

# Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

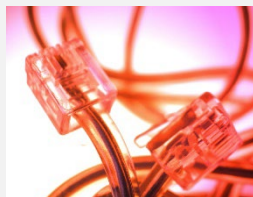
August 5, 2022

## Voters approve majority of township ballot proposals

On Tuesday, 96% of [August 2 township ballot proposals](#) received voter approval. Over 500 township proposals were on primary ballots across the state—including road, public safety and marijuana proposals—and all but 22 were approved by voters.

## Internet for All: Michigan Local Coordination workshop Aug. 18

Join community leaders, federal representatives, and staff from the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office on **Aug. 18** at the [Internet for All: Michigan Local Coordination Workshop](#) to learn about critical programs to expand broadband infrastructure and digital equity throughout your community and the state. **You can attend this free event in person (Detroit) or virtually**—simply indicate your preference on the [registration form](#). During this day-long summit (8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.), discussions will include local government and community needs, legislative and program updates, working with industry, data collection and mapping, and supply chain and talent needs, among others. This event will provide an opportunity to discuss ways locals and the state can work together to efficiently and effectively utilize broadband funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other federal broadband dollars to the maximum extent. The event is hosted by the state Department of Labor and Economic Development and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.



## BOE reminder to update voter history for Aug. 2 Primary no later than Aug. 8

Clerks are reminded to update voter history for this week's election no later than Monday, Aug 8. The updated ePollbook

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## MTA Training Opportunities

**\*\* August 10 Now You Know** webinar: [What Every Board Member Needs to know about the Tax Rate Request form \(L-4029\)](#)

## Hot Topics in Planning and Zoning

Attend in-person on:

**\*\*August 16 in Mt Pleasant**

**\*\*August 24 in Gaylord**

**\*\*August 31 in Lawrence**

**\*\* Or attend online**

(includes access to live stream on Aug. 31 & recorded version )

## Emerging Issues in Emergency Services

**\*\*September 12 Bavarian Inn Frankenmuth**

## MTA QUICK LINKS

[MTA COVID Relief Webpage](#)

[Members-only Website](#)

software now includes provisional ballot and “voter not in possession of ID” information allowing clerks to upload these reports with the ePollbook data, rather than having to report it separately. Once uploaded, the voting history, the provisional affidavit ballot and voter not in possession of ID counts will automatically be uploaded into Qualified Voter File, and only the provisional envelope ballot totals need to be entered. Per the Bureau of Elections (BOE), there are some circumstances that require you to manually add or remove a voter’s history for an election. For instructions on manually recording voting history and/or making corrections, please review [QVF Manual - Chapter 5 Voting History](#) .

## Plan to attend FREE online federal grant training Aug. 24 and 25

Township officials can gain a basic understanding of the federal grants process and how to prepare for the grant solicitations—particularly now that we are in the first of five years of grant programs funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. A two-part, free online training program, sponsored by the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT), will be available live on Aug. 24 and Aug. 25 at 1 p.m. and include 60 to 75 minutes of training. Click on the following links at 1 p.m. to access via Microsoft Teams. The [Aug. 24 session](#) will provide grants basics and identification, an overview of the federal grants landscape, required registrations, and how to search for federal grants and strategically position projects ahead of a solicitation. The [Aug. 25 session](#) will offer an overview of common grant narrative elements with tips and tricks for writing and submitting a competitive grant application. The sessions will also be recorded and available on [NATaT’s website](#) and MTA’s website for those unable to participate on those dates.

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- \* [Asphalt Materials, Inc.](#) \_
- \* [Bauckham, Sparks, Thall, Seeber & Kaufman, PC](#)
- \* [Consumers Energy](#)
- \* [Fahey Schultz Burzychn Rhodes PLC](#)
- \* [Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.](#)
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## Comments sought by Aug. 10 on Missing Middle Housing Program




To address the general lack of attainable housing and housing challenges, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is seeking comment on an updated version of the [Draft Missing Middle Housing Plan](#). The plan proposes to increase the supply of housing stock to support the growth and economic mobility of employees by providing cost defrayment to developers investing in, constructing, or substantially rehabbing properties targeted to household incomes between 185% and 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). Comments can be submitted until **Aug. 10** by email to [MSHDA-MissingMiddle@michigan.gov](mailto:MSHDA-MissingMiddle@michigan.gov) and will be considered in the formulation of the final plan presented to the MSHDA Board for consideration at the August 2022 meeting. The Missing Middle Housing Program is funded by State appropriated American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds from the U.S. Department of the Treasury.


