

2018 - 2019 Briefing Book

A Legislator's Guide to Michigan's Unmet Infrastructure Needs

Prepared for Newly-Elected Members of the 100th Michigan Legislature



Dear Newly Elected Michigan State Lawmaker,

Congratulations on your election to the 100th Michigan Legislature!

Your constituents have placed their trust in you to make tough choices and represent the best interests of your district and the State of Michigan. What's the top issue of concern to voters across Michigan? You most certainly have heard it while out knocking on doors and meeting with consituents. Fixing the state's aging, failing and crumbling infrastructure. Voters want the new state Legislature to finally approve a long-term solution to repairing and replacing Michigan's aging roads and bridges, sewer systems, dams and community water systems.

This booklet is intended to help you learn more about Michigan's massive unmet infrastructure needs. In it, you will find statistics and examples of failing infrastructure across Michigan and links and references to studies and reports that quantify the crisis.

From Flint to Traverse City, from Macomb County to Kalamazoo to Houghton-Hancock, infrastructure failures harm Michigan's economy, public health and safety, and our abundance of fresh-water resources.

Time after time in statewide polls over the past three years, Michigan voters have ranked infrastructure as the number one concern facing our state. Voters want no more excuses; they want action to fix our state, and they want the new Legislature to succeed where lawmakers have failed for the past 20+ years.

The Fix MI State Campaign was launched in 2016 to raise awareness of Michigan's massive unmet infrastructure needs and to push for long-term funding solutions for fixing infrastructure statewide. We hope you find the Michigan infrastructure fact booklet a useful resource. We also invite you to connect with Fix MI State's growing and engaged audience by going to the Fix MI State website and signing up for the "Dig Deeper" newsletter to get regional Michigan infrastructure news and events affecting your communities. You can also follow the Fix MI State campaign on social media to engage with more than 7,000 people on our social platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Fixing Michigan's infrastructure is going to take substantial effort, and any new funds approved to fix infrastructure must be transparent and dedicated exclusively to our failing infrastructure.

On behalf of Michigan voters and MITA, I look forward to working with you on a long-term solution to fix the state's failing infrastructure.

Best regards,

Mike Nystrom

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Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation
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on behalf of the Fix MI State Campaign

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Infrastructure is the



issue with Michigan voters.

EPIC-MRA Poll (2016) EPIC-MRA Poll (2017) EPIC-MRA Poll (October 2018)

Infrastructure Incidents

Infrastructure is the foundation of our everyday lives. It touches everything about life, work and play in Michigan. From our roads and bridges, to stormwater and wastewater sewer systems, to drinking water systems that deliver clean, safe drinking water to our communities, to dams on rivers and lakes, and more.



Paw Paw, 2017:

The 113-year-old Paw Paw dam breached after rainstorms brought six inches of rain.

Flint, 2014:

The Flint Water Crisis resulted in a health crisis linked to residents drinking lead water from aged piping.

On Christmas Ev

Millions of gallons of sewage spill into the Lake St. Clair each year, affecting the recreation jewel and source of drinking water. Groups such as Save Lake St. Clair have dedicated themselves to saving the lake.

Lake St. Clair, Every Year:

Fraser, 2016:
On Christmas Eve, a sewer burst resulted in a 250-foot by 100-foot sinkhole that displaced residents from 22 homes.

Michigan must invest



in infrastructure each year, for the next 20 years.

Governor's 21st Century Infrastructure Commission Report (2016)
Business Leaders for Michigan (2017)

"D+" Michigan Fails

In March 2018, the Michigan Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers released its 2018 Report Card, grading Michigan's infrastructure in 13 categories.

