been applied for nothing. It's vague. It suggests, Oh yeah, we'll take a look at it if it comes. And if you take a look at the document that they just gave me from EGLE, it says quote an EGLE permit is not required for the 19-mile route as there are no resource impacts on this route. It also says quote EGLE is a preliminary estimate of around 2 acres of wetland and quote if ITC is able to provide EGLE with information on any potential easement limits regarding the route, EGLE would be willing to do an in-depth interpretation of the wetlands on site to get a better understanding of the amount of potential impacts. So, what they're saying is there's been no plan presented to us, but if you present us with the plan, we'll take a look at it. And then it goes on, EGLE does not have a permit application for this project, nor would EGLE compel ITC to submit a project application, and this is important unless a serious consideration of the route with potential resource impacts was being pursued. So, in effect, EGLE is saying here, you know well, we'll take a look at it if ITC presents it, but they haven't presented us with anything. It doesn't appear that they're seriously pursuing it. It also says EGLE would consider processing a permit application for the Dalcoma route, application. EGLE cannot indicate whether this is another quote EGLE cannot indicate whether or not a permit would be issued until we have a complete permit application and have a valuated feasible and prudent alternative. Another important point here, this isn't my area of the law, and I haven't researched it carefully, but it's my understanding that EGLE won't grant a permit to go over or through wetlands if there's another viable route alternative. And in this case there is a viable route alternative, which has been clearly articulated over and over by ITC, and that's the 19-mile route. Indeed, it appears that one of the reasons that ITC is so interested in the 19-mile route is because they see hurdles, perhaps insurmountable hurdles along Dalcoma. So, I think despite this attempt to convince this board otherwise, Clinton Township has not cleared away the many obstacles there exists to Dalcoma. Nobody has. Indeed, the obstacle clearing process it doesn't occur to me it has even begun, and these obstacles could take years to clear, if they can be cleared at all. Which brings me to step 9, my recommendation. I recommend that this board vote no for the following main reasons: 1, ITC has consistently stated that the 19-mile route is the original and preferred Route. 2, The Dalcoma route has been studied at least twice, each time rejected in favor of the 19-mile option. 3, the study showed that the Dalcoma route is not viable, and Clinton Township has not convincingly proven otherwise. 4, the overwhelming majority of the Westchester condos appear to have voted in favor of the 19-mile option by accepting the ITC's offer. 5, moving to Dalcoma may impact even more residents than 19-mile. 6, the 19-mile route is the fastest way to get power to Henry Ford Hospital, as the ITC said on the record that they are ready to begin construction. 7, Clinton Township request

really means nothing. They aren't the ones that would be building the power lines. The lines would be built by ITC and ITC simply has not asked us or presented us with a proposal to run the lines down Dalcoma. 8, as noted previously, Clinton Township is in effect asking this board to vote on a hypothetical, they're suggesting that if ITC someday approaches this board with a proposal to run down Dalcoma, we should accept now, even though we haven't seen the proposal. I don't see how the board can vote in favor of that. And 9, we don't have any of the details necessary to support a vote. We don't know if ITC will ever support the Dalcoma route, and even if they approach us at some point in the future. We don't know exactly how much land would need to be acquired. We don't know whether the land acquisition would be by easement or by acquisition or purchase. We don't know what, if any, control the college would have over that land after the ITC acquires it. We don't have a legal description of the land to be acquired. We don't know how much ITC would pay for the land. We don't have the terms of sale. We don't have any engineering blueprints for the proposed power lines. And I'll get to this in a minute. We don't know what may happen to the drains or wetlands on the property, or whether there will be clearances. We don't have the details of the amount of foliage that would need to be cleared along Dalcoma Road in order to not only build the power lines, but to have the necessary setbacks. We don't know the impact on our existing structures near that power line proposed like I building, the pole barn or the salt shed. We don't know whether and to what extent walkways or structures or trees are permitted along the routes. We don't know whether EGLE, well I guess we do now, EGLE has not, well, we don't know whether EGLE has performed a formal wetland survey, they seem to think that there are wetlands on the property, but I'm unaware of them ever coming out to the property and evaluating and surveying it and they're doing, like, a formal study. We don't even know whether EGLE would approve it. EGLE has made very clear that there's been no application made to it. And I think that may be a big, insurmountable obstacle because there's an alternative route, and if there's wetlands there, as EGLE seems to think, I think there's a big problem building along Dalcoma. I submit that the board would need clear, well supported answers to all these questions before I could recommend a vote in favor of seating a large section of college property. This was presented to us just now, it wasn't made part of the 2 1/2-page letter, but what's interesting about it, it doesn't say ITC on it, this document I guess is Clinton Township's proposed route plan. It doesn't say that it was supported by ITC, there are no dimensions, there's no indication of the size of the setback, there's no indication that there were any approvals that this is approved, that this is a go. And what's interesting is it doesn't even show how the power line would connect to the hospital; it stops at University Drive. So, I'm not even sure exactly how this map works. But finally, I just want to close with this. Even if all these questions were answered, and even if we had a clear, understandable, cogent, authoritative offer on the table from either Clinton Township or ITC as President Sawyer will now discuss, I advise against this because it would inhibit the college from using its precious resources to serve the communities future educational needs. Through the chair that is all I have. If you have any questions, I'm happy to answer. Thank you.

