Michigan Township INSIGHTS

Oct. 30, 2026

Election Day is Nov. 3. Get informed & make your voice heard!



Voters have two statewide ballot proposals before them on the Nov. 3 ballot. Take time to educate yourself on the proposals, understand what's at stake and make a plan to vote. Proposal 2026-1 will allow voters to decide whether to call a constitutional convention (placed before voters every 16 years), and Proposal 2026-2 will prohibit campaign contributions from certain regulated utilities and government contractors and apply campaign finance laws and regulations to additional types of political communications.

Michigan's Constitution protects our rights and shapes our state government. If held, a constitutional convention could open the door to changes affecting how townships exist and operate. The MTA Board of Directors voted to oppose Proposal 2026-1, and the Association is part of a broad coalition of organizations and advocacy groups working to protect Michigan's Constitution. Find more on the Con-Con, and MTA's position here.

Additional information and resources on both statewide ballot proposals can be found on MTA's statewide ballot proposal webpage.

Clerks must keep Nov. 3 election electronic pollbook, court orders

Clerks must temporarily maintain the electronic pollbook created in the Nov. 3 election, following a ruling issued this week by the Court of Claims. The court order expanded statewide a temporary restraining order on the state's administrative code requiring that pollbook information be deleted seven days after election certification. An initial restraining order issued in the case was meant to instruct one local clerk who questioned the code, however, the Republican National Committee and Michigan Republican Party intervened to challenge the administrative code as unenforceable for the entire state. MTA will share additional guidance once it is received.



UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

Nov. 18: *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar Drawing the Lines: Inside the Land Division Act

Nov. 24 & Dec. 2: Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection
· **Nov. 24**, Gaylord
· **Dec. 2**, Lansing

Dec. 8 & 9: Winter Academy, Bay Pointe Inn, Shelbyville
· **Dec. 8**, Township Finances
· **Dec. 9**, Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation

FREE LIVE WEBINAR, Dec. 14: *Now You Know* 2026 Legislative Wrap-up

Jan. 5 & 7: New Officials Training
· **Jan. 5,** Lansing
· **Jan. 7,** Gaylord

ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS

ACRISURE
www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes

MI Par Plan
MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTCIPATING PLAN
www.theparplan.com/



Help shape Michigan's infrastructure future—your insight matters

Infrastructure is something most people only notice when it fails, and the Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) is working to change that by developing a public-facing Citizens Guide to Infrastructure Systems. MIC is seeking insight from both Michigan's infrastructure agencies and the communities they serve to ensure it becomes a meaningful, trusted resource. The guide will be designed to help residents better understand the infrastructure they rely on every day from the roads they drive to the water they drink, and how these systems support safe, healthy and thriving communities.

Township officials can get involved in two ways. First, you can take the agency survey to scope what is most impactful to include in the guide to help communicate infrastructure topics with the public. The second is a public survey to share with your community to hear directly from individuals about what they would care most to learn about. Both surveys close on Nov. 6, so don't wait!

Three weeks remaining for member input on policy platform



MTA-member township officials are encouraged to review and provide feedback on the MTA legislative policy platform. Reviewed, updated and approved annually, the platform guides the Association's government relations efforts and reflect emerging issues and legislative priorities. Members are urged to review the current 2026-2027 Policy Platform and submit any proposed additions and revisions by Monday, Nov. 23.

STC approves property tax, board of review guidance

The State Tax Commission (STC) issued the following four bulletins along with a Board of Review Questions and Answers this week:

- Bulletin 11 of 2026: 2027 Property Tax Appeal Procedures
- Bulletin 12 of 2026: 2027 Property Tax and Equalization Calendar
- Bulletin 13 of 2026: Replacement Construction—Accident or Act of God

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

MTA QUICK LINKS

Answer Center
Training
Advocacy
Classifieds
Community Connection
Webcasts
Store
Township Governance Academy
Allied Service Providers
NATaT

- Bulletin 14 of 2026: July and December Boards of Review
- Board of Review Questions and Answers



Apply today for Asset Management Champions program

Applications are now open for Cohort 11 of the Michigan Infrastructure Council's Asset Management Champions Program, running January through April 2027. The Asset Management (AM) Champions Program equips government staff, utility managers and infrastructure professionals with the tools to shift from reactive problem-solving to strategic, proactive planning. This free training aims to help build resilient, well-managed infrastructure systems statewide. Participants complete 25 hours of flexible, self-paced learning at no cost. Graduates will join a growing statewide network of more than 900 AM Champions. Applications are due by Jan. 8, 2027. Space is limited, so early submission is encouraged.

