

What you need to know —PA 233 MTA Q&A webinar recording available soon



As we shared with our members last week, the Michigan Public Service Commission approved [an order for implementation of Public Act 233 of 2023](#) for the siting of large-scale renewable energy facilities. The order provides final application filing instructions and procedures for projects seeking a certificate from the commission under PA 233, which takes effect Nov. 29, 2024. On Thursday, MTA Legal Counsel participated in a free *MTA Q&A* webinar for our member officials to share information and answer questions about the order, what PA 233 entails, options for siting approval for these large-scale projects—and what townships should know and consider. For members who missed the webinar, or would like to re-watch, a recording will be available on our website within the next week. Watch [MTA's website](#) and *Insights* for availability.

Townships asked to complete MPSC franchise survey

All townships received a request from the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to complete a [brief electronic survey](#) to provide insight into the video/cable issues that may be occurring in each community. It is important that MPSC staff receive feedback from all franchise entities (municipalities). Public Act 480 of 2006, the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act, requires MPSC to file an annual report that includes information because of the survey. Responses can be submitted until **Nov. 12**. Additionally, MPSC provided tips that provide information regarding filing a [video/cable complaint](#) with the commission.

Bills would change youth employment standards

Three bills that would make amendments to youth employment standards are headed to the full Senate. [Senate Bills 963, 964](#) and [965](#) would create a registration system under the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) and increase penalties for violations of the Youth Employment Standards Act. The main bill, SB 964, would transition the issuance and administration of youth work permits from school issuing officers to LEO, require LEO to establish registration systems for minors and employers who employ minors, and modify the number of hours and times of day that a minor under the age of 16 could work—depending on whether school was in session. Minors and employers would have to provide certain personal and work-related information, which would be exempt from the



Upcoming MTA Training & Events

[Now You Know lunchtime webinars:](#)

Nov. 13: [Onboarding New Officials](#)

[Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection:](#)

Nov. 19: [Marquette](#)

Nov. 20: [Gaylord](#)

Nov. 21: [Kalamazoo](#)

Nov. 25: [Frankenmuth](#)



MTA QUICK LINKS

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

Staff Directory

One-stop location to manage your website's staff contact data

[Learn More](#)



ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes



Public accommodation/legal protection for pregnancy or lactating status under bill

Places of public accommodation could not discriminate against women who are pregnant or lactating under a bill reported this week by a Senate committee. [Senate Bill 823](#), sponsored by Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), amends the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to add "pregnancy or lactating status" to the definition of "sex" under the act. The bill is part of a larger legislative package addressing perinatal and maternal health, and now moves to the full Senate.

Measure would modify TEDF funding allocations

A bill to modify the transportation economic development fund (TEDF) allocations for urban county population ranges was reported by the Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure this week. [Senate Bill 1011](#), sponsored by Sen. Veronica Klinefelt (D-Eastpointe), would adjust the population parameters to ensure that no county loses or gains funds used in distributing TEDF funding for transportation projects meant to reduce congestion on county and city streets. The committee also reported the companion bill, [House Bill 5922](#), sponsored by Rep. Jaime Greene (R-Richmond). Both bills go to the full Senate for consideration.

Cannabis Regulatory Agency hosts Statewide Municipality Summit

Township officials can participate in an online Statewide Municipality Summit hosted by the Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) on **Oct. 29** at 10 a.m. During the 90-minute summit, held via Zoom, attendees will hear from CRA legal, licensing and enforcement division staff, and have time to ask questions. Those who previously participated in a CRA municipal summit do not need to RSVP, and will receive an email the week of the event with a link to join. New attendees should RSVP by emailing CRA-SocialEquity@michigan.gov by 5 p.m. on **Oct. 22** with the name of their municipality, and the name, email address, title and phone number for all those planning to attend. Questions that may be addressed at the summit can be emailed to the same address. A confirmation, including the Zoom link, will be emailed in the week before the event.



[* 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](#)



Nominations sought for Water Asset Management Council representative

Nominations are being sought for a representative to join the [Water Asset Management Council](#) (WAMC), which helps communities enhance drinking water, wastewater and stormwater asset management programs. Nominations are due by **Nov. 15** and are open to individuals who are actively involved in a water infrastructure and have a strong understanding of asset management principles. Additional information is available at the [WAMC website](#).



Plante Moran Cresa is now

 **plante moran**
REALPOINT

Comprehensive, end-to-end real estate solutions.

LEARN MORE

MCAO program begins in January

Applications are being accepted for the State Tax Commission's (STC) [January 2025 Michigan Certified Assessing Officer Program](#). The nine-month program covers 10 chapters with weekly virtual classroom sessions. [Applications](#) must be received (not postmarked) by the STC no later than Nov. 27.

A township supervisor-elect who is not a certified assessor but plans to serve as the township's assessor has the option to obtain a six-month [conditional certification](#) from the STC. (MCL 211.10d) To continue the assessment function after the six-month period, the supervisor must pass the required STC test(s) to attain the proper level of certification for the township. A provisional certification may be issued after expiration of the conditional certification but prior to completion of the MCAO Program. For more information, refer to the STC's [Conditional/Provisional Summary](#) and [Conditional/Provisional Application](#).