Chairperson Lorenzo asked President Sawyer for his comments.

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Thank you Madam Chair and trustees. General Counsel Steele has provided a comprehensive accounting of the significant issues, as well as false assertions, related to Clinton Township's request before the board tonight. As he detailed, you are being asked to vote on an item lacking essential details about the actual scope of impact on the college's Center Campus -- by an entity that does not have a role in actually developing the transmission line project. However, regardless of whether the request before you contains the necessary information on which to act, from my perspective as the college's president, the biggest outstanding issue for Macomb is that relinquishing the college's land along Dalcoma Drive strips us of the ability to use that land to support the future educational needs of our community. Clinton Township Supervisor Gielegghem has publicly persisted in stating that the college's primary objection is aesthetics. This is completely untrue. I personally met with Supervisor Gielegghem twice, first in December 2024 and then in March of this year. I can assure you I was clear that the college's opposition is based on the ability to address our community's future educational needs.

We've also seen the college unfairly characterized as a bad neighbor, uninterested in supporting the services the hospital provides. This could not be further from the truth. In fact, the reason the land adjacent to Dalcoma Drive is so vital to the college is because of the past decisions made to accommodate the hospital's needs. Macomb has always stepped up when there has been a request the college could satisfy that didn't adversely affect the work of the college. At the hospital's request, the college donated 6.5 acres of land to extend Dalcoma Drive to Hall Road to increase community access to Henry Ford Macomb Hospital. When the hospital needed additional land for parking adjacent to their facilities, we conducted a land swap to accommodate their needs. When the hospital and the Macomb Intermediate School District needed a parcel of the college's land to accommodate infrastructure to support their expansion plans, we sold them the parcel. And we continue to allow the hospital free use of college land on Hall Road, University Drive and Dalcoma Drive for hospital signage. At this point, Macomb's land adjacent to Dalcoma Drive represents the only area on Center Campus suitable for development to support future educational needs. It is the college's responsibility to preserve and protect the assets the community has invested in the college for educational purposes and use them exactly for the purposes intended. The college has to be mindful of the reality that higher education is undergoing significant change. While we may not currently know exactly what that means in terms of how Center Campus needs to look in the future, the college is accountable for appropriately preserving and leveraging resources to support what the community will need. Macomb is doing its due diligence and taking thoughtful, deliberate steps to examine how the college's campuses can best serve future student and community needs. Macomb Community College was established more than 70 years ago by residents who wanted to ensure that they and their children - and generations to come - had the higher education resources necessary for individual and community prosperity. This partnership has thrived over the decades because the college is a trusted resource that stays true to its promises -- addressing evolving needs by providing timely and relevant educational solutions and acting as a good steward of the investment the community has and continues to make in the college. I know you have been presented with a lot of information this evening. Given that request before you asks you to agree to a nebulous

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request lacking specifics that define the actual impact on Center Campus -- by an entity who will not have a role in planning or carrying out the project; given that there already exists a viable and preferred plan, which has been fully designed and engineered, and agreed to by the Westchester Village Condominium Association; and, Given that relinquishing college land for non-educational purposes is not in the best interest of the community's future educational needs nor consistent with the trust the community has placed in the college for more than 70 years to appropriately use the resources invested in the college; My recommendation to the board is that a no vote is the appropriate course of action.

Supervisor Gielegghem asked for additional time from Chairperson Lorenzo.

I'm seeking indulgence to just mention a few points and I will take less than 5 minutes compared to the 40 that was just a whole diatribe of false information.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated, "It was not false information, the college has always been honest and truthful, and you know that, you are better than this."

Supervisor Gielegghem continued, Madam Chair, to simply say that what we are asking you tonight is to not be a hard no, what we know and what was incorrectly stated by your attorney, is that the original route that was proposed to the hospital and to the entities involved in this was the Dalcoma drive route, it was shopped around and it was at some point told the college is a hard no. The board is a hard no.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated, "yes, that was me and it is still a hard no."

Supervisor Gielegghem continued, yes, we are here tonight to say that it shouldn't be based upon that false information there was.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated, "There was no false information, please take your seat."

Supervisor Gielegghem continued, there was a lot of talk, there was a lot of talk about all the things that we don't know. What we do know is that we are asking you to not be the roadblock for ITC to be able to consider this particular proposal, which they've told me they would consider, and they've asked me to talk with all of you, which is what I'm doing here tonight. So yes, I don't build power lines. What I do do, is try to step up and protect my residents and also try to research this issue so that we can come to a resolution by working together. What we've heard is a hard no. Candice Miller was approached, she said Yes, I don't have all of the details.

Chairperson Lorenzo stated, "Candice Miller does not run this college, please take your seat, we are through with this conversation."

Chairperson Lorenzo moved to vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES:

NAYS: DiMaria, Vitale, Cusumano, Dean, Flynn, Lorenzo

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION REJECTED.

12.0 POLICY ACTIONS

12.1 Expressive Activity – Second Reading

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Vitale, that the Board of Trustees adopt the second reading of the Expressive Activity Board Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Cusumano, Vitale, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Lorenzo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Viviano

MOTION CARRIED.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dean, supported by DiMaria, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Secretary