



michigan municipal league

Better Communities.
Better Michigan.

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Governor, Legislature Signal Recognition that Communities & Place Key to Economic Turnaround

Additional Funding Shows Michigan Cities, Villages Vital to State's Future

LANSING, Michigan – The decision to allocate additional dollars to Michigan's communities as part of a 2011-12 budget plan announced Thursday is good news for the state's cities, villages and urban townships.

Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leadership on Thursday announced a budget deal that includes \$65 million in additional funding for Michigan communities, including dollars for the new statutory revenue sharing program and money for the program replacing the brownfield and historic tax credits.

"It's a huge step in the right direction for investing in communities, for investing in place, for recognizing that we need to have strong, successful places to attract residents and employers," said Michigan Municipal League Executive Director & CEO Dan Gilmartin. "It's a signal that Governor Rick Snyder and the Legislature understand the important role Michigan's communities have in our state's economic turnaround."

This additional funding comes from the \$310 million available due to updated state revenue estimates announced earlier this week. Here's how the additional funding for Michigan communities breaks down:

- An additional \$50 million will be going into the Business Attraction and Economic Gardening program that will replace the new brownfield and historic tax credits. This brings that funding to \$75 million, which is a significant victory for League members.
- An additional \$15 million was also announced for the new statutory revenue sharing program known as the "Economic Vitality Incentive Program." This brings that funding to \$215 million, with \$5 million set aside for grants to members who attempt consolidation.

"Although I'm still unhappy that our communities are struggling so hard to compete for just two-

thirds of the money that is rightfully ours, what was announced Thursday is still more than we anticipated,” said League Board President and Alpena Mayor Carol Shafto. “So that’s good for all of us and good for Michigan.”

Stay tuned to the League’s website (mml.org) for the latest details as they become available. Media seeking additional information can contact Matt Bach, director of communications for the League, at 734-669-6317 or mbach@mml.org.

Michigan Municipal League advocates on behalf of its member communities in Lansing, Washington D.C., and the courts; provides educational opportunities for elected and appointed municipal officials; and assists municipal leaders in administering services to their communities through League programs and services.

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