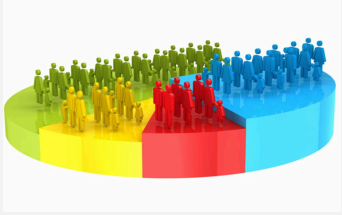
# Michigan Township INSIGHTS

Oct. 9, 2026

## Township officials can learn how to ensure accurate census counts



In May 2027, the first operations of the 2030 Census begin with the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA). LUCA is the **only opportunity** for local governments to review and correct the U.S. Census Bureau's residential address list before the decennial census begins. An accurate count is crucial to ensuring communities get their fair share of resources and representation. For practical strategies for local governments to begin preparation for LUCA, register for the Countdown to LUCA webinar on Oct. 28 at 1 p.m.

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## Additional nonpartisan analysis of November statewide ballot proposals

The House Fiscal Agency, a nonpartisan agency within the Michigan House of Representatives, released its overviews of the two statewide proposals before voters on the Nov. 3 ballot: HFA Ballot Proposal 1 of 2026 and HFA Ballot Proposal 2 of 2026.

As shared previously, Proposal 2026-1 is a proposal to convene a constitutional convention for the purpose of drafting a general revision of the state constitution, and Proposal 2026-2 is a proposed initiated law to prohibit campaign contributions from certain regulated utilities and government contractors and apply campaign finance laws and regulations to additional types of political communications. Previously shared overviews of each proposal from the Senate Fiscal Agency and Citizens Research Council can also be found on MTA's website.

The MTA Board of Directors has taken a position to oppose Proposal 2026-1 and is part of a broad coalition of organizations and advocacy groups working together to urge Michiganders to vote no on whether to convene a Con-Con, which would open Michigan's constitution to a complete rewrite. Find more about the Con-Con, and MTA's position, here.

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## Up to $15M in homeowner rehabilitation funding available

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) will begin accepting Letters of Intent (LOI) on Oct. 15, for up to $15 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for single-family homeowner






### UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

**October** Regional Meeting:
· **Oct. 13**, Gaylord

**Oct. 14:** *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar Taxation Trouble Spots

**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

### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS


ACRISURE
www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes

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

MERS
Municipal Employees' Retirement System
www.mersofmich.com

rehabilitation through the MI Neighborhood CDBG Program. Eligible non-entitlement units of general local government—including townships, cities, villages and counties that do not receive a direct CDBG allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development—may submit proposals that align with the program's homeowner rehabilitation objectives. Awards may be made for up to $1.5 million. LOI submissions must be received by Oct. 31, and will be reviewed in the order they are received. Additional information and LOI forms will be available beginning Oct. 15 at MSDHA's website. Questions can be directed to MSHDA-CDBG@michigan.gov.




## Deadline for revolving fund applications approaching

The deadline to submit an Intent to Apply (ITA) for a low-interest loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) in fiscal year 2028 is quickly approaching. Any local government seeking SRF funds for drinking water, stormwater, wastewater or non-point source capital improvement projects must submit an ITA by Nov. 1. Review a full preview of the application and eligibility guidance for each type of project before completing the ITA form.

## Survey seeks to help shape new statewide infrastructure guide

Township officials are encouraged to share with their residents a short online survey to help shape a new statewide guide on essential infrastructure systems seeking input on roads, drinking water, energy and other essential services. The Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) is developing a "Citizen's Guide to Infrastructure Systems" to help residents better understand the roads, drinking water, energy, internet and other services they rely on every day. The council is seeking public input to identify the infrastructure topics and questions to address in the guide. The 11-question survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Responses must be submitted by Oct. 30. The guide, expected to be available in the spring of 2027, will explain how Michigan's infrastructure systems operate, how they are funded, who maintains them and what factors influence decisions about infrastructure projects.

## Apply now for STC's upcoming MCAO course

The State Tax Commission (STC) is now accepting applications for the Michigan Certified Assessing Officer (MCAO) Program. The nine-month MCAO program covers 10 chapters with weekly virtual classroom sessions (either on

* 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

Monday or Tuesday evenings) with breaks scheduled into the program. Specific classroom dates will be provided after acceptance to the program. Applications must be received by the STC no later than Dec. 4.



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## Upcoming in-person *Cybersecurity for Public Agencies* workshops

The Michigan Technological University Center for Technology & Training has developed a practical workshop to help public agencies identify gaps in their cybersecurity preparedness. Township employees responsible for infrastructure like dams, and wastewater and drinking water systems are encouraged to attend. Four workshops will be held across the state: Oct. 15 in Marquette; Oct. 27 in Novi; Oct 29 in Grand Rapids; and Nov. 10 – Gaylord. All workshops will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a registration fee of $25. Registration is required and must be completed 24 hours before the workshop date. Email ctt@mtu.edu with questions.

