

## Whitmer Wants 5,000 New Infrastructure Workers Trained By 2030

Gov. <u>Gretchen WHITMER</u> signed an Executive Directive today in Pontiac to set a goal for the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) to train 5,000 new infrastructure workers by 2030.

The <u>directive</u> asks LEO to work with the Michigan Department of Transportation; the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Infrastructure Office to collaborate on the recently released <u>Statewide Workforce Plan</u> to meet the skill demands needed for employees.

"We are building our infrastructure in Michigan, from our roads and bridges to our pipes and high-speed internet. To help us get the job done, I am signing an executive directive today that will help train 5,000 new infrastructure workers," Whitmer said.

She said Michigan had received \$10 billion from the federal government already for infrastructure projects and there were billions to come for manufacturing, clean energy and other infrastructure jobs.

The plan by LEO to get 5,000 workers trained by Jan. 1, 2030, would need to be finished by May 1, 2025. The workers would receive training from an "educational entity" and get a certificate or credential from an infrastructure industry.

The jobs would be eligible for apprenticeships, including those registered through the U.S. Department of Labor.

"This directive will prioritize barrier removal and ensure equal access to infrastructure career and education opportunities so Michigan can build the diverse, inclusive workforce of the future," said LEO Director Susan **CORBIN**.

The MI Trades Partnership is also scheduled to host a career fair between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at 7575 Crowner Drive in Dimondale. There's a 4 to 7 p.m. virtual session on May 9. Civil Service Commission staff are slated to be there, as are members of the Veterans Affairs Agency to print forms for veterans.