

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**2 Auto Salvage Yards
To Be Replaced
By \$39 Million Modern Freezer-Warehouse;
350 New Employees**

Warren, MI – Warren Mayor Jim Fouts announced today that two auto salvage yards will be replaced by a 252,000 square foot freezer-warehouse on Bunert Road south of I-696.

Fouts said the new development will include food preparation facilities, freezer operations, warehousing and a trucking facility.

Fouts said Lipari will be spending over \$39 million on the project and will be adding 350 employees.

Lipari Foods is a food distribution company that offers food service in deli, bakery, dairy, grocery, seafood, packaging

confections and grab-and-go categories and has pioneered marketing, merchandising and in-store product publicity ideas.

In the early 1950's Jim Lipari began distributing products from the back of his Ford station wagon.

Over the past 15 years Lipari Foods has experienced tremendous growth. The growth has come in many forms: acquisitions of distribution businesses and partnerships with several wholesale warehouses.

Lipari operates a large facility on the west side of Bunert across from the new project that is on 18 acres.

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation may make \$500,000 available for the development, and it may qualify as a Brownfield development that offers incentives for contaminated land.

“The two salvage yards have been an eyesore that our property maintenance inspectors have been monitoring almost daily” said Fouts. “Now, we will have a beautiful facility (**rendering attached**) that will bring in new business property taxes and new jobs.”

Fouts said the city Planning Department and City Council have approved all of Lipari’s applications for rezoning and site plans.

Fouts credits Tom Bommarito, city economic development coordinator, for “working with Lipari to make this happen.”

Fouts said city new business developments include a billion dollar expansion of the GM Tech Center; a new Meijer store at 10 Mile and Schoenherr, former site of the Macomb Henry Ford Hospital; the new Walmart and renovation of the Tech Center Plaza at 12 Mile and Van Dyke; the new shopping center at 14 Mile and Schoenherr; the proposal for a new MJR Theatre at the Universal Shopping Center at 12 and Dequindre and the

renovation of the former Campbell-Ewald office building by GM.

Fouts said the city has been “aggressive” in encouraging new commercial-industrial developments in the state’s third largest city in population. “To my knowledge, no city in Michigan has had the new development Warren has in the past five years.” Fouts said the investments by businesses in Warren over that period “have totaled over \$2 billion.”