

Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

Weekly News and Information from the Michigan Townships Association | Oct. 12, 2018

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND ADDITIONAL NEWS

New form for three DEQ loan programs

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Revolving Loan Section (RLS) now has an Intent-to-Apply (ITA) form for three loan programs. Townships must fill out this form if they're interested in applying for the [State Revolving Fund](#) (SRF), [Drinking Water Revolving Fund](#) (DWRF) and [Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund](#) (SWQIF) loan programs. Forms for each respective program **must be submitted by Dec. 31** to be considered for the following fiscal year. Following submittal, a RLS project manager will follow up with the community to set up a discussion.



General Fund revenue up, sales tax revenue weaker than expected

Michigan's General Fund revenues are \$454 million higher than expected for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018--but the news isn't as strong for sales tax revenue that funds constitutional revenue sharing. According to House Fiscal Agency (HFA) [data](#) released this week, income, business and other tax revenue was up \$87.7 million from what was projected in September, but sales taxes didn't perform quite as well. While collections were up 2.1 percent over last year, the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference earlier this year had expected a 3.1 percent increase, with a projected growth of 2.6 percent for constitutional revenue sharing. However, constitutional revenue sharing funds could grow by \$20 million once online sales taxes are collected and emitted.

Member input sought on 2019 MTA policy platform

Members have a little less than a month to submit proposed policies to help shape MTA's 2019 Legislative Policy Platform. This document is extremely important as it guides MTA's government relations efforts on behalf of members. Proposed policies must be submitted by **Monday**,

MTA QUICK LINKS

[Members-only Website](#)
[Training](#)
[Answer Center](#)
[Advocacy](#)
[MTA Store](#)
[Township Governance Academy](#)
[Allied Service Providers Classified Ads](#)
[NATaT](#)
[MTA Webcasts](#)
[MTA Publications Catalog](#)

UPCOMING

MTA EVENTS

**[On the Road Regional Meetings](#)
**[Treasurer's Guide to Tax Collecting](#)
**[Township Finances](#)
**[Land Use: Defining Your Township's Future](#)
**[New Officials Training](#)

ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS





Nov. 5, and will be reviewed by MTA committees for word selection and legality, as well as to ensure they conform with the Association's overall goals and objectives. The proposed 2019 policies will then be presented for membership approval at the 2019 MTA Annual

Meeting, to be held Thursday, April 4, 2019, in conjunction with the 66th MTA Annual Educational Conference & Expo in Grand Rapids. MTA's 2018 Policy Platform is available [online](#). Contact the MTA Government Relations Department at (517) 321-6467 or email legislation@michigantownships.org with questions, comments or suggestions.

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

[* BS&A Software](#)

[* Consumers Energy](#)

[* DTE Energy](#)

[* Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC](#)

[* Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.](#)

[* ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

[* Johnson Rosati Schultz Joppich P.C.](#)

[* Mika Meyers, PLC](#)

[* Willis Towers Watson](#)

MTA podcast launches next week

MTA is excited to launch our first "Township Talk" podcast next week! Our host Bethany Mauger, MTA staff writer, will explore topics and issues on a local, legislative and statewide level. This unique platform will allow our members to listen and learn as they drive, work, exercise or simply relax. Watch your email on Tuesday for our first episode, where MTA Executive Director Larry Merrill will examine where townships came from--and where they are headed.



Register for free events explaining Lead and Copper Rule changes

Township officials with public water supplies have more opportunities to attend events explaining changes to Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule. MTA is co-sponsoring [free events](#) throughout the state to help break down the revisions made to the rule earlier this year and explain their impact. Events will be held Oct. 30 in [Ann Arbor](#), Nov. 1 in [Detroit](#), Nov. 8 in [Grand Rapids](#) and Nov. 13 in [Marshall](#). Register online for the location most convenient for you.



Free webinar on medical marijuana survey results

Join this free one-hour webinar on Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. to explore the results from last spring's Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS), where Center for Local, State and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) surveyed local government leaders from 1,372 Michigan jurisdictions (counties, cities, townships, and villages) regarding the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA). Click [here to register](#), or visit the [CLOSUP website](#) to learn more.

Public comments accepted on MDOT long-range plan

Public comments are now being accepted on the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) long-range transportation plan, known as



Michigan Mobility 2045 (MM 2045). This plan will establish a vision and priorities for Michigan transportation for 25 years. The MM 2045's Public and Stakeholder Participation Plan is now open for public comments, which will be accepted through Nov. 30. This plan outlines the numerous ways MDOT will provide the public with

information and opportunities for input during the development of MM 2045. Comments can be submitted online, sent to mdot-michiganmobility@michigan.gov, shared with MDOT's social media sites at www.facebook.com/michigandot or www.twitter.com/michigandot, or mailed to Anita Richardson, Michigan Mobility 2045, Michigan Department of Transportation, Van Wagoner Building, 425 W. Ottawa St., P.O. Box 30050, Lansing, MI 48909.

Nominations being accepted for Governor's Service Awards

Got an outstanding volunteer or community service program in your township? The Michigan Community Service Commission is accepting nominations for the 2019 [Governor's Service Awards](#). These awards are given annually by the governor to individuals, organizations and businesses acknowledging their commitment to serving their communities through volunteerism. [Nominations](#) for the 10 categories must be submitted by Jan. 15, 2019.

Federal update for week of Oct. 9

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships' [e-newsletter](#) for an update of federal actions impacting townships.