Michigan's overall grade was a D+



Michigan's 2018

Infrastructure Report Card

Bridges	C-	1,234 of Michigan's 11,150 bridges (11.10%) are rated structurally deficient.
Dams	C-	There are 88 high-hazard dams in Michigan. Failure would cause human fatality or property damage.
Drinking Water	D	\$13.8B in infrastructure improvements for drinking water over the next 20 years.
Roads	D-	39% of Michigan roads are rated in "poor" condition.
Solid Waste	C+	Michigan must keep moving forward on improving solid waste and recycling programs.
Stormwater	D-	Without a systematic approach and funding, Michigan's stormwater infrastructure will continue to deteriorate.
Wastewater	С	\$2.07B investment in wastewater infrastructure is needed over the next 20 years.
Overall	D+	Lack of funding and proper management will cause Michigan's infrastructure to continue failing. Residents will pay more for repairs, and businesses and visitors will choose

Source: 2018 Michigan Infrastructure Report Card

Roads and Bridges

Only 11% of Michigan's roads are rated in "good," "very good," or "excellent" condition.

1,736 bridges in Michigan are in need of repair.

Michigan drivers pay an annual average of \$540 in car repairs due to poor roads.

The number of state-maintained bridges currently rated in "poor" condition will increase by 50% in the next five years.

39% of paved Michigan roads are in poor condition.

\$2.2B annual gap in road funding, including bridges.



Stormwater and

Wastewater

An average of 5.7 billion gallons of sewage flows into Michigan waterways each year.

A lack of modern infrastructure causes rain storms in Michigan to flood wastewater transportation systems, causing raw sewage to flow into lakes and rivers.

An estimated \$702 million is needed for Michigan's secondary treatment.

Our \$15 billion water economy is sustained by proper operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of our wastewater infrastructure.

Drinking Water and Beaches

80% of Detroit's drinking water distribution lines were installed before 1940.

103 Michigan beaches were closed or under health advisories during the summer of 2018.

Drinking water system operators in Michigan are underfunding system improvements for the Safe Drinking Water Act compliance at between \$284 million and \$563 million per year.



Dams

140 dams in Michigan are rated "high hazard," meaning that loss of life or property will happen if failure occurs.

More than two-thirds of Michigan's 2,581 dams have reached their typical 50-year design life.

In the next five years, about 80% of Michigan's dams will be at least 50 years old.

271 dams in Michigan were built prior to 1900.

Michigan averages two dam failures per year.

What State Lawmakers can do about it:

Work with experts to identify needs and the most efficient steps to fix our infrastructure.

Discuss the major issue - working together to serve the voters of Michigan.

Vote for a transparent solution that will increase jobs, protect our public health, safety and water - and finally fix our state!



Additional Studies

Want to learn more about Michigan's infrastructure, and what's needed to fix it? See these additional resources:

Michigan's 2018 Infrastructure Report Card Michigan Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

Governer Snyder's 21st Century Infrastructure Commission Report

Investing in Michigan's Infrastructure: Building for Economic Growth
Business Leaders for Michigan

Roads in Michigan: Quality, Funding & Recommendations
Mackinac Center for Public Policy

Modernizing Michigan's Transportation System TRIP Transportation Research Group

Michigan's Water Infrastructure Needs
The Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association



About Fix MI State

Fix MI State is a statewide education campaign to raise awareness about Michigan's massive, unmet infrastructure needs. It has four objectives:

Inform and educate Michigan citizens about the state's infrastructure crisis.

Work with elected leaders, businesses, and various levels of government to identify the scope of Michigan's infrastructure needs.

Work with elected leaders to prioritize Michigan's unmet infrastructure needs and identify solutions for them.

Inform and educate Michigan citizens about those solutions.

Fix MI State's long-term goal is to create a foundation of awareness over multiple years, preparing voters to become advocates for solutions and funding to fix Michigan's massive, unmet infrastructure needs.

Our campaign will assist legislators in awareness and facts to make voter-benefitting infrastructure investments to increase the quality of life and economy in the State of Michigan.

Find a digital version of the Briefing Book at www.fixmistate.org/briefingbook

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