

**SERVICE COMMENDATION  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AUTOMATION ALLEY  
KEN ROGERS**

**WHEREAS, Ken Rogers** joined Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's administration in 1993 as director of the Oakland County Community and Economic Development, where he was responsible for the planning and development division, the equalization department and the community development division. He was named Deputy County Executive for Oakland County government in 1996; and

**WHEREAS, L. Brooks Patterson** appointed **Ken Rogers** to oversee the development of Automation Alley in 1999, when the association was founded. **Ken** worked diligently with the Board of Directors and the management team to accomplish Automation Alley objectives. **Automation Alley** started with 42 member companies. Under **Ken's** leadership, that number has grown to nearly 1,000 businesses, educational institutions, government entities and nonprofit organizations from the city of Detroit and the surrounding eight-county region; and

**WHEREAS, Since 1999, Automation Alley** has invested more than \$9 million in 56 companies; held 27 trade missions and offered information technology training to partner companies. **Ken** was also one of the founders of Oakland County's Economic Development Corporation (EDC), served as a member of the Governor's Conference on Small Business and held a seat on the State's Strategic Economic Investment Commercialization Board from 2006-2010; and

**WHEREAS, Ken** was appointed to the Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Information and Communications Technologies, Services, and Electronic Commerce by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke and the United States Trade Representative Ambassador Ron Kirk in 2010. He is also one of the founders of and current chairman of the board for Clarkston State Bank and is also on the board of directors for the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center; and

**WHEREAS, In 2009, Ken** participated in President Barack Obama's Jobs and Economic Growth Forum at the White House. In 2008, he was invited to the White House by President George W. Bush to receive the nation's highest award for excellence in exporting on behalf of Automation Alley; and

**WHEREAS, In his spare time, Ken** enjoys spending time with his wife **Jane** (celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this November), sons John and Dan, daughters Laurie and Lisa, and their seven beautiful grandchildren. **Ken** will continue as chairman of the board for Clarkston State Bank and also wants to buy a guitar and practice some of the folk music he played years ago and perhaps write a book;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN,** That the Troy City Council takes this opportunity to express its sincere appreciation and recognition to **Ken Rogers** for his distinguished service as Deputy County Executive for Oakland County and Executive Director of Automation Alley; and

**BE IT FURTHER KNOWN,** It was because of **Ken Roger's** vision and dedicated leadership that Michigan's first regional collaborative technology-based economic development organization was established. We are very fortunate to have citizens like **Ken** who give so much time and energy to make our community and the southeast Michigan region such a great place to live, work, play and raise our families.

Presented this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.