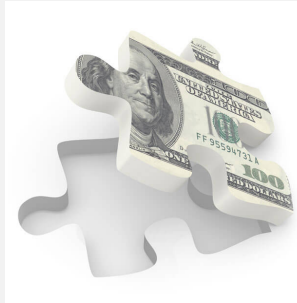


## CVTRS guidance issued for ALL townships

All townships should have received [FY 2025 CVTRS Detailed Guidance](#) this week from the Michigan Department of Treasury for the City, Village & Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) program. As previously shared by MTA in June, **ALL local units are eligible in FY 2025 to receive CVTRS**



**funding.** *This is the first time in nearly two decades that all townships will receive this funding.* The Legislature funded the CVTRS program payments for the upcoming fiscal year, modified the payment structure to provide additional revenue sharing funding to **all local units** and modified program requirements.

The new revenue to be distributed will be provided via a new 3-factor formula for **ALL** local units:

- Taxable Value Payment
- Weighted Population Payment
- Yield Equalization Payment

Additionally, [City, Village and Township Revenue Sharing Projections for FY 2025](#) are now available. You will note the projections for each local unit include the estimated constitutional revenue sharing amount (Sec. 950) as well as a breakdown of CVTRS payments (shaded column headings). The document projects the amount each local unit will receive under the new three-factor formula funding as well as the amount for those that received CVTRS in FY 2023-2024 (Sec. 952(2)). The final column projects the estimated total for all amounts—constitutional, amounts for those who previously received CVTRS and the new funding to be distributed via three-factor formula.

Please note that while the funding may be minimal for some local units for FY 2025, **this is the first CVTRS funding that 88% of townships will receive in nearly two decades.**

Two additional points to note from the guidance document. First, the CVTRS payments to those local units newly funded will be made in two payments: February and June of 2025. Secondly, all local units will be notified before the end of November that their 2024 taxable value data is available for verification on Treasury's website. This is important as the new formula utilizes the taxable value in determining eligible funding.

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## Bill receives final approval increasing public safety officer disabled/death benefit

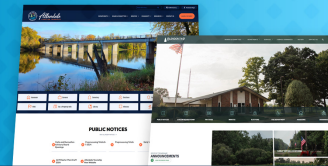
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### Now You Know lunchtime webinars:

Oct. 16: [In the Transition](#)  
Nov. 13: [Onboarding New Officials](#)

### Regional Meetings:

Oct. 2: [Gaylord](#)  
Oct. 3: [Marquette](#)

### Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection:

Nov. 19: [Marquette](#)  
Nov. 20: [Gaylord](#)  
Nov. 21: [Kalamazoo](#)  
Nov. 25: [Frankenmuth](#)


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[Community Connection](#)

Families of public safety officers who lost their lives or become permanently disabled while on duty will have the one-time benefit doubled under legislation that received final approval this week. [Senate Bill 834](#), sponsored by Sen. Kevin Hertel (D-St. Clair Shores), increases the current amount of benefit from \$25,000 to \$50,000 paid for a public safety officer who dies or is permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty. The bill will apply to any benefit paid on or after Oct. 1 of this year, once it is signed by the governor.

## 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), will allow the Residential Property and Small Claims Division of the MTT to conduct hearings and re-hearings telephonically, by videoconferencing or in person. This will 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 allows 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. Once signed by the governor, the change will be effective.



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

THIS NOVEMBER

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## Funding for DNR Trust Fund projects receives final approval

Funding for 19 township projects, included in the 53 projects recommended by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board, will soon be signed into law. [Senate Bill 817](#), sponsored by Sen. John Cherry (D-Flint) and supported by MTA, provides \$27.3 million in matching funds for 18 acquisition projects and 35 development projects. The appropriation bill received final approval and now awaits signature by the governor.

