

# Michigan Township INSIGHTS

Weekly News and Information from the Michigan Townships Association | July 8, 2016

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### REMINDER: New PPT implementation form due next Friday

Townships have one more week to submit the personal property tax (PPT) reform implementation form to the state Department of Treasury. The department developed [Form 5448](#) to help municipalities calculate their percentage of general operating millage used to fund the cost of essential



services in 2012. The calculation helps to determine PPT reimbursement for essential services, such as police, fire and ambulance, as a result of previous PPT reform. Forms must be sent to Treasury by July 15 by email at [TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov](mailto:TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov), by fax at (517) 335-3298, or by mail to Michigan Department of Treasury, Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis, PO Box 30722, Lansing, MI 48909. Email [TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov](mailto:TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov) or call (517) 373-2697 with questions.

### Input needed on proposed changes to solid waste law

Township officials will have the opportunity to provide input on changes to the state's solid waste management laws at a public hearing on July 20. [Draft recommendations](#) were recently released as a result of the efforts of a workgroup that included MTA. The draft recommendations would require that waste facilities receive approval through either a host community agreement or resolution before being sited. Notice would also need to be provided to adjacent communities, and any concerns raised would need to be considered. Anyone can provide input on these recommendations at a public hearing from noon to 3 p.m. on July 20 at the Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. Written comments can also be submitted to [SeymourV1@michigan.gov](mailto:SeymourV1@michigan.gov) or the Office of Waste Management and

#### 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

[\\*\\*Cemeteries: Challenges & Solutions](#)  
[\\*\\*Hot Topics in Planning & Zoning](#)  
[\\*\\*MTA On the Road Regional Meetings](#)

#### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



Michigan Township Participating Plan

[www.thetaplan.com](http://www.thetaplan.com)



[www.mersofmich.com](http://www.mersofmich.com)

\* [Asphalt Materials, Inc.](#)

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

\* [Consumers Energy](#)

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

Radiological Protection, Solid Waste Section, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, MI 48909-7741. Legislation will likely be introduced to amend Part 115 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to reflect the recommendations.

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

\* [ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

\* [Mika Meyers, PLC](#)

\* [Ted Hartleb Agency](#)

## Townships with TIF districts: Contact MTA!



If your township has a tax increment finance (TIF) district, MTA wants to hear from you. In June, Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) introduced [SB 1026](#), which would make several changes to TIF authorities on transparency, reporting and penalty requirements. Among the changes would be the requirement for TIF authorities to post certain information online and also hold at least two informational meetings each year, in addition to reporting requirements to the State Tax Commission (STC). If the STC finds that an authority isn't in compliance, the TIF

authority would face certain penalties. Additionally, the bill proposes to combine six of the current TIF acts into one state statute and eliminate three authorities that the state does not believe are utilized. MTA has worked extensively with a number of ongoing TIF workgroups (House, Senate and the Snyder administration) and held numerous discussions with lawmakers. If your township has a TIF, please contact [legislation@michigantownships.org](mailto:legislation@michigantownships.org) to learn more about the possible impact of the proposed reform measures. Action on SB 1026 is anticipated this year along with other legislation expected to be introduced when the Legislature returns in September.



## Investing in Michigan Communities summit coming this month

Learn about pressing policy issues in municipal finance at the [Investing in Michigan Communities summit](#) later this month. MTA is a partner in the free event set for Tuesday, July 19, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Kent County Courthouse, fifth floor conference room, 180 Ottawa Avenue NW in Grand Rapids. Those who attend will hear insights into finance issues from Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council Executive Director John Weiss, and other industry experts. Email Gayle McCrath at [mccrathg@gvmc.org](mailto:mccrathg@gvmc.org) to confirm your attendance.

## Check polling places for ADA compliance

Do your township's polling places meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements? The U.S. Department of Justice has provided an updated technical assistance guidance [publication](#) for local governments. It includes information on key areas that must be accessible to voters with



mobility or vision disabilities, options for low-cost temporary measures for removing barriers, and a survey to guide election officials in evaluating a facility's accessibility. MTA offers more information and resources about [elections](#) and the [ADA](#) on the members-only section of our website, [www.michigantownships.org](http://www.michigantownships.org).

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## **Presentation explores the relationship between agriculture and the economy**

A presentation on the relationship between agriculture and the economy is available [online](#). David Oppedahl, a senior business economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, recently gave the presentation, called "[Agriculture and the Economy: A View from the Chicago Fed](#)," to members of the Detroit Association for Business Economics. The presentation highlights key agriculture trends and points out the decline in the number of Midwest farms and workers in recent years.

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## **Federal update for week of July 5**

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

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