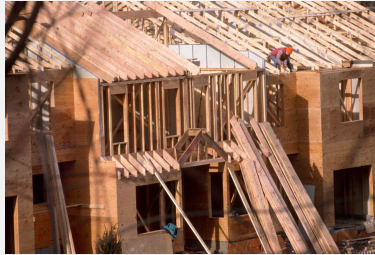


## Master plans will be required to include housing provisions

Township planning commissions will soon be required to consider local housing needs in developing or revising a master plan.



Membership of a planning commission must be representative of important segments of that community. [House Bill 5557](#), sponsored by Rep. Kristian Grant (D-Grand Rapids), would also add housing as a major interest to the list of considerations. The bill has been approved by both the House and Senate, and will be transmitted to the governor for signature.

## Measure provides locals flexibility in administering opioid antagonists

Townships and other local governments would have flexibility when administering opioid antagonists that are distributed by the state Department of Health and Human Services at no cost under [Senate Bill 542](#), sponsored by Sen. Kevin Hertel (D-St. Clair Shores). The bill allows governmental entities and individuals to choose the formulation, type of delivery device, method of administration or dosage of the opioid antagonist to assist in reducing the number of opioid-related overdoses in Michigan. The bill moves to the House for further consideration.

## STC holds December BOR Trainings

All new and returning board of review (BOR) members must receive training once every two years to meet statutory requirements under Public Act 660 of 2018. The state Department of Treasury will conduct two virtual *Board of Review Trainings* via Zoom on [Dec. 4 at 9 a.m.](#) and [Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.](#) Each free training session is limited to 300 people and attendees must have video capability and remain on video throughout the training. A local unit hosting a "group watch" must have an assessor or other local unit official present to ensure attendance throughout the entire session and sign the attendance sheet to be returned to the State Tax Commission (STC). Email the [STC](#) to request a copy of the sign-in sheet. Watch upcoming MTA publications for details on our *Board of Review Training* series, being held at locations around the state, as well as online, in February.



## Upcoming MTA Training & Events

### Now You Know lunchtime webinars:

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

Dec. 13: [Legislative Wrap-up](#)

### Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection:

Nov. 19: [Marquette](#)

Nov. 20: [Gaylord](#)

Nov. 21: [Kalamazoo](#)

Nov. 25: [Frankenmuth](#)

### New Officials Training:

Dec. 10: [Muskegon](#)

Dec. 11: [Lansing](#)

Dec. 12: [Kalamazoo](#)

Dec. 17: [Frankenmuth](#)

Dec. 18: [Hale](#)

Dec. 19: [Thompsonville](#)

Jan. 6: [Houghton](#)

Jan. 7: [Harris](#)

Jan. 8: [Sault Ste. Marie](#)

Jan. 14: [Port Huron](#)

Jan. 15: [Gaylord](#)

Jan. 16: [Mt. Pleasant](#)

Jan. 17: [Ann Arbor](#)



THIS NOVEMBER

## TREASURERS' GUIDE TO *Tax Collecting*

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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2025 MTA CAPITAL CONFERENCE**  
MARCH 4  
LANSING CENTER



### Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas Grants available

Townships with 10,000 or less in population are eligible for grants to support rural and remote communities in building clean energy projects that benefit their communities. The U.S. Department of Energy is offering [Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas Grants](#) for improving overall cost-effectiveness of energy generation, transmission or distribution systems; siting or upgrading transmission and distribution lines; reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation in rural or remote areas; providing or modernizing electric generation facilities; developing microgrids; and increasing energy efficiency. The [application](#) deadline is **Feb. 27, 2025**.

### Upcoming EGLE webinars

**Watershed Council Grants.** Townships interested in [Watershed Council Grants](#) for watershed planning projects can attend a Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) [webinar](#), on **Oct. 29** from 1 to 2 p.m., to learn about Nonpoint Source program funding for these projects, the grant application schedule, program priorities, eligibility criteria, application requirements and tips for successful applications. Proposals are due **Dec. 4**.

**Stormwater Management Programs.** A [webinar](#) on **Nov. 12** at 10 a.m. will focus on EGLE programs to manage stormwater for the protection of surface water quality in Michigan. The webinar will include presentations from EGLE's Nonpoint Source, Industrial Stormwater, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Construction Stormwater and Combined Sewer Overflow programs, followed by a question-and-answer session.

**Environmental Emergency Preparedness.** A [webinar](#) on **Nov. 20** from 1-2 p.m., from the National Weather Service will discuss preparing for weather-related emergencies.

#### MTA QUICK LINKS

- [Answer Center](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Advocacy](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Community Connection](#)
- [Webcasts](#)
- [Store](#)
- [Township Governance Academy](#)
- [Allied Service Providers](#)
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### FBI, CISA share foreign election disinformation announcement

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

\* [Consumers Energy](#)

\* [Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC](#)

\* [Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC](#)

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issued a [Just So You Know: Foreign Threat Actors Likely to Use a Variety of Tactics to Develop and Spread Disinformation During 2024 U.S. General Election Cycle](#) public service announcement to raise awareness of efforts posed by foreign threat actors to spread disinformation for the 2024 general election. The agencies urge individuals to critically evaluate the sources of the information they consume and to seek out reliable and verified information from trusted sources, such as state and local election officials. The announcement also includes information on the FBI and CISA in elections and victim reporting information.

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## BOE reminders

**EPB download practice.** Clerks are strongly advised to practice downloading and installing the Election Day electronic pollbook (EPB) as soon as possible and regularly before the EPB download deadline at 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to the election.

**Deadlines for spoiled AV ballots.** **Oct. 25** at 5 p.m. is the deadline for a voter who *has returned* their absent voter (AV) ballot to submit a request to spoil it, and **Nov. 4** at 4 p.m. is the deadline for a voter who *has not yet returned* their AV ballot to spoil and receive a new one.

**Oct. 29 deadline to publish notice of Nov. 5 election** The notice must include the time and place at which the election is to be held.

**Fall Training Tidbit schedule.** Two Bureau of Elections (BOE) virtual training sessions are scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to noon: *Election Material Security* on **Oct. 29**; and *Election Day Closing Reminders* on **Oct. 31**. Sign up in [eLearning](#).

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## One week 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](mailto:legislation@michigantownships.org) with questions, comments or suggestions.

[\\* Hartleb Agency](#)

[\\* ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

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

[\\* Mika Meyers, PLC](#)



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## On-demand webinar covers key topics for a smooth post-election transition

Did you miss our October [Now You Know](#) webinar? Don't worry, the on-demand version of [In the Transition](#) is now available in our [Online Learning Center](#). This one-hour class covers what you need to know about the transition of incoming (and outgoing!) officials. Review how to handle resignations, appointments, compensation, and the oath of office, as well as required meetings and dates. Plus, get tips on handling "elects," when those running unopposed can assume duties ... and so much more! [Register here for immediate access.](#)

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