

April 24, 2026

Revenue Sharing Trust Fund bills advance from Senate committee

Backed by cards of support from more than 500 township officials, MTA testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday in favor of SBs [559](#), [561](#) and [912](#). These bills would establish and outline the distribution of a Revenue Sharing Trust Fund to stabilize statutory revenue sharing for townships and other local units of government. The committee unanimously approved the measures (17–0), advancing them to the full Senate for a vote next week.

“This legislation is very important to our members,” MTA Director of Government Relations Judy Allen told the committee, noting that the support cards were signed by townships across the state in just two days. “Townships have faced significant reductions in revenue sharing over the past two decades, and a Revenue Sharing Trust Fund would provide sustainable funding to support infrastructure investments and ensure local governments can continue delivering essential services to their communities.”

As one of the Association’s top legislative priorities, MTA is encouraging our members to contact their [state senator](#) to express support for the legislation. MTA thanks all committee members—including bill sponsors Sens. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield), John Cherry (D-Flint), and Veronica Klinefelt (D-Eastpointe), as well as Committee Chair Sen. Sarah Anthony (D-Lansing)—and expresses its commitment to work with legislators to ensure stable funding for Michigan’s local governments.

ADA website accessibility requirements deadline extended

Townships have additional time to ensure their website and other digital communications comply with federal Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA) accessibility requirements. This week, the federal Department of Justice published an [Interim Final Rule](#) extending state and local governments’ compliance deadlines. Under the extension, townships with a population of 50,000 or more now have until **April 26, 2027**, while those under 50,000 population must comply by **April 26, 2028**.

Townships are encouraged to continue to work to ensure their website and other communications will comply with the requirements by the new deadline. The interim final rule also impacts state government; MTA will share any updated information from state departments as they become available. Find additional information about the ADA



BLKRK | **BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES**
MICHIGAN BASED IT TECH SUPPORT FOR TOWNSHIPS

AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES

(734) 338-8658
info@black-rock.tech

CiviClarity
WEBSITE SERVICE

Managing Your Documents is Easy!
with our Document Library

SEE HOW

UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

This May: [Planning & Zoning Primer](#) in three locations, 4-8 p.m.

May 13: *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar [Dig up Your Township's Cemetery Ordinance](#)

Coming in June: [Election Ready](#) afternoon workshops, in-person or online.

ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes

requirements on [MTA's "Website Development" webpage](#), including a [February 2026 Township Focus cover story](#) exploring the topic (published prior to the deadline extension). Member login is required.



BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES

**AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE
TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

[\(734\) 338-8658](tel:(734)338-8658) info@black-rock.tech



Reminder: ARPA reporting due by April 30

Non-entitlement units of government (NEUs—all but eight of Michigan's largest townships) that accepted American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds must complete their annual "Project and Expenditure Report" by April 30. **Every NEU must complete the report**, even if your township has already fully spent the funds. All ARPA funds must be fully expended by Dec. 31, 2026. Until your township closes out its award—including receiving confirmation from U.S. Treasury that the closeout is successful—townships must continue to file the annual report. NEUs must file their annual report by April 30, 2026, for expenditures from April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. A final report must be filed by April 30, 2027, covering April 1, 2026, through Dec. 31, 2026. Visit MTA's ["ARPA Resources and Updates" webpage](#) for more information.

New MTA leadership elected at 2026 MTA Annual Conference

Kevin Beeson, supervisor of Pine River Township (Gratiot Co.), was elected 2026 MTA president at our Annual Educational Conference & Expo this week. Beeson served as interim 2025 MTA president following the passing of Harold Koviak last fall. Also elected as 2026 MTA officers on the Association's Executive Committee were Malinda Cole-Crocker, Buchanan Charter Township (Berrien Co.) supervisor, as first vice president; Marvin Radtke Jr., Green Lake Township (Grand Traverse Co.) supervisor, as second vice president; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Charter Township (Bay Co.) supervisor, as treasurer; Matthew Beattie, Boon Township (Wexford Co.) supervisor, as secretary; and Jennifer Hodges, Muskegon Charter Township (Muskegon Co.) supervisor, as member-at-large. Connie Cargill, Golden Township (Oceana Co.) treasurer, will continue to serve as immediate past president.