Federal grant opportunity: Drones as First Responders

Townships are eligible to apply for a new research grant opportunity offered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ). The goal of the Fiscal Year 2026 NIJ Research and Evaluation on Drones as First Responders Grant is to gain insights on the efficacy of real-world applications of drones as first responders for the purpose of combatting violent crime, supporting immigration enforcement and other law enforcement activities associated with protecting the public. Through this grant, NIJ expects law enforcement agencies to partner with researchers to implement and evaluate drones as first responders pilot programming. There are two separate response deadlines based on the grant platform used for response including: Grants.gov, Nov. 30 and JustGrants Dec. 7. Contact OJPResponseCenter@usdoj.gov with questions.

Public comment opportunity: Web-based *Uniform Chart of Accounts Manual*

The Michigan Department of Treasury is in the process of transitioning the *Uniform Chart of Accounts Manual* (UCA) from a PDF format to a web-based format that complies with federal accessibility requirements. Township officials are invited to explore the UCA web manual to become familiar with its layout and navigation functions, and can provide feedback by Nov. 26. The web manual is not a finalized

version of UCA content and is presented for demonstration purposes only. Submit comments to lafd_audits@michigan.gov with the subject line “Uniform Chart of Accounts—ADA Exposure Draft.”



Final reminder: Create your MiUI account by Nov. 2

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency is transitioning to a new unemployment tax and benefits system called MiUI, which will fully replace MiWAM on Nov. 9. It is critical that employers initiate their own MiUI unemployment account even if your township is using a third-party administrator before a schedule system outage for the changeover. Accounts should be created no later than 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 2, after which MIWAM will be permanently offline and the MiUI system will experience a downtime period extending through Nov. 9. MiUI’s full tax and benefit functionality will become available on Nov. 9 at 8 a.m. For more information on the transition, establishing accounts and delegating third-party administrators visit MiUI University.

2027 Electrification Infrastructure Enhancement and Development Grant opportunity

Townships are eligible to apply for Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) Electrification Infrastructure Enhancement and Development (EIED) grants. The grant program supports planning, development, design, acquisition and construction of renewable energy and electrification infrastructure. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to renewable energy systems, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, building electrification technologies, heat and power generated from captured wastewater treatment biogas, renewable natural gas facilities, and other projects related to renewable energy or electrification infrastructure. The MPSC anticipates the release of the EIED request for proposals in early November with responses due by Jan. 13, 2027.

Free workplace violence prevention training

Register today for a free virtual training seminar on Nov. 5 designed for employers and leaders to learn to identify and address concerning behaviors that may escalate into workplace violence. The *Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management in Work Settings* training will cover behavioral indicators of potential violence, Occupational Safety and Health Administration Violence Prevention Guidelines, best

practices in risk assessment and appropriate interventions to help maintain a safe workplace.



Reminders for clerks

Closing early voting. After the final night of early voting, election inspectors should print a complete list of voters and remarks report for the entire early voting period. On election night, inspectors from the opposing major parties must close early voting tabulators and finalize the reporting envelopes.

Election Day info sharing room. The state Bureau of Elections (BOE) will operate an information sharing room from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Election Day to allow election officials to stay informed and communicate unique election security issues. To access this room, register via the BOE's eLearning.

Election Day registration. Anyone in line to register to vote by 8 p.m. on Election Day must be provided with the opportunity to complete registration and vote. Refer to the BOE Quick Guide on 0-14 day voter registration for specific Election Day procedures.

Emergency ballots. Emergency requests for absent voter (AV) ballots may be made up until 4 p.m. on Election Day. The emergency must occur after 5 p.m. on Oct. 30.

Important Nov. 3 election dates:

- Nov. 6—Deadline for voters to cure the signature on an AV ballot return envelope.
- Nov. 9—Deadline for a ballot submitted by a military or overseas (MOVE) voter postmarked before Election Day to be deemed timely and counted.
- Nov. 10—Deadline for local clerks to deliver MOVE ballots received within six days of Election Day to the county clerk.



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

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