

# Goodbye and Well Wishes



## Abby Carrigan

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## Thank You, Abby Carrigan

Hi all,

I will be concluding my time as a Research Assistant at the Michigan State University Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) this spring. As I make my transition, I want to extend my sincerest gratitude for the great opportunities, connections, and knowledge I have gained since beginning my time at the CCED.

With a long-standing passion for sustainability and community engagement, I have found that the Center was the perfect place to grow my skills in both research and outreach. I've been fortunate to contribute to several amazing projects, such as conducting outreach to local recyclers, planning events, and co-creating the "Toolkit for Identifying Reuse Markets for Recycled Material in

Michigan." Across all of this work, I have been consistently reminded of circularity's potential to remediate many of the world's most pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges. There is still so much more good work to be done!

This period has also been an especially meaningful chapter in my life. Alongside my work at the Center, I've had the opportunity to reach several personal and academic milestones, including graduating from MSU with High Honor, being accepted to multiple master's programs with scholarships, and receiving awards from the Michigan Association of Planning and the American Planning Association for my work in Livingston County. I will always look back on this time fondly, as so many meaningful accomplishments and experiences were shaped by my time at the CCED!

As for what's next, I'm excited to share that I will be pursuing a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan this fall. As I take this next step, I absolutely plan to bring with me the CCED's core values of resiliency, equity, and circularity into future community-oriented work.

Before my time comes to a close, I want to extend a special thank you to everyone on the

Circular Economy Research Team—Dr. LaMore, Mary ZumBrunnen, Jenan Jondy, Henry Jerred, and Geoff Gracia—for being such a supportive and inspiring group of people to work with; I will miss each of them dearly!

As I transition into life as a Wolverine (weird!), I will always look back on my time at MSU and the CCED with pride. I do hope to stay connected with everyone and the amazing work being done at the Center, so please feel free to email me at [abigailkcarrigan@gmail.com](mailto:abigailkcarrigan@gmail.com) anytime.

Thank you, and I wish you all a fantastic summer!

