

Aug. 9, 2024

## Voters overwhelmingly approve township proposals

On Tuesday, 94% of 713 township proposals on the ballot were approved by voters, including road, public safety, library, cemetery, senior services, renewable energy and marijuana proposals. The highest number of millages before township voters were public safety increases and renewals (349 proposals) with 98% passing, and local road millage increases and renewals (226 proposals) with over 91% approved by voters. Statewide, there were 1,010 local millage proposals on the ballot — township, city, village, county and schools— with 92% approved.



**Michigan Township Participating Plan**

- Property & Casualty Insurance
- Risk Control Support Programs

[theparplan.com](http://theparplan.com)  
[#theparplan](https://twitter.com/theparplan)

**VOTE HERE**

## Application deadline for Renewables Ready Communities grants lifted

The application deadline for the [Renewables Ready Communities Award](#) (RRCA) has been removed, and any municipality that hosts or is permitted for any portion of an eligible utility-scale renewable energy project can apply without rushing to permit a project before the end of September. The RRCA provides up to \$5,000 per megawatt (MW) to permittees and expectant hosts. In situations where the host and permitter differ, \$2,500 per MW will be granted to each awardee. All projects must be at least 50 MW, unless any wind energy is involved, in which case a project must be at least 100 MW. An eligible project is a grid-connected wind, solar or energy storage project in Michigan that received a land use permit or approved site use plan on or after Oct. 1, 2023. Previously, the RRCA had an application deadline of Sept. 30, 2024, but will now remain open until funds are depleted.

MOBILE FRIENDLY  
**Web Design**

**STG**

## Upcoming MTA Training & Events

Sept. 18: *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar:  
[Elections: Ready/Set/Go](#)

## Hot Topics in Planning & Zoning:

Aug. 14: [Frankenmuth](#)  
Aug. 21: [Lawrence](#)  
Aug. 28: [Cadillac](#)

## Emerging Issues in Emergency Services

Sept. 10: [Frankenmuth](#)  
Sept. 12: [Cadillac](#)

## Regional Meetings:

Sept. 24: [Frankenmuth](#)  
Sept. 25: [Ludington](#)  
Sept. 26: [Kalamazoo](#)  
Oct. 2: [Gaylord](#)  
Oct. 3: [Marquette](#)

**CiviClarity**  
WEBSITE SERVICE



## Managing Your Documents is Easy

with our Document Library

[SEE HOW](#)

## MITTEN Round 2 grant applications open in regions 1a and 1b in the UP

Townships in the Upper Peninsula can now submit request for

**MTA QUICK LINKS**

[Answer Center](#)

proposals for the second round of applications for the [Michigan's Inclusive Training Technology and Equity Network \(MITTEN\) grant](#) in **regions 1a and 1b**. This initiative aims to improve digital adoption across Michigan, focusing on underserved communities by establishing regional resource hubs and host sites for regional digital coordinators. Learn more about MITTEN, access application materials, find [MITTEN FAQs](#), and view recordings of webinars and a pre-application conference on the [MIHI website](#). Collaborative applications from multiple eligible organizations are strongly recommended. Email [LEO-MIHighSpeedInternet@michigan.gov](mailto:LEO-MIHighSpeedInternet@michigan.gov), with the subject line "MITTEN," with questions.



## EEOC rule implements federal Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act for employers

Townships with more than 15 employees are subject to a [new final rule](#) now in effect to implement [the Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act](#) (PWFA). The act requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified employees and applicants with known limitations arising out of or affected by pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, unless an accommodation will cause the employer undue hardship. The PWFA applies only to accommodations, and does not impact other laws prohibiting discrimination against the applicable individuals. The rule, issued by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), went into effect June 18, 2024.

## Reminders from the BOE

**Voter history updates due.** Clerks should update Aug. 6 election voter history no later than **Aug. 12**. While early voting (EV) history is recorded from the EV electronic pollbook, EV provisional affidavit ballot and voter-not-in-possession-of-ID counts must be entered manually (in the state Bureau of Election (BOE) [eLearning](#) under [August 2024 Provisional Ballot & Aff of No ID](#)). Voting history for AV voters whose ballots were received in QVF and rejected after the election (voter ballots rejected by Election Day will not have voting history) must be manually removed. For instructions on manually recording voting history and/or making corrections, review [QVF Manual—Chapter 5 Voting History](#) in [eLearning](#).

