

Affirmative Action
(231)724-6703
FAX: (231)722-1214

Assessor/Equalization
(231)724-6708
FAX: (231)726-5181

Cemetery Department
(231)724-6783
FAX: (231)726-5617

City Manager
(231)724-6734
FAX: (231)722-1214

Civil Service
(231)724-6716
FAX: (231)724-4405

Clerk
(231)724-6705
FAX: (231)724-4178

Community and
Neigh. Services
(231)724-6717
FAX: (231)726-2501

Computer Info.
Systems
(231)724-6744
FAX: (231)722-4301

Engineering Dept.
(231)724