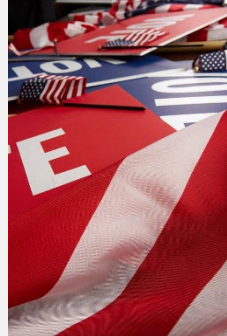


Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

July 14, 2023

MTA's Proposal 2022-2 Guidance webpage updated

MTA's [Proposal 2022-2 Guidance webpage](#) has been updated, sharing details on legislation for Election Law changes to implement new voting rights approved by voters statewide in November 2022. We know that a lot of questions and concerns remain from clerks and election administrators, and we will continue to provide updates and resources as they become available. The updated webpage includes the July *Township Focus* cover story (*see related article below*), which also outlines details of the implementation legislation and state Bureau of Elections information released so far.



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Upcoming MTA Training

[Now You Know webinars](#)

**Aug. 9: [Spending Public Money](#)

[U.P. Education Extravaganza](#)

**July 18: [Cemetery](#)

[Management & Administration](#)

**July 18: [Insights into Planning & Zoning](#)

**July 19: [Financial Fundamentals](#)

**July 19: [Hot Topics for Township Fire Departments](#)

[August Workshops](#)

**Aug. 1: [Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation](#)

**Aug. 2: [At Your Service: Meeting Township Needs](#)

Community Center Grants available

Up to \$60 million are available in the [Community Center Grant](#) program funds through the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for municipalities and organizations to expand programming or work on capital projects. Applications are due by **5 p.m. Aug. 31**. Check the [website](#) to learn what type of capital improvement projects can be included and programs that can be funded. A **July 17 webinar**, held at 10 a.m. will provide a program overview.

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JULY 18 & JULY 19
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MTA QUICK LINKS

[MTA COVID Relief Webpage](#)
[Answer Center](#)
[Training](#)

Upcoming Treasury 'Updates & Resources for Local Governments' webinar

In partnership with MTA, the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Association of Counties and Michigan County Road Association, the Michigan Department of Treasury is holding its 20th joint webinar, "Updates and Resources for Local Governments, on **July 20 at 1:30 p.m.** The webinar will focus on the state's FY 2024 budget and include a state budget update from state Treasurer Rachael Eubanks, a state economic update, budget changes for local governments and local budget planning tips. Register for the event and submit questions in advance [here](#). Webinar presentations and recordings will be [posted](#) following the event; recordings of previous webinars are also available.

Bills signed into law this week

- [Public Act 54 of 2023](#) designates Juneteenth as a public holiday to be observed on June 19; effective July 12, 2023.
- [Public Act 56 of 2023](#) expands the definition of peace officer to now include individuals licensed under the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards Act to include conservation officers such as park rangers, and other officers, including members of a campus public safety department. The change took effect on July 12, 2023, and allows the officers to take an individual into protective custody if, for among other reasons, the person presents a danger to themselves or others due to a mental illness.
- Public Acts [66](#) and [67](#) of 2023 require the state Department of Transportation to develop a local grade separation grant program for communities to eliminate blocked railroad crossings. The grant would require a 20% match from the applicant. The new laws took effect on July 12.



BCC issues interpretative statement

In response to issues raised regarding the licensing and certification requirements for testing backflow prevention assemblies, the state Bureau of Construction Codes (BCC) and Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy determined

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

ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



* [Asphalt Materials, Inc.](#)

* [Bauckham, Sparks, Thal, Seeber & Kaufman, PC](#)

* [Consumers Energy](#)

* [Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC](#)

* [Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.](#)

* [Hartleb Agency](#)

* [ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

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

* [Mika Meyers, PLC](#)

it to be appropriate to provide [BCC-EGLE Joint Interpretive Statements](#) related to the licensing and certification requirements. Contact LARA-BCC-Licensing@michigan.gov with questions.

Upcoming EGLE webinar explores source water plans

A Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) [webinar](#) on **Tuesday, July 25 at 9 a.m.** will guide local officials through the development, update and implementation of Source Water Protection Programs (SWPPs). Part of EGLE's [Drinking Water: Protecting MI Source Webinar Series](#), "Drops of Resilience: Empowering Communities through Source Water Plans" will cover essential elements of SWPPs and highlight their significance, with real-life examples from Michigan. Discover why managing the area around your public water supply system is crucial and gain insights into funding sources for SWPP development and implementation. For program questions, contact pearsons@michigan.gov. For registration questions, contact bertholda@michigan.gov or roseberryj@michigan.gov.

Space still available at MTA's August courses on assessment, taxation and township services

Join MTA at the Evergreen Resort in Cadillac on **Aug. 1** for ***Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation***, an evening class exploring the entire process, from assessment and board of review meetings, all the way to tax collection. On **Aug. 2**, explore your role—and authority—for providing services for residents at the full-day course, ***At Your Service: Meeting Township Needs***. Learn more about funding options, evaluate your community's current needs and discuss planning for the future. [Register online now](#) or [click here for the full brochure](#).



Read the July Township Focus—online now!

In the [July issue of Township Focus](#), our cover story, *Proposal 2 implementation laws enact historic changes to elections administration*, explores the legislation implementing Proposal 2022-2 and impacting every township as they navigate early voting and absent voting changes. We also profile Michigan House and Senate leadership and share their thoughts on their goals for the state and the value of township government. In our feature article, catch up with a township volunteer who has served her community for 75 years—and shows no signs of stopping. In our Q&A columns, “Hello, MTA ... ?” discusses the competitive bid process and considerations for your township while “Financial Forum” outlines the purpose, budget considerations and disbursement of petty cash. You’ll also find all the details about MTA’s Professional Development Retreats happening this fall in this issue! **Editor’s note:** *Due to key legislative action at the end of June, as well as production issues beyond our control, there has been a delay in mailing the July issue of Township Focus.*



Adopt-A-Highway cleanup resumes this weekend

The second Adopt-A-Highway clean-up period is set for July 15-23. Motorists should be on the lookout for volunteer cleanup crews along the roadside. The final Adopt-A-Highway pickup is scheduled for the fall from Sept. 23 to Oct. 1. Sections of highway are available for adoption all over the state. Interested groups can get more information at www.Michigan.gov/AdoptAHighway. Volunteers include members of civic groups, local businesses and families. Groups are asked to adopt a section of highway for at least two years. There is no fee to participate. Adopt-A-Highway signs bearing group names are posted along the stretches of adopted highway.

Federal update for week of July 10

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

