

Steve Pierce *for Mayor*

Leadership for Ypsilanti's Future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Steve Pierce
118 South Washington St
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone: (734) 864-4050
Email: Steve@VotePierce.com
Web: <http://www.VotePierce.com>

Google Coming to Ypsilanti?

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Google is discussing locations inside and outside of Ann Arbor for its AdWords division. Could Ypsilanti be a site in the running?

"It could happen," says Mayoral Candidate Steve Pierce. "What is needed is creative thinking and vision to look at what can be done to attract Google to Ypsilanti." Steve Pierce went on to describe his vision for Google locating in downtown Ypsilanti. When asked where Google would locate, Steve responded, "EMU's College of Business on Michigan Avenue could be one location, Water Street is another. Both offer plenty of space, proximity to additional space for parking, and other facilities. Ypsilanti has great freeway access and easy commute from almost anywhere in the area."

"It would take an amazing partnership between EMU, the City of Ypsilanti, the City of Ann Arbor, SPARK and many more partners, but as the next Mayor, I would welcome that challenge. The ground work has already been laid with the innovative SmartZone that includes the City's of Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, EMU and U of M." Steve Pierce was part of the team that authored the winning MEDC grant that launched the SmartZone and has served as a founding Board Member and treasurer.

"One of the reasons I moved to Ypsilanti was the proximity of substantial and readily available telecommunications infrastructure. Ypsilanti was the very first community in Washtenaw County to be wired for cable and DSL service. Ypsilanti also set the benchmark for Washtenaw County in 2001 by being the first to offer citywide wireless Internet access through Ricochet, a national ISP."

"This would be a perfect place for Google or similar high tech company to locate. It would take a tremendous amount of work; however I have never been afraid of hard work. Ypsilanti is poised to take advantage of this opportunity," said Steve Pierce. "We have a good story to tell and we can be the right partner for Google or any new business locating in the region."

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Paid for by Steve Pierce for Mayor, 118 S Washington St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (734) 864-4050
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