## Measure to prohibit certain individuals from serving on boards of canvassers

Individuals convicted of an elections-related offense would be prohibited from serving as a member of the Board of State Canvassers or as a member of a board of county canvassers under [House Bill 5551](#), approved by the House this week. Elections-

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related offense would mean a misdemeanor or felony violation of the Michigan Election Law or certain federal election laws. The legislation, sponsored by Rep. Noah Arbit (D-West Bloomfield), now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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## House approves population threshold changes to TEDF

Legislation to restore current distribution percentages for state restricted transportation dollars for five urban counties (Kent, Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Genesee) to the same level as before the 2020 Census was approved by the House this week. [House Bill 5922](#), sponsored by Rep. Jaime Greene (R-Richmond), would adjust population thresholds that govern the distribution of one of the five Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) categorical programs—the Urban Congestion Relief Program (also referenced as “Category C”). The TEDF is a state restricted transportation fund created to help fund highway, road and street improvements related to either a specific type of economic activity or a specific type of road system. Without the legislation, the 2020 Census figures would change the distribution for three of the five affected counties. The Category C statutory distribution percentages represent the [Category C funds](#) available for eligible projects for each of the five urban counties. HB 5922 is now before the Senate for consideration.

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## SOS could seek injunctive relief for campaign finance complaints under bill

The Secretary of State (SOS) would have a new tool to use when investigating campaign finance complaints under a bill passed by the House this week. [House Bill 5583](#), sponsored by Rep. Erin Byrnes (D-Dearborn), provides authorization for the SOS to apply to the circuit court of Ingham County for injunctive relief (a court order to stop the violation) if a campaign finance complaint is filed and the secretary reasonably believes that a violation of the act has occurred or is occurring. The legislation will next be considered by the Senate.

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## Congress approves stopgap funding measure to avert government shutdown

A short-term funding extension was approved by the U.S. House and U.S. Senate this week that will provide funding for the federal government until mid-December and averts a preelection government shutdown days before the end-of-the-month deadline. Known as a continuing resolution, the measure will keep the government funded at current spending levels until Dec. 20, at which point it will require congressional action on the budget during the lame-duck session.

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## STC updates: MCAT course, property tax exemption deadlines

- [Applications](#) are being accepted until Nov. 15 for the December 2024 [Michigan Certified Assessing Technician \(MCAT\) program](#), held Dec. 5-6 in Port Huron. The exam will be on Dec. 9 at the same location. Email questions to

[GastW@michigan.gov](mailto:GastW@michigan.gov).

- Oct. 15 is the deadline for several assessing officer reports: Commercial Rehabilitation and Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption, and Commercial Facilities (send to [pte@michigan.gov](mailto:pte@michigan.gov)) and Industrial Facilities Exemption (send to [treas-stateshareproptaxes@michigan.gov](mailto:treas-stateshareproptaxes@michigan.gov)). Exemption applications are due by Oct. 31 for Industrial Facilities, Neighborhood Enterprise Zones, Obsolete Property Rehabilitation, Commercial Rehabilitation, New Personal Property, Charitable Nonprofit Housing, Commercial Rehabilitation, New Personal Property, Charitable Nonprofit Housing, Commercial Facilities, Attainable Housing, Residential Housing and Solar Energy Facility (send to [pte@michigan.gov](mailto:pte@michigan.gov)).

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## Officials can take part in free BEAD networking event



The Michigan High-Speed Internet Office is hosting a free networking event, Building Bridges for BEAD, on Oct. 15 to initiate conversations between potential Broadband, Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program applicants and communities with BEAD-eligible locations in their area. Whether you represent a community with BEAD-eligible locations or are planning to apply for a BEAD grant, this event will offer insights and networking opportunities to drive connectivity advancements across the state. For more information and to register, visit [Building Bridges For BEAD: A Community and ISP Networking Expo](#).

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## Reminders from BOE

**Equipment testing.** Preliminary equipment testing for the November election should begin soon after clerks receive ballots. The public accuracy test for early voting equipment must be conducted by a quorum of the election commission no later than Monday, Oct. 21. The state Bureau of Elections (BOE) recommends testing Election Day equipment at the same time. The meeting must be posted at least 48 hours before the test and held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

**Poll worker alert system tool.** The Poll Worker Alert System optional tool allows poll workers to send an alert to the Michigan Department of State Command Center during an election via a survey form accessible by QR code. Email [Elections@Michigan.gov](mailto:Elections@Michigan.gov), with the subject line: Poll Worker Alert System Tool, with questions or to opt in to use the tool in your township.

