



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CORE VALUES DRIVE EASTERN MARKET'S DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

*Establishment of Development Protocols, Metro Accelerator Food Business Incubator and New 'Eastern Market Partnership' Name Promotes Equitable Development.*

**DETROIT – May 28, 2019** – Eastern Market Corporation announces several new initiatives to solidify and guide Eastern Market's commitment to expanding Eastern Market and enhancing its authenticity. The announcement was made today by Eastern Market president Dan Carmody.

Effective July 1, Eastern Market's board of directors approved changing the organization's name to **Eastern Market Partnership** (EMP). "A few years ago, we added a non-profit real estate development subsidiary – Eastern Market Development Corporation – and the umbrella name Eastern Market Partnership makes it simpler to describe the collective work of both organizations," said Carmody. "Also the term "partnership" is pivotal - the work of enlarging the market and enhancing its authentic character is beyond the scope of any one organization – as an organization we are champions at partnering with others who share our passion for developing an equitable Eastern Market."

The board also voted to adopt development protocol criteria that developers need to follow if they intend to seek EMP support for their district projects. An evaluation system will be determined which will provide flexibility for developers to design projects that are both profitable and contribute to strengthening core values of the Eastern Market District: a place focused on food production, processing, and distribution; a place where people, especially those of limited means, go to grow their independent business; and a place which warmly welcomes everyone.

The two EMP development protocols – one for [mixed-use commercial development](#) and one for [food businesses](#) - outline 13-16 criteria that help new projects align with the core values of Eastern Market and support equitable development of the district.

"These protocols will help maintain rent affordability and how projects promote the core values of the Market," said Carmody. "Eastern Market Partnership welcomes developers to join us in the journey to develop an enlarged public market district that is capable of serving Detroit for the next 128 years as the current market district has served the Detroit for the past 128 years."

Central to EMP's ongoing development initiatives to spur and grow small business is the 100-acre Food Innovation Zone on the northeast side of the market. Over the past two years, the organization has been working with the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation and the City of Detroit to accommodate growth of an estimated 1.5 million square feet of food processing and distribution space that is expected to occur over the next decade.

"This is about keeping thousands of jobs in the city by developing largely vacant land while improving the quality of life for existing residents and businesses who have survived decades of disinvestment," said Carmody. "Creating or retraining thousands of food jobs is important to offer employment opportunities to Detroit residents. In the first step of many to come, EMP along with Germack Pistachio, Wolverine Packing Co., EW Grobbel, and Greenhorn Training Solutions recently completed the first cohort of workforce training geared specifically to the food sector. In the next few months, we will connect 15 Detroit residents to jobs in the Eastern Market District."

As part of Eastern Market's ongoing work to support emerging food businesses, construction has begun on the Metro Accelerator on Riopelle and Adelaide Streets as the next phase in the incubation process. EMP is completing

negotiations with five food companies that started out in its Detroit Kitchen Connect incubator or sell their products at Eastern Market, to occupy the 15,000 square feet space and ramp up production as they grow.

Lease rates will range between \$7 to \$11 per square foot and estimated occupancy in August. Major funders for the \$3 million project are JP Morgan Chase, WK Kellogg Foundation and the New Economy Initiative.

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### **About Eastern Market Partnership**

Eastern Market Corporation and Eastern Market Development Corporation together comprise the Eastern Market Partnership (EMP) which are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that manage and promote Eastern Market and guide the development of the Eastern Market District on behalf of the City of Detroit. EMP's vision is to create the most inclusive, resilient, and robust regional food hub in the United States. EMP works to enhance Eastern Market's role of nourishing a healthier, wealthier, and happier Detroit by: operating vibrant markets, improving food access, incubating and accelerating food businesses, providing nutrition education, and by nurturing an Eastern Market District that is centered around food, is a place where people go to grow their independent business, and is a place where everyone is warmly welcomed. For more information, call 313.833.9300, visit our website at [EasternMarket.org](http://EasternMarket.org) and follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).

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