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTICIPATING PLAN
www.theparplan.com/



MERS
Municipal Employees' Retirement System
www.mersofmich.com

[* Adna Technologies](#)

[* Bauckham, Thall, Seeber Kaufman & Koches PC](#)

[* Consumers Energy](#)

[* Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC](#)

[* Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC](#)

[* Hartleb Agency](#)

[* ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

[* Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler, P.C.](#)

[* Mika Meyers, PLC](#)

Michigan Township Participating Plan



MI Par Plan Safeguarding Michigan Public Entities Since 1985
theparplan.com

MTA QUICK LINKS

- [Answer Center](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Advocacy](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Community Connection](#)
- [Webcasts](#)
- [Store](#)
- [Township Governance Academy](#)
- [Allied Service Providers](#)
- [NATaT](#)

ELECTION READY: THE TOWNSHIP TOOLKIT

June 4 | Kalamazoo
June 16 | Marquette
June 17 | Gaylord
June 23 | Frankenmuth
June 25 | Online (via Zoom)

CLICK TO REGISTER!

MTA members approve 2026-2027 legislative priorities at Annual Conference

Member township officials approved [MTA's 2026-27 legislative priorities](#) this week at the Association's Annual Conference & Expo at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme Township (Grand Traverse Co.). The policy platform outlines specific objectives within six broad categories—assessment and taxation, elections, environment and land use, intergovernmental relations, township operations, and transportation and infrastructure—and guides MTA's advocacy efforts on behalf of townships throughout the year. Among MTA's top priorities are preserving local authority and retaining community-based decision making on local zoning issues, guaranteeing statutory revenue sharing for all townships through a dedicated state revenue source, and ensuring guaranteed funding replacement for property tax exemptions and reform. The Association will also work for state funding for statewide replacement of election equipment, and advocate for state laws that allow township officials to solve local issues in a manner consistent with local values, priorities and needs rather than impose a one-size-fits-all approach.



STG
SHUMAKER TECHNOLOGY GROUP

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW
WEBSITE PORTFOLIO!**

MICHIGAN'S EXPERTS IN WEB DEVELOPMENT

House Republicans introduce property tax reform measures

Multiple bills were introduced in the Michigan House this week to provide broad property tax reform, including a reduction of \$5 billion in property taxes. While MTA is reviewing the proposal, the main concern is the fiscal implications the reform will have without guaranteed reimbursement provisions for lost revenue. The nine-bill proposal includes:

- [House Bill 5872](#) would eliminate the residential “pop-up” tax. Currently, when a property is sold, its taxable value resets to match the current market value.
- [HB 5873](#) would eliminate the six-mill State Education Tax.
- [HB 5874](#) would repeal the state real estate transfer tax.
- [HBs 5875](#), [5876](#) and [5877](#) would amend statutes to reflect the repeal of the state real estate transfer tax.

- [HB 5878](#) would eliminate ALL personal property taxes, including utility personal property taxes.
- [HB 5879](#) would require public utilities to provide a correlating reduction in residential rates.
- [HB 5880](#) would provide a 6% tax on services to be deposited in a dedicated fund with distribution to the state's School Aid Fund and remaining funds allocated to local units of government.

Hearings on the bills could begin as early as next week.

MECC

2026 MICHIGAN
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPLIANCE
CONFERENCE

JUNE 9-10
LANSING CENTER

Attend the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) premier environmental compliance assistance event!

- Choose from more than 70 concurrent technical sessions
- Check out services from exhibitors
- Get one-on-one assistance from EGLE staff
- Network with hundreds of environmental professionals

EGLE

Register by May 20 at Michigan.gov/MECC

Bill would prohibit single-hauler waste contract

Legislation debated by the House Government Operations Committee on Thursday would prohibit townships and other local municipalities from contracting with a single waste-hauler provider unless approved by their voters. [House Bill 5167](#), sponsored by Rep. Angela Rigas (R-Caledonia), was opposed by MTA as there are processes in place in which residents can engage and express their objection. The legislation does not consider benefits that may be provided, such as better rates or less impact on local roads, and rather assumes a one-size-fits-all approach for communities. The bill would apply to contracts entered after Jan. 1, 2027. HB 5167 could be before the committee next week.

Contracted election administrator bill approved by committee

Townships may soon be able to contract for election administration if their township clerk and deputy clerk are not available to perform the election duties. [House Bill 5717](#), sponsored by Rep. Jennifer Wortz (R-Quincy Twp.) and supported by MTA, was approved this week by the House Committee on Election Integrity. Currently, if a township clerk and the deputy clerk are unavailable to perform necessary election functions related to an election, the township board must appoint a qualified person who is a registered elector of the township to perform those functions until the clerk or a deputy clerk resumes their duties. HB 5717 would permit the township board to contract with an individual who is accredited to conduct elections under the act if they live in a reasonable proximity to the township to perform election functions until the township clerk or a deputy resumes those duties or a new township clerk is appointed or elected. The bill will next be considered by the full House chamber.

