



HANDBOOK FOR

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS



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Preface

Better Communities. Better Michigan.

The Michigan Municipal League is the one clear voice for Michigan communities. Through advocacy at the state and federal level, we proactively represent municipalities to help them sustain highly livable, desirable, and unique places within the state. We create and offer our members services and events that range from traditional to cutting edge, in order to help educate and inspire them to remain focused on their passion for the area they represent. We are a nonprofit, but we act with the fervor of entrepreneurs; our people are dynamic, energetic and highly approachable, passionately and aggressively pushing change for better communities.

We salute the officials across the state that give freely of their time and show great dedication to their communities. Acutely aware that knowledge is the key to effective decision-making, the League and the MML Foundation present this *Handbook for Municipal Officials* with the hope that it will provide you with excellent information and act as an important aid as you carry out your local government responsibilities.

Every four years, over 5,000 officials are elected across the state to local government. Of these, approximately 3,600 are first-time officials, and often have little or no government experience. The League's objective is to educate these new officials on municipal issues by offering educational training and information. The *Handbook for Municipal Officials* is one of the many tools the League has developed to offer basic local government information for local officials and to familiarize them with the responsibilities they face as policymakers.

The *Handbook for Municipal Officials* is a collaborative effort of the Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Municipal League Foundation.

Daniel P Gilmartin
CEO & Executive Director

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