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

[\\* Mika Meyers, PLC](#)



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## Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) workshop offered



Townships are invited to join the "Making the Case for Recycling" workshop offered by the Michigan Recycling Coalition and Resource Recycling Services on Thursday, **Sept. 15** from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The workshop will discuss how to utilize free tools to develop ISWM programs, learn how to use ISWM spreadsheets and accounting handbook and learn how to communicate this with stakeholders. [Registration is available online.](#)

## 2022 Rates and Affordability for Small Wastewater System's training available

Wastewater operators are invited to register and attend a free training taking place in **Gaylord on Thursday, Sept. 8 from 8 am-4:30 pm** . The training includes how to conduct a rate analysis, how to analyze budgets and operational costs, and reviewing affordability metrics. Continuing education credits may be available. [Register online](#) by **Sept. 7** for the event.

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## Applications are open for the Green Communities Leadership Institute

Local government leaders are invited to apply to join a cohort of the [Green Communities Leadership Institute](#). The Institute takes place between March and January of 2023, with five virtual weeks and one in-person week in March. Learning is designed to help leaders create more sustainable communities by growing their own competencies, increasing organizational leadership impact, and growing community leadership impacts. **Applications are due by Sept. 30** , and the materials needed for the application can be found on the Green Communities Leadership Institute [website](#).

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## Input sought for agriculture management practices

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and the Agriculture Commission are seeking review and input of the [proposed drafts of the 2023 Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices](#) (GAAMPs). The GAAMPs are reviewed each year, revised, and updated, as necessary. Comments can be submitted by email ( [MDARD-RTF@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDARD-RTF@Michigan.gov) ) , mail (MDARD's Stewardship Division, P.O. Box 30017, Lansing, MI 48909, postmarked no later than Aug. 24) and at a virtual public meeting scheduled for Aug. 25 at 9 a.m. ( [join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) or call 248-509-0316 and enter the Conference ID: 13102657#). MDARD will forward all comments received by the due date to the respective GAAMPs Task Force Committee Chairs in preparation for the Michigan Agriculture meeting on Sept. 14. Comments must be received no later than **5 p.m. on Aug. 29**. Additional information is available at [www.Michigan.gov/RighttoFarm](http://www.Michigan.gov/RighttoFarm).

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## **EGLE announces an updated online permit portal**

A new online system will allow communities that have businesses with air permits to quickly and easily access permit and compliance data in one place, in addition to having resources that are not currently available online. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy will be moving air quality permits to [MiEnviro Portal](#), an online management system. The new portal is a revamp of the [MiWaters](#) system currently being used for the Water Resources Division. The Air Quality division permits, as well as compliance and emissions reporting, will migrate to MiEnviro Portal starting this fall with asbestos notices and dry cleaning permits—and finish being integrated in early 2024.

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## **Member input sought for 2023 MTA legislative policy platform**

MTA is seeking review and input from members on its legislative policy platform as we begin preparing for the 2023-2024 legislative session. The legislative policy objectives guide MTA's government relations efforts, and they are reviewed and updated annually to reflect emerging issues and goals. MTA members are encouraged to review [MTA's 2022 Policy Platform](#) and share any proposed revisions and suggested additions by Nov. 21. Member-proposed policy changes will be reviewed by MTA committees for word selection and legality, and to ensure they conform with the Association's overall goals and objectives. The proposed policies will be presented at the 2023 MTA Annual meeting in conjunction with our Annual Educational Conference and Expo in April. Contact the MTA Government Relations Department at (517) 321-6467 or [legislation@michigantownships.org](mailto:legislation@michigantownships.org) with questions, comments or suggestions.

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## August Township Focus — in mailboxes and online now!

Check out your [August issue of Township Focus](#) now! In this month's cover story *Decoding employee classification & compensation*, learn how to classify and compensate township officials and employees appropriately and lawfully. We also dive into Michigan's new Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules and continuing education requirements that go into effect this fall. Turn to the middle of this issue for your 2022 Township Vendor Directory (or [view online](#)), perfect for reference when your township is looking for products or services to help you serve your community. You'll find details on our upcoming educational opportunities, including the all-new [Regional Summits](#) coming to five locations throughout the state this October.



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## Federal update for week of August 1

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships' [e-newsletter](#) for an update of federal actions impacting townships.