Senate approves water improvement district expansion

The Michigan Senate passed an MTA-supported bill expanding the tax increment financing program for inland

lakes. [Senate Bill 553](#), introduced by Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), would expand the types of waterways eligible for a water improvement district to include inland rivers. Municipalities would have to approve the district and water resource improvement authority by resolution. The infusion of funds could be used to promote public access to the inland river system, improve water quality, service stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, protect wildlife and shorelines, and other activities in the best interests of the public. SB 553 moves to the House for further consideration.

Biannual Prescription Drug Take Back Day is April 25

Thousands of law enforcement agencies and community organizations across Michigan are participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) 30th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 25. The biannual event aims to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths by providing a safe, convenient and environmentally responsible method for disposing of prescription drugs. Accepted items include tablets, capsules and other solid forms of prescription drugs, sealed liquids like cough syrup in its original container, and vaping devices and cartridges if lithium batteries are removed. Syringes, sharps and illicit substances are not accepted. Find a participating location on the [DEA Take Back website](#) or use the state's [drug disposal tool](#) to find a year-round disposal location.

Federal grant opportunities

North American Wetlands Conservation Act U.S. Small Grants: The program promotes partnerships between public agencies, including governmental agencies, and groups interested in protecting, improving, restoring and managing an appropriate distribution and a variety of wetland ecosystems, populations and other habitats for wetland-associated migratory birds and other fish and wildlife. Applications are due by June 25. [Click here](#) for more information.

Local Food Promotion: This program supports the development, coordination and expansion of local and regional food business enterprises that serve as intermediaries in indirect producer-to-consumer marketing, increasing access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. The program funds planning, implementation and turnkey projects that support food processing, aggregation, distribution, storage and value-added product development. Local governments must apply by June 5. [Click here](#) for more information.

Farmers Market Promotion: The program supports the development, coordination and expansion of direct producer-to-consumer markets to increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. Local governments are eligible to apply by June 5. [Click here](#) for more information.

Regional Food System Partnerships: This program supports partnerships that connect public and private

resources to plan and develop local and regional food systems. Partners will work collaboratively to strengthen regional food economies, set shared priorities, connect resources and services, and track measurable progress toward food system goals. Applications are due by June 5. [Click here](#) for more information.

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety

Improvements Program: This program supports projects that improve railroad safety, efficiency and reliability; mitigate congestion at both intercity passenger rail and freight rail chokepoints to support more efficient travel and goods movement; and enhance multi-modal connections. Political subdivisions of the state are eligible to apply by June 22. [Click here](#) for more information.

EGLE beach water quality portal

[BeachGuard](#) in the MiEnviro Portal helps the public access historical and current water quality indicators, beach advisories and closures so leaders and beachgoers can make informed decisions when enjoying Michigan's freshwater beaches. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy is hosting a [webinar](#) on May 13 at 10 a.m. to review how to use the tool and interpret results in the context of public health.

Reminders for clerks

New voter information posters were provided to county clerks last month, who should have distributed them to township clerks. [State law](#) requires two copies to be placed at each precinct and early voting site. These new posters will be used during every election cycle and should be carefully preserved for future display.

Final May 5 election training opportunities will be offered next week by the state Bureau of Elections via brief lunchtime virtual sessions focusing on specialized election tasks including:

- [AV Ballot Processing](#) (April 28 at noon)
 - [Closing the Polls + Receiving Boards](#) (April 30 at noon)
-

DNR urges visitors: 'Know before you go'

Following recent flooding and damage from rain, snowmelt and severe weather across all 83 Michigan counties, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is urging outdoor enthusiasts to check for closures and safety information before their next adventure. Floodwater can cause unpredictable current conditions, carry debris, bacteria or hazardous waste, or cover downed electrical lines. Walking or riding on flooded or saturated trails can cause unnecessary damage or result in slipping. Visitors can find up-to-date closures of boating access sites, state parks, trails and campgrounds at [Michigan.gov/DNRClosures](#) and search "recent flooding."

Federal update for week of April 20

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships [Weekly Legislative Update](#) for the latest on federal actions impacting townships.



BLKRK | **BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES**

**AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE
TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

 (734) 338-8658  info@black-rock.tech



Michigan Townships Association | 512 Westshire Drive | Lansing, MI 48917 US



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!