**MOVE ballot grace period.** Military and overseas (MOVE) ballots postmarked on or by Election Day and received within six days of the election are considered timely received. This year's deadline is Nov. 11, Veterans Day, when there will be no mail service. While the [Election Calendar](#) indicates a Nov. 11 deadline, BOE has submitted a request for an attorney general opinion to determine if this year's deadline should move to Nov. 12. BOE will provide more information as it becomes available.

**Election Officials' Manual update.** An update to the absent voter (AV) ballot processing, with additional details about completing the "clerk section" of the AV ballot return envelope when

receiving AV ballots, is included in the *Election Officials' Manual* available in [eLearning](#).

**Accessible ballots available.** Accessible ballots are now available to send from the Qualified Voter File (QVF). Use the clerk's test link to preview the ballot style for accuracy before emailing the ballot link. Voters who receive a ballot link must authenticate their identity before they can view their electronic ballot. This authentication step matches the accessible ballot application process.

**Drop box requirements.** Beginning Oct. 1, clerks must collect election materials each day their office is open from each drop box in their township. All ballots and applications collected from a drop box must be transported in an approved ballot container and be returned to the clerk's office without delay. Ballots and applications collected from a drop box not located on the grounds of the clerk's office must be documented on a collection log, with the name of the individual collecting ballots, date, and drop box location. A [Drop Box Collection and Inspection Form Template](#) is in the [eLearning Center](#). Clerks should also take this opportunity to confirm their drop box locations in QVF are up to date.

**Election inspectors.** Election inspectors for the Nov. 5 election must be appointed by your election commission no later than Oct. 15. Election commission meetings are subject to the [Open Meetings Act](#), and formal action must be taken to appoint election inspectors. Election inspectors appointed by the election commission must have received proper election inspector certification within the last two years from a county or authorized jurisdiction.

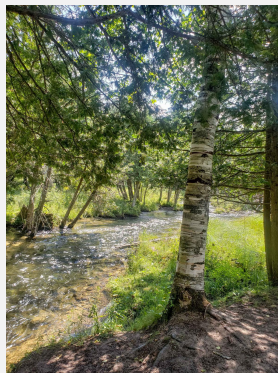
**New funding for security costs, equipment reimbursement.** Additional reimbursement will be available for security costs and voting equipment this fall. The state will reimburse municipalities (up to \$1,000 per precinct) from a federal grant for costs incurred to improve security and resiliency, along with voting equipment not covered by the early voting grant. Costs incurred from **Oct. 1, 2024, through post-election activities until the end of February 2025** will be eligible for reimbursement. A more complete summary of the grant—including eligible expense categories and reimbursement requirements—will be posted in [eLearning](#).

**Reimbursement reminders.** Presidential primary reimbursement payments will be issued by Treasury on or by Oct. 31. Clerks should work with the county for early voting wage reimbursement claims, which must be submitted by your county by Oct. 14.

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## **DNR updates: Michigan the Beautiful survey, trails workgroup, October meetings**

- Officials and residents can share their feedback with the state Department of Natural Resources about which outdoor experiences and places should be prioritized for land and water conservation in the years to come. [Michigan the Beautiful](#) is a new state initiative to engage with local governments,



residents and others to identify shared priorities and values challenge to conserve, restore and connect at least 30% of Michigan's lands and waters by 2030. A [Michigan the Beautiful survey](#) is now open, and [two webinars will be held](#): Oct. 7, 1:30-2:30 p.m. and Oct. 8, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- [Applications](#) are being accepted until Oct. 30 for an opening on the [Nonmotorized Advisory Workgroup](#), which works closely with the [Michigan Trails Advisory Council](#), providing advice on the creation, development, operation and maintenance of the state's nonmotorized trails system. Questions? Email [DNR-Trails@Michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-Trails@Michigan.gov).
- DNR boards and commissions are [holding public meetings](#) throughout October, allowing for input and updates from the Forest Management Advisory Committee, Natural Resources Commission and numerous others.

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### Federal update for week of Sept. 23

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

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