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## **Trifecta! Michigan sweeps all three ITS America Hall of Fame awards ahead of Melbourne World Congress**

**September 20, 2016 --** The State of Michigan will be well represented at the 23rd Intelligent Transportation Society (ITS) World Congress in Melbourne, Australia, this fall. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle, and General Motors Corp. were announced winners in all three of the ITS Americas Hall of Fame award categories. The winners were selected by the ITS Americas Board, and the awards will be presented at the ITS World Congress Oct 10-14.

MDOT was awarded the Local Government Hall of Fame Award for its connected and automated vehicle efforts, working in partnership with automobile manufacturers and suppliers, universities and local agencies. MDOT is a founding partner in the Planet M initiative designed to promote Michigan as the epicenter for developing and testing the technology that will be the crux of 21st century mobility. Additionally, State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle was selected by the Board of Directors Executive Committee as the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

"I'm honored to receive this recognition and represent Planet M," Steudle said. "The list of candidates up for this award epitomize the greatest innovators and champions for intelligent transportation systems."

General Motors Corp. is being awarded for its revolutionary commitment to connected vehicle technology deployment across the United States.

The awards recognize individuals, industries and local governments that are pushing the envelope to ensure this emerging technology and its relationship to automotive research and development enhances safety, communities, and quality of life.

Michigan continues to lead the mobility effort with unrivaled assets and opportunities. In addition to the 32-acre Mcity test site at the University of Michigan, the proposed 335-acre American Center for Mobility at the former Willow Run Bomber Plant will be designed to enable safe validation and self-certification of automated and connected vehicle technology. Michigan is home to the largest vehicle to infrastructure (V2I) deployment in the U.S. with an expected 350 miles of public roads to be wired for V2I testing by the end of 2019, and has introduced recent legislation allowing for fully autonomous vehicles to operate on public roads. Michigan leads the nation in the number of patents relating to navigation and smart mobility, and has universities that groom engineering and technical talent in fields such as cybersecurity, big data and analytics, and next generation auto research.

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