**MOVE ballots.** Military and overseas voter (MOVE) ballots postmarked on or before Election Day and received within six days after Election Day are considered timely received. If the postmark is unclear, the local clerk must deliver it to the county clerk, who determines whether it was timely received. Clerks must deliver all MOVE AV ballots to their county clerk by the seventh day after Election Day. Timely received MOVE AV ballots are tabulated by the county clerk in a meeting of the board of county canvassers.

**Address confidentiality.** With more voters engaging in voter registration and requesting a ballot, remember the process for handling voter requests that are a part of the Address Confidentiality Program (review in the [Address Confidentiality Program module](#) in [eLearning](#)). Contact the BOE with questions.

**Reimbursement update.** Submissions for Early Voting Grant

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

### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



[www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes](http://www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes)



[www.mersofmich.com](http://www.mersofmich.com)

\* [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](#)



August Wage reimbursement open next week. Wage reimbursement will require a ledger detailing payment amount, employees paid and proof of wage payment from your payroll software.

**Accreditation manual updates.** Updates to the clerk accreditation manual, including Chapters 10-19, have been posted in [eLearning](#) and [on the BOE website](#).



Plante Moran Cresa is now

**plante moran**  
REALPOINT

Comprehensive, end-to-end real estate solutions.

LEARN MORE

## MTA's upcoming evening class provides guidance for renewables, more

MTA has been working with legal counsel and renewable energy experts seeking answers, consensus and clarification to assist townships in navigating the renewable energy path forward. Our ever-popular evening class—[Hot Topics in Planning & Zoning](#), coming to three locations around the state this month—breaks down the latest guidance from the Michigan Public Service Commission and includes a review of MTA's sample compatible renewable energy ordinance. We'll also dig into short-term rental regulations, right-of-way, conflict of interest and more. Offered only every other year, this unique opportunity ensures your planning and zoning team stays ahead of today's complex issues. [Learn more here](#) or [register online now](#).



**EMERGING ISSUES  
IN EMERGENCY SERVICES**

SEPTEMBER 10 IN FRANKENMUTH | SEPTEMBER 12 IN CADILLAC

SPONSORED BY **N** NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY

A FULL-DAY WORKSHOP DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE & A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CURRENT CHALLENGES.

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!**

## Free upcoming webinars: Polling etiquette, watershed planning grants

- Clerks, election workers and officials can [register now](#) for a free half-hour webinar, hosted by Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC, offering a refresher on proper polling etiquette to ensure compliance and a smoother election day process. Held Aug. 14 at noon, listen as a municipal attorney discusses best polling practices for electors and municipalities leading up to and on Election Day, including what to expect at polling places, the roles of poll watchers and challengers, and what's legal for political yard signs.
- Townships involved in watershed planning projects can attend a Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy [webinar](#), held on Aug. 13 from 10-11:30 a.m., to learn about Nonpoint Source program funding for watershed planning projects, the grant application

schedule, program priorities, eligibility criteria, application requirements and tips for successful applications.

## Read the August issue of *Township Focus* now!

Your [August issue of Township Focus](#) is online and in your mailbox now! Read this month's cover story, *Understanding risk management: Considerations for townships* to learn more about how your townships insurance policy protects your township and steps to take to manage liability. Our feature sends well wishes to MTA's Cindy Dodge as she retires from the Association, while continuing to serve our members in a new role. "Hello, MTA ... ?" explores what can and can't be done with campaign materials around election time and "Financial Forum" shares advice from an auditor during the transition to a new township term of office. Be sure to pull out the 2024 Vendor Directory and place it somewhere accessible for quick reference for companies that can help you better serve your township. (You can also check out our online Vendor Directory [here!](#))



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

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



Try email marketing for free today!