



CITY OF DETROIT  
MAYOR'S OFFICE

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Monsieur Tomas Diez  
Director FabLab Barcelona  
Director FabCity  
Carrer de Pujades, 102  
08002 BARCELONA  
ESPANA

Mr. Diez, Ms. Lasseter,

On behalf of the city of Detroit we would like to enthusiastically accept the invitation to join the Fab City Global Initiative Pledge and actively participate in the collaboration toward urban self-sufficiency.

Detroit played a dominant role in the development of not only a middle class but as a thought leader in mass production. As the trends in that global "mass production" model have shifted activity away from this local area, and as the negative effects of the continued growth of that model are being felt globally, we are shifting to new models. Through those models Detroit intends to emerge as a new symbol of a productive city through citizen empowerment and distributed economic activity including production. Detroit is developing thought leadership in the application of "production by the masses" to urban life with expected benefits such as availability and quality of work; skills and knowledge growth; a more active citizenry, clean industries; and regional resilience.

Detroit is a municipality consisting of a collection of communities of creative and resilient thinkers and actors. That combination has and continues to both act locally and think globally. Grassroots developments are part of the DNA of Detroit – the most internationally recognized being urban agriculture and the movement towards food security. The City is committed to supporting and further propelling that through the evolving technologies of our Fab Labs and makers. Our vision parallels that of Fab City for "locally productive and globally connected cities"

We are promoting a citizen driven, bottom up approach to new economy activity:

- collective and collaborative work within neighborhoods with citizens creating value for themselves and for others,
- collaboration across neighborhoods exchanging models and means for replication and evolving a city wide model,
- collaboration between city's evolving a global model.

This is being approached through neighborhood and community scale

MICHAEL E. DUGGAN, MAYOR



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developments co-created with neighborhoods. Helping the people in the neighborhoods and communities of Detroit to practically envision, act and create a healthy and thriving future for ourselves is an ideal that we hold and anticipate further propelling through this collaboration.

Looking forward we expect to develop and nurture an enterprise cluster in the current and evolving digital revolution in fabrication, following on earlier clusters in automotive & defense manufacturing plus music & entertainment. Through our local actions we will assist in jointly building the capacity to bring this vision into reality and thereby contribute to the groundwork for more cities to join this critical initiative in the future.

We are requesting your interface with Incite Focus which has and continues to be Detroit's interface to the Fab Lab Network as our principal collaborating partner for this initiative. We, in partnership, support their community focused application of digital fabrication, permaculture and social entrepreneurship to empower citizens and communities to forge new pathways for themselves and thereby empower our area with new talent, resilience and prosperity through high quality of life. Please build upon this base to link our international collaboration.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Duggan,  
Mayor, City of Detroit