

# Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

June 28, 2024

## Revenue sharing for ALL townships, key provision of state budget approved



Following advocacy by both MTA and township officials, the Legislature included an additional \$75 million for revenue sharing in the FY 2024-25 budget that will provide **statutory revenue sharing for all townships**. This action—and the increased funding—is a positive step in recognizing the value of and investing in local governments.

Of the estimated \$670 million for statutory revenue sharing, the distribution provides:

- \$520 million to be disbursed in the same proportion to current recipients as in current fiscal year
- \$75 million in new revenue
  - \$40 million to be distributed to townships, cities and villages using a three-factor formula (previously utilized in 1998): 1/3 inverse taxable value per capita, 1/3 unit type population and 1/3 yield equalization.
  - \$30 million for counties to be distributed on inverse taxable value per capita
- \$75 million for a new Public Safety and Violence Prevention Fund to provide additional resources for police services and to support community violence intervention efforts; distribution to local units will be based on violent crime statistics and passage of House Bills 4605 and 4606 will be required to implement the fund.

For the past two decades, the majority of townships have not received this critical funding due to state budget cuts. The budget

## Website Announcements Delivered by Text Messaging



CiviClarity  
WEBSITE SERVICE

[Learn More](#)

Since 1985

## Michigan Township Participating Plan



Property &  
Casualty  
Insurance



Risk  
Control  
Programs



[theparplan.com](http://theparplan.com)

#theparplan

## Upcoming MTA Training & Events

*Now You Know* lunchtime  
webinar:

July 10: [Summer Legislative Update](#)

July 23-24: [UP North Summit](#)

July 31: [Creating a Vision for Your Township](#) &

measure passed early Thursday morning restores funding to all townships, cities and villages to the statutory revenue sharing program and provides increased and ongoing resources to state-shared revenue. This action represents a positive recognition of the invaluable role our communities provide every day and offers vital, additional funding for local governments to best serve their residents. MTA would like to especially thank Sen. John Cherry (D-Flint) and Rep. Felicia Brabec (D-Pittsfield Chtr. Twp.) for their steadfast commitment and hard work to secure the critical resources to support all local communities.

In addition to the much-needed increase in revenue sharing funding, there are several key provisions in the approved budget impacting townships including:

**Elections:**

- A new requirement that the Secretary of State must provide reimbursement to townships and other local governments within 60 days of receiving the necessary documentation
- \$1.5 million additional funds to provide grants to counties for implementation costs of Proposal 2 of 2022, such as early voting
- \$5.7 million (supplement) for Help America Vote Act election security grants

**Economic development and housing:**

- \$47.4 million in grants to develop affordable housing and to increase housing stock
- \$110 million (FY 2024 supplemental) for missing middle housing, with at least 30% of the grants to rural community projects
- \$50 million (FY 2024 supplemental) for the Housing and Community Development Fund to expand access to affordable housing
- \$50 million in continued funding for the Revitalization and Placemaking program
- \$3.3 million for the Housing Readiness Incentive Grant Program to provide grants to local communities to cover costs association with master plan updates and zoning

**Infrastructure:**

- \$509 million for water infrastructure to fund lead service line replacement and water infrastructure and climate change mitigation

**[Linking with the Community](#)**

Aug 1: **[Strategic Planning for Townships](#)**

**[Hot Topics in Planning & Zoning:](#)**

Aug. 14: [Frankenmuth](#)

Aug. 21: [Lawrence](#)

Aug. 28: [Cadillac](#)

**MTA QUICK LINKS**

[Answer Center](#)

[Training](#)

[Advocacy](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Community Connection](#)

[Webcasts](#)

[Store](#)

[Township Governance Academy](#)

[Allied Service Providers](#)

[NATaT](#)

**ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS**



- \$48.3 million to provide loans and grants to local communities to support projects associated with lead service line replacement
- \$5 million for Renewable Energy and Electrification Infrastructure grants for planning, developing, designing, acquiring or constructing renewable energy and electrification infrastructure projects

## Term of office change approved by House

**Beginning in 2025**, all terms for township officers would commence at noon on Dec. 1 following the officer's election under legislation approved by the House this week. [House Bill 5699](#), sponsored by Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou (D-East Lansing), is part of a four-bill package to move the beginning of the term of office for newly elected township, city and village officials to Dec. 1. The date change is being proposed to assure individuals do not take the oath of office before certification of the election. The bill does not change the current requirement that a township officer shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified, but not beyond Jan. 1 following the election. MTA worked with the bill sponsor to ensure the date was no later than Dec. 1 and is neutral on the legislation. Again, HB 5699 would impact township officers elected **after Dec. 31, 2024**, and could be considered by the Senate in the fall.

## Bills to extend temporary license for EMS candidates head to governor

First responders, emergency medical technicians and paramedics can currently obtain a nonrenewable temporary license if they have applied for licensure but have not completed the required examination for up to 120 days. This period would be extended to allow the temporary license to be valid for one year under [House Bill](#)

[4613](#), sponsored by Rep. Dave Prestin (R-Cedarville Twp.), that received final passage this week. A companion bill, [HB 4614](#), sponsored by Rep. John Fitzgerald (D-Wyoming), was also passed



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



to require those with temporary licenses to practice only under the direct supervision of someone who holds a permanent license. The bills now go to the governor for her signature.