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## Grant applications open to fund AmeriCorps volunteers

AmeriCorps volunteers seek to tackle some of the nation's largest issues to strengthen communities, improve lives and foster civic engagement through service. Local governments are eligible to apply for AmeriCorps grants to support projects that engage AmeriCorps volunteers in their communities. Eligible projects could include public safety and crime prevention, veterans' services, youth mental health and substance use recovery programs, service in rural areas or communities with a high poverty concentration, and much more. Some grant subtypes require a match of up to 24% while others are a fixed amount without a local match requirement. Learn more about the wide variety of uses for the funds, review the Notice of Funding Opportunity and apply by Jan. 13, 2027, on the grant webpage.

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## Reminders for clerks

- **Voter registration deadline**: Oct. 19 is the last day to register to vote for the November election in any manner other than in person at the local clerk's office.
- **Early voting public logic and accuracy testing:** Public logic and accuracy testing must be completed on all early voting election equipment by Oct. 19, or

five days before early voting if conducting early voting before the required date. Notice must be posted at least 48 hours before the test. Updated logic and accuracy test procedures are available in the Bureau of Elections (BOE) eLearning Center to help ensure proper protocols are followed for testing tabulators, voter assist terminals and ballot on demand printing systems.
- **AV drop box locations**: Absent voter (AV) drop box locations must be provided to BOE. Clerks should confirm the accuracy of current drop box locations in the Qualified Voter File and submit updates if necessary.

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## MTA-member review and input sought for 2027 legislative issues

MTA-member township officials can review and provide input on the MTA legislative policy platform. The legislative policy objectives—reviewed, updated and approved annually—guide the Association's government relations efforts and reflect emerging issues and goals. MTA members are encouraged to review the current 2026-2027 Policy Platform and share any proposed additions and revisions by Monday, Nov. 23. Member-proposed policy changes will be reviewed by MTA policy committees and will be presented at the 2027 MTA Annual Meeting in conjunction with our 2027 Annual Educational Conference in April. Contact legislation@michigantownships.org with questions, comments or suggestions.

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## New award and scholarship looks to 'Future of MTA'

Applications are now being accepted for MTA's new Harold Koviak "Future of MTA" Memorial Award and Scholarship, which seeks to recognize and support individuals new to township government and who are interested in expanding their knowledge, building new skills and bringing valuable ideas to their communities. The winner will receive a free registration* to attend MTA's 2027 Annual Conference held in April at the Grand Traverse Resort, as well as lodging for three nights at a hotel with an MTA Conference room block. The recipient will also be recognized during the awards ceremony at the MTA Banquet on the final night of the Conference. Applicants must have served four years or less in their township role ***and*** have not previously attended the MTA Annual Conference. In addition to elected

township officials, appointed board or commission leaders may also apply, as well as deputies, staff and others who are seeking to grow in their role in the township or potentially seek elected office. Learn more, and apply online, here.

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## New MTA fact sheet answers the question, 'May a Township Clerk Also Serve as an Election Inspector?'

As the Michigan Election Law—and the nature of elections and election security—have changed in recent years, so too have the duties of the township clerk. With these dramatic changes, as well as state directives, MTA delved into answering the question, "May a Township Clerk Also Serve as an Election Inspector?" Our new fact sheet answers the question—in short, no—and explores both roles, the Incompatibility of Offices Act, and who *may* serve as an election inspector. Find the new fact sheet, and more election-related information and resources, on MTA's "Election Administration" webpage (member login is required.)

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## Fall into education with MTA



Like the variety of Michigan fall colors, we're planning a variety of valuable upcoming educational events. Use the links below for details or click here to register online now:

- *Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection*, coming to Gaylord Nov. 24 and Lansing Dec. 2, offers a step-by-step guide and expert insights into applicable laws, best practices and essential procedures.
- *Township Finances*, held Dec. 8 in Shelbyville, offers a deep dive into financial oversight to help ensure your township's resources are directed to address your community's greatest needs.
- *Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation*, held Dec. 9 in Shelbyville, is designed to ensure every board member has a better understanding of how the process works and the revenue sources coming into the township.
- *New Officials Training* will offer a practical deep-dive for your township's newly elected officials and those who will be or have recently stepped into a new role on the board. Coming to Lansing on Jan. 5 and Gaylord on Jan. 7. Additional details and registration materials coming soon!

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MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

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

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