

# Michigan Township INSIGHTS

Weekly News and Information from the Michigan Townships Association | June 24, 2016

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Member input needed for MTA Legislative Policy Platform

Do you have a suggestion for next year's MTA Legislative Policy Platform? MTA is accepting submissions now! Members have until Nov. 14 to submit suggestions and input to be considered by the MTA Legislative Policy and Resolutions Committee. This later date reflects the shift to an April MTA Annual Conference, beginning in 2017. The policy platform will be presented for membership approval during the 2017 MTA Annual Meeting on April 13, held in conjunction with the 64th Annual MTA Educational Conference & Expo in Lansing. Contact the Government Relations Department at [legislation@michigantownships.org](mailto:legislation@michigantownships.org) or (517) 321-6467 with any proposed policies.



### DEQ seeking input on proposed changes to solid waste law

Township officials can offer input on draft recommendations to the state's solid waste management laws, at an upcoming public hearing or via written comments. MTA was part of a workgroup whose efforts focused on resuming the county solid waste planning process and expanding the process beyond landfills to include consideration of transfer stations, recycling and composting facilities. MTA worked to preserve local zoning control related to compost and other waste utilization facilities. The draft recommendations would require that waste facilities receive approval through either a host community agreement or resolution before being sited. In addition, notice would need to be provided to adjacent communities and any concerns raised would need to be considered. A public hearing will take place from noon to 3 p.m. on July 20, at Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708

#### 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](#)

#### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



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

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

\* [Consumers Energy](#)

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

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



Cornerstone Drive in Lansing. Submit written comments to [SeymourV1@michigan.gov](mailto:SeymourV1@michigan.gov) or Office of Waste Management and 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.

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

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

[\\* Ted Hartleb Agency](#)

[\\* Wightman & Associates, Inc.](#)

## New law impacts municipal emergency loans



A new public act will change certain aspects of emergency loans for townships. [PA 197 of 2016](#), sponsored by Sen. Geoff Hansen (R-Hart Twp.), was part of the legislative package to address the Detroit Public Schools financial deficit. Currently, revenue for emergency loans is provided from state surplus funds. PA 197 expands this to include revenue from the repayment proceeds of other loans. It also allows the state Department of Treasury to withhold a municipality's portion of revenue generated by the local community stabilization share tax if they are delinquent on emergency loan payments, in addition to the current authority to withhold revenue sharing payments when payments are delinquent. The list of conditions municipalities must meet to qualify for an emergency loan was also expanded.

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## REMINDER: New PPT implementation form due July 15

The Michigan Department of Treasury has developed [Form 5548](#) to help municipalities calculate their percentage of general operating millage used to fund the cost of essential services in 2012. The form is part of the implementation process for personal property tax reimbursement for essential services, such as police, fire and ambulance. MTA recently assisted the department in forwarding the new form and information to township treasurers. Completed forms should be sent to Treasury by July 15 via 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. If you have questions, email [TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov](mailto:TreasORTAPPT@michigan.gov) or call (517) 373-2697.

## U.S. Congress looking for ways to block new overtime rule

The U.S. Congress is considering legislation that would pause the new federal overtime rule expected to increase the number of eligible workers. Recently, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) issued a [final rule](#) on overtime regulations that raised the salary threshold for overtime eligibility. This spring, U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Sen.



Tim Scott (R-SC) introduced the Protecting Workplace Advancement and Opportunity Act ([HR 4773](#) and [S 2707](#)). In addition to stopping the rule from being enforced, it would also require the DOL to analyze how the changes would impact small

businesses and low-wage regions and stop the requirement that the dollar threshold for overtime eligibility increase every three years. Disapproval resolutions were also introduced in the [House](#) and [Senate](#), which would also nullify that rule; however, the legislation and resolutions could be vetoed by President Barack Obama. MTA will continue to provide updates on the issue.

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## Federal update for week of June 20

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

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## Additional news you can use

### MTA's July workshop digs into cemetery management

Gain a better understanding of the rules, regulations and other important aspects of cemetery management and administration during MTA's half-day workshop, [Cemeteries: Challenges & Solutions](#), coming to three locations this July. Explore legal obligations and ordinances, fees and budgeting, green burials, as well as the role of the board, caretakers and committees. Early-bird rates end June 28. Download the brochure [here](#) or register [online](#) now.

### Webinar series to seek input on broadband

A nine-part [webinar series](#) seeks to gather input from local government leaders on the development of a broadband initiative. The webinars, which start July 14, are hosted by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's BroadbandUSA team to help with the development of its Community Connectivity Initiative. This initiative is meant to help communities better understand how their current policies and programs support broadband connectivity. Broadband stakeholders, including local units of government, are asked to participate in the webinars, which will be held on the second Thursday of each month, to discuss the role of broadband in achieving local priorities. [Pre-registration](#) is recommended for this event.