

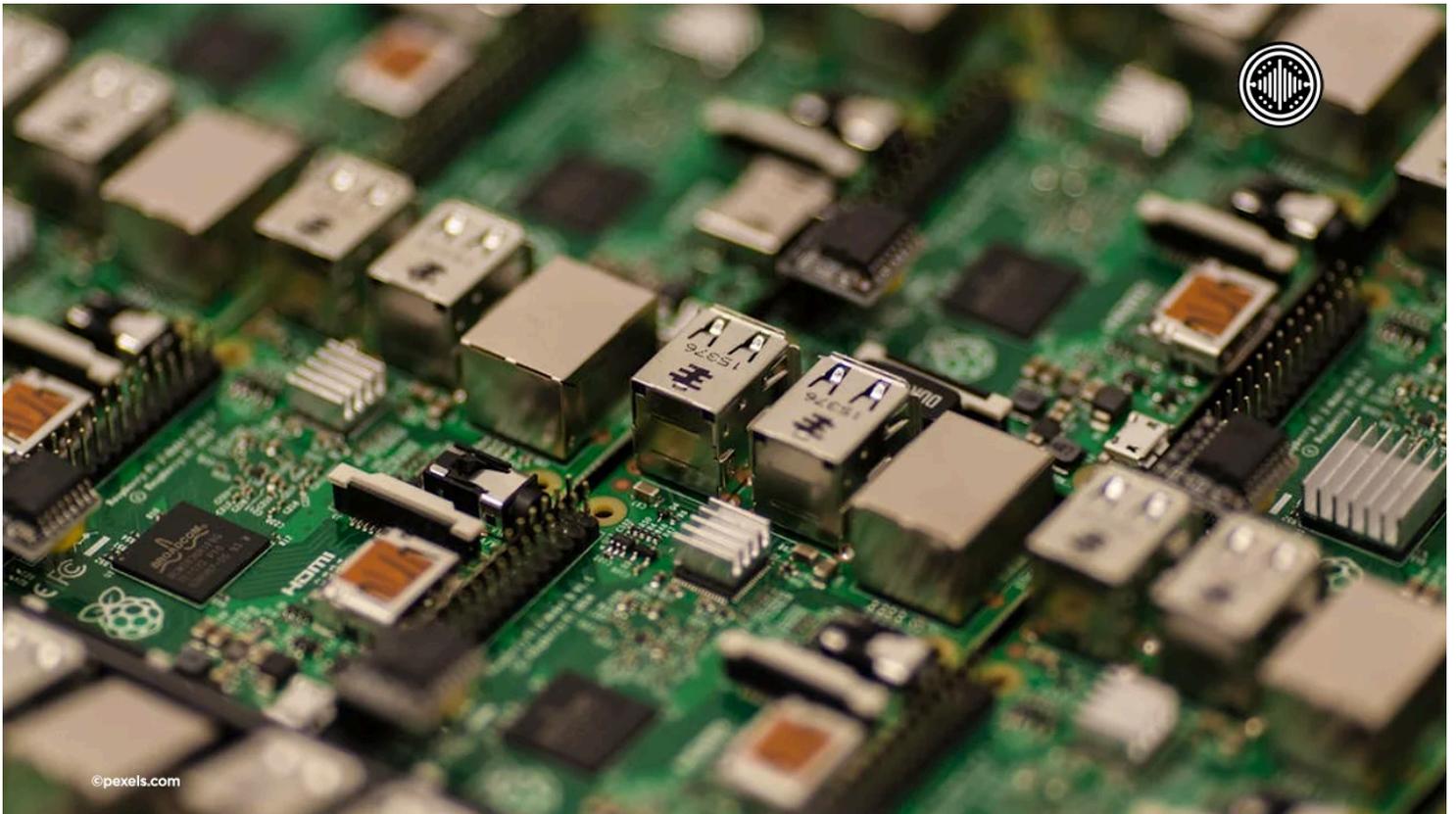
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\$55 Billion Flint Chip Project Canceled Over Economic Concerns

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A promising semiconductor development near Flint, Michigan, has been scrapped, as California-based technology firm SanDisk withdrew from a planned \$55 billion investment, citing mounting national economic uncertainty and looming federal policy shifts. The move has dealt a major blow to regional job growth and Michigan’s ambitions for high-tech manufacturing leadership.

SanDisk, known for producing flash memory and data storage solutions, had been in advanced talks for over two years to build a state-of-the-art chip manufacturing facility at the Mundy Township megasite in Genesee County. The proposed project, officially named the Advanced Manufacturing District of Genesee County, was expected to deliver nearly 10,000 permanent jobs and around 5,000 construction positions at its peak, making it one of the largest potential private investments in Michigan history.

The state had aggressively courted the project, offering an incentive package totaling \$6.24 billion. This included close to \$2 billion in direct grants, tax abatements, and other public funds. Despite this robust offer, SanDisk announced its decision to pull out on July 16, attributing the move to growing economic headwinds and uncertainty over future federal trade and tariff policies.

“This is an incredible disappointment,” said Tyler Rossmassler, executive director of the Flint and Genesee Economic Alliance. “I grew up in this community, and I’ve seen decades of disinvestment. I fell in love with this project and what it would mean for our future.” Rossmassler noted that while the loss stings, local leaders and project partners remain committed to securing future investments. “Every single person said, ‘This is a bummer, but we will get the next one.’”

The cancellation not only interrupts what was envisioned as a game-changing opportunity for job creation and economic revitalization, but also raises questions about the reliability of federal incentives and policy stability for major manufacturers looking to invest domestically.

In this setback, the region is also witnessing other economic shifts. A long-running, 118-year-old family business is closing its doors, marking the end of an era for the local retail landscape. Meanwhile, a Flint-area hotel property has been listed on the market for \$7.2 million, reflecting continued volatility in the hospitality sector.

Although the SanDisk project has been shelved, stakeholders involved in Genesee County’s economic development say they are pressing forward. The megasite remains available for future investment, and local officials are working to position the region for the next opportunity, one they hope will finally materialize into lasting economic growth.