---



---

## Penalties for failure to file assessment notification

A local assessing office can soon treat certain penalties as the personal liability of an individual who failed to notify the office of property ownership transfer and had since transferred such property to a new individual under a measure that received final approval this week. [Senate Bill 175](#), sponsored by Sen. Sylvia Santana (D-Detroit), addresses situations where investment property buyers do not file a transfer affidavit with a local municipality upon purchasing a property and the most recent owner bears the cost of the fine for not filing a transfer. The bill, now going to the governor for signature, also modifies the maximum amount of those penalties, prescribes how a treasurer could collect them, and allows a governing body to waive them.

---

## Virtual meetings for residential and small claims MTT appeals

Hearings on residential property tax appeals before the Michigan Tax Tribunal (MTT) will soon have the option to be conducted remotely. [Senate Bill 150](#), sponsored by Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), received final approval this week to allow the Residential Property and Small Claims Division of the MTT to conduct hearings and re-hearings telephonically, by videoconferencing or in person. This would be permitted only for proceedings in which residential property is exclusively involved or one involving an appeal of any other tax over which the tribunal has jurisdiction if the amount of the tax in dispute is \$20,000 or less, adjusted annually for inflation. Currently, the act only permits telephone or

videoconference hearings with the consent of all parties involved and the leave of the tribunal. The bill eliminates this requirement and instead will allow in-person hearings upon the request of one of the parties involved in a case. The bill does not alter the current requirements regarding the location of in-person hearings and re-hearings. The bill now advances to the governor for signature.

---

### **Senate passes expansion of industrial exemption certificate**

A local governmental unit currently, by resolution of its legislative body, can establish plant rehabilitation districts and industrial development districts that consist of one or more parcels or tracts of land or a portion of a parcel or tract of land. Two bills passed by the Senate this week seek to expand that definition. [Senate Bills 536](#) and [537](#), sponsored by Sen. Paul Wojno (D-Warren), would permit a building to qualify as a speculative building if it were a new building constructed for the purpose of providing a warehousing or distribution facility before the identification of a specific user of that building. The bills would also remove the requirement that qualified commercial activity be in a county that borders another state or Canada, effectively allowing otherwise qualified activity to be located anywhere in the state. The bills have been forwarded to the House for consideration.

---



COMING TO  
THE ISLAND RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER IN HARRIS

# UP NORTH SUMMIT

JULY 23 & 24  
CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

### **Bill to increase unemployment benefit period passes House**

Employees who are eligible for unemployment benefits could soon be eligible for up to 26 weeks of unemployment benefits under a bill that passed the House this week. [House Bill 5827](#), sponsored

by Rep. Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit), would increase the benefit period from 20 to 26 weeks. The bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

---

## New annual CPE requirements for all licensed Michigan law enforcement

All licensed law enforcement officers in Michigan must complete annual in-service training requirements, with a new [three-year Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards \(MCOLES\) pilot program](#). Public Act 1 of 2023 appropriated funds to support the implementation of the required annual in-service training standards. For 2024, agencies will receive approximately \$500 per full-time equivalent officer; CPE funds were to be released in June. 2025 distribution will take place in January. Going forward, the required in-service training requirements will be referred to as continuing professional education (CPE). MCOLES shared implementation details of the CPE program with law enforcement agency heads, as well as township supervisors and managers, county administrators, and city and village officials, via a [message from MCOLES Executive Director Timothy Bourgeois sent earlier in June](#). Visit [MCOLES' CPE webpage](#) for additional information, including [CPE funding](#), [FAQs](#), [a quick reference guide](#), statutory requirement, and training delivery. Contact [MSP-MCOLES@michigan.gov](mailto:MSP-MCOLES@michigan.gov) with questions or concerns.

---

**STG**  
SHUMAKER TECHNOLOGY GROUP

- Website Development
- Paperless Solutions
- Aerial Drone Photo & Video

Michigan's Experts in  
Municipal Web Development

[VIEW PORTFOLIO](#)

---

## DNR conducting survey on Michigan trails

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is asking residents who use Michigan trails to participate in the [Michigan Trails Experience Survey](#). The survey is available through Aug. 1.

---

## MITTEN program seeks to bridge Michigan's digital divide

Townships, along with joint community collaboratives, can help create a more connected Michigan by [applying to be a regional resource hub and host site](#) for [Michigan's Inclusive Training, Technology and Equity Network \(MITTEN\)](#) program. The new \$13 million grant program from the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office (MIHI) aims to bolster digital inclusion and capacity-building efforts throughout the state. Digital navigators, stationed regionally and within local communities, will address the specific needs of underrepresented, underinvested and underserved areas. MIHI will coordinate the efforts of these navigators by partnering with local community institutions and state agencies to provide support and resources, with a focus on increasing broadband adoption and developing essential digital skills through community-focused programs that remove barriers to internet access and digital learning. [Host site applications](#) are due July 24.

---

## Dive into the hottest planning and zoning issues with MTA's August workshop

Join MTA in August for the summer's hottest workshop series, [Hot Topics in Planning](#)



[& Zoning](#). This popular evening class delves into complicated and controversial topics facing your planning and zoning team, including renewable energy, short-term rental regulations and right-of-way. We'll be coming to Frankenmuth on Aug. 14; Lawrence on Aug. 21 and Cadillac on Aug. 28. [Learn more here](#) or [register online now](#).

---

## Federal update for week of June 24

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

---



## Artificial Intelligence and Software Consulting

Services Include:

- AI Training Sessions
- Chatbot Development
- Department-Wide AI coaching
- Software Consulting
- Software Development
- Software Implementations

517-862-4397

[www.govtechinnovators.com](http://www.govtechinnovators.com)  
[jpeters@govtechinnovators.com](mailto:jpeters@govtechinnovators.com)