



## MIDWEST LISTENING TOUR MICHIGAN

### FUNDAMENTALS

**OA-AEI-Brookings study group.** A bipartisan group of scholars and policy experts spent a year working to craft policy proposals to expand opportunity for the working class.

**Goal.** Members of the group will spend 48 hours in western Michigan, discussing their recommendations with local officials, economic planners and regional media and getting feedback from people in working-class enclaves.

**Where.** Grand Rapids, MI

**When.** Wednesday, October 10 & Thursday, October 11

**Activities.** Activities will include a public convening, a dinner with regional CEOs, a meeting with an editorial board and visits to several local service providers.

**Host/sponsor.** [Talent 2025](#) is an association of 100 Michigan [CEOs](#) who have come together to create a regional [talent pipeline](#). Working groups in 11 areas – from K-12 education to veteran employment – focus on data-driven regional planning and coordination.

### SCHEDULE

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT 10

- Visit workforce board West Michigan Works! to discuss training & transportation
- Visit the Source, an employer collaborative that provides work supports
- Dinner with local CEOs sponsored by Talent 2025

#### THURSDAY, OCT 11

- *Winning Strategies for Good Jobs* – public event cosponsored by Talent 2025
- Planning meeting to seed an Opportunity Zone working group
- Meeting with *MiBiz* journalist



## WORKING CLASS GROUP DELEGATION



**Oren Cass** is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, where his research focuses on public policy's effects on the labor market. He served as domestic policy director for Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential campaign and worked as a management consultant at Bain & Company. He is the author of *The Once and Future Worker* (2018).

**Robert Doar** is the Morgridge Fellow in Poverty Studies at the American Enterprise Institute, where his research focuses on antipoverty policy and safety-net programs. Before joining AEI, he was the commissioner of Human Resources Administration in New York City and commissioner of social services for the state of New York.



**Tamar Jacoby** is president of Opportunity America. A former journalist and author, she was a senior writer and justice editor at *Newsweek* and, before that, the deputy editor of the *New York Times* op-ed page. She is the author of *Someone Else's House: America's Unfinished Struggle for Integration* (1998), and editor of *Reinventing the Melting Pot: The New Immigrants and What It Means to Be American* (2004).

**Anne Kim** is a senior fellow and director of domestic and social policy at the Progressive Policy Institute. A lawyer and journalist, she was previously senior writer for the *Washington Monthly*, deputy chief of staff to Rep. Jim Cooper of Tennessee and economic program director at the think tank Third Way. She is working on a book about out-of-school and out-of-work youth.