Fiscally Ready Communities webinar covers 'From Fundamentals to Best Practices'

[Register here](#) for the state Department of Treasury's next [Fiscally Ready Communities](#) webinar on **Oct. 21** at 10 a.m. Presented in partnership with Michigan State University Extension, "From Fundamentals to Best Practices" will include measuring and monitoring fiscal health, reconciling bank accounts, interpreting financial statements, preparing for an audit, statutory reporting and corrective action plan development process. Email questions to TreasLocalGov@michigan.gov with the subject line "Fiscally Ready."

MTA workshop offers treasurers one last review before taxes are due



Collecting property taxes is more than just handling money—it's also about ensuring compliance with the General Property Tax Act and managing public trust. MTA's full-day *Treasurer's Guide to Tax Collection* workshop, coming to four locations in November, offers the tools and knowledge you need to handle tax collection efficiently and accurately. [Click here for a video message from our speaker, MTA Consultant Cindy Dodge](#), offering a sneak peek into the key insights and valuable content we have in store. Don't miss out—[learn more here](#) or [register today!](#) See dates and locations in the sidebar at right.

Grant opportunities for townships

Coastal management. Coastal communities can apply for [Michigan Coastal Management Program \(MCMP\) Grants](#) to protect community character and revitalize ports and harbors; plan for growth and change to strengthen economies and minimize risk from coastal hazards; protect and restore healthy coastal ecosystems for public use and enjoyment; devise solutions for the nature-based solutions to slow the flow of stormwater; or create and enhance public access. A **Nov. 7** [webinar](#) at 1 p.m. will cover application and funding requirements. Applicants are encouraged to contact MCMP staff early to discuss project proposals and application requirements. For assistance developing your proposal, complete a [Project Interest Form](#) and a staff person will contact you. Applications are due by **Dec. 20**, through the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy grants database. Visit [EGX-Sign-Up](#) and [Getting Started in EGX](#) for instructions or contact Arenda@michigan.gov with questions.

Crime Victims' Rights Week awareness. The U.S. Department of Justice is seeking proposals by **Nov. 8** for innovative, collaborative approaches to promoting community-wide public awareness of the rights and available services for victims of all types of crimes during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 6-12, 2025. Watch a pre-recorded [webinar](#) to learn more, or visit the [Community Awareness Projects](#) webpage. An [application guide](#) and access to the [application](#) are available.

BOE reminders

Sharing room and support. The Election Officials Sharing Room—for election security-related issues—is available for early voting on Oct. 28 to Nov. 1, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Election Day, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Clerks can register in the state Bureau of Elections (BOE) [eLearning](#). Technical Qualified Voter File (QVF) and election administration support is available on Oct. 26 to Nov. 3, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Nov. 4, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Election Day, 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. at (800) 292-5973.

EV site and polling place visits. A Michigan Department of State ground team will visit early voting sites, absent voter counting boards and polling places to thank poll workers and check in on how things are going. They will also report potential concerns—

such as inclement weather, flooding, power outages, long lines, or accessibility or equipment issues—so BOE can provide necessary support to clerks. Team members may also be deployed to locations where a concern has been raised and will communicate any questions or concerns to the precinct chairperson and clerk.

De-escalation resources. Resources describing de-escalation principles for election officials/election workers are available at [De-escalation Series | CISA](#) and [De-Escalation Resources for Election Workers - Elections Group](#).

Emergencies. Local clerks cannot shorten or extend polling hours unless directed to do so by the proper legal authority. If an emergency occurs that could potentially interrupt the voting process or that closes one or more of your township’s early voting sites or polling places, take direction from local law enforcement officials and call the BOE as soon as possible. If evacuation is necessary, election inspectors should take possession of the pollbook before leaving if it is safe to do so. If an emergency outside your township raises questions about possible interruption of the voting process or the suspension of the election, contact local emergency and law enforcement personnel for any security-related concerns but do not make any changes to voting procedures without direction from BOE. Election Day polling hours cannot be extended beyond 8 p.m. without a court order.

Backup reports for early voting (EV) sites. Each early voting site location must be provided with a backup precinct list and daily EV Voter Change report in case the early voting electronic pollbook is unavailable due to power outage, loss of internet, etc. These reports must be generated from the QVF and sent to the early voting site before the start of voting each day by electronic file or paper depending on the needs and resources of the early voting site. Guidance is available in the [Early Voting Site Offline Paper Back-up Procedures](#) in the [eLearning](#).

Two weeks remaining for input on MTA legislative policy platform

Township officials have until **Nov. 4** to review and provide input on MTA’s legislative policy platform. The legislative policy objectives guide the Association’s government relations efforts and reflect emerging issues and goals. MTA members can review the current [2024-25 Policy Platform](#) and share any proposed revisions and suggested additions. Member- proposed policy changes are reviewed by MTA committees for word selection and legality, and to ensure they conform with the Association’s overall goals and objectives. The proposed policies will be presented at the 2025 MTA Annual Meeting in conjunction with our Annual Educational Conference in April. Contact legislation@michigantownships.org with questions, comments or suggestions.



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

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



Try email marketing for free today!