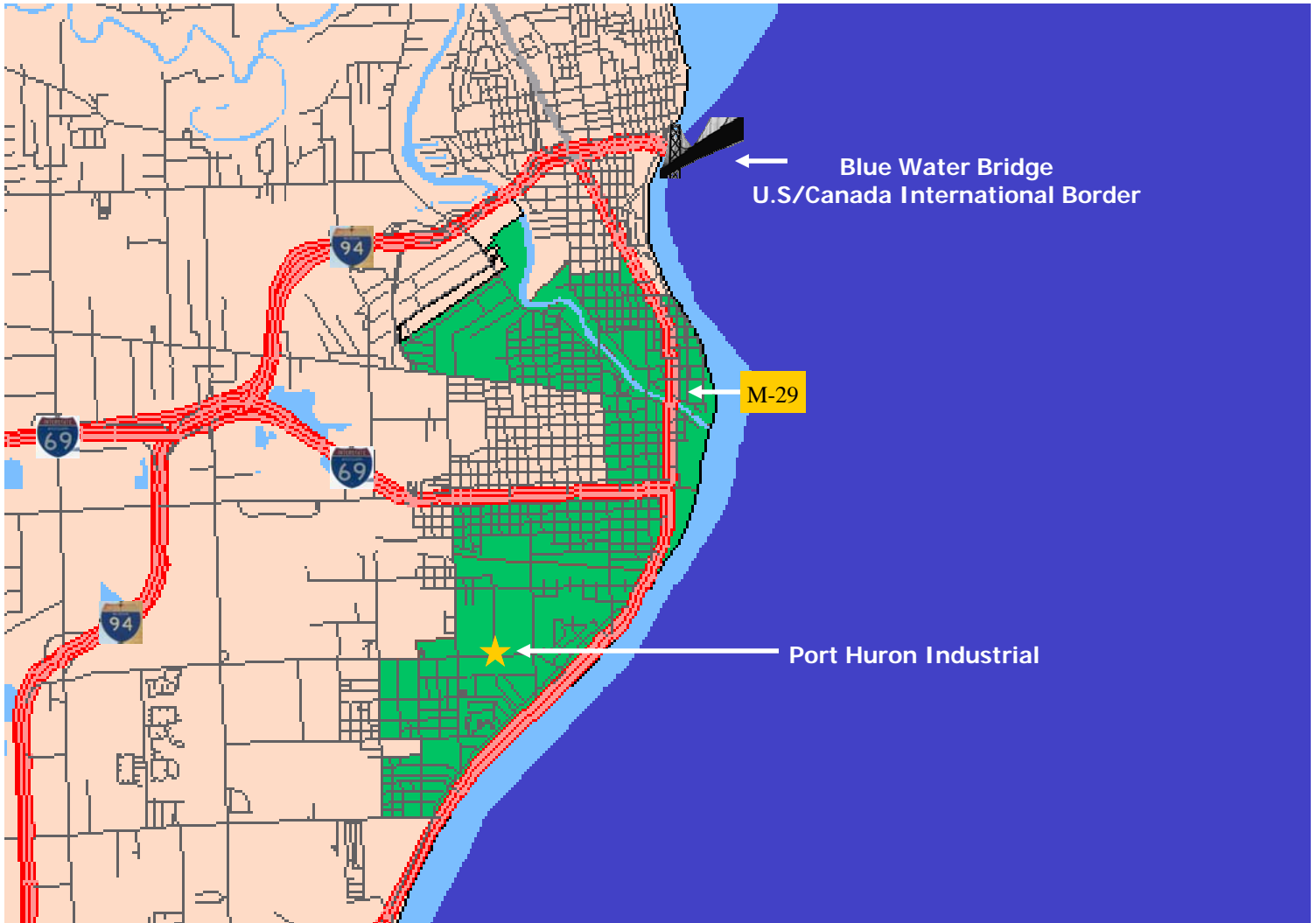


St. Clair County, Michigan HUBZone

HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program:

The HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program stimulates economic development and creates jobs in urban and rural communities by providing Federal contracting preferences to small businesses. These preferences go to small businesses that obtain HUBZone (Historically Underutilized Business Zone) certification in part by employing staff who live in a HUBZone. The company must also maintain a "principal office" in one of these specially designated areas. [A principal office can be different from a company headquarters, as explained later in this document.] The program resulted from provisions contained in the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997.

*Source: <http://www.sba.gov/hubzone.section05d.htm>



To qualify for the program, a business must meet the following criteria:

- It must be a small business by SBA size standards;
- Its principal office must be located within a HUBZone, which includes lands on federally recognized Indian reservations;
- It must be owned and controlled by one or more U.S. citizens; and
- At least 35% of its employees must reside in a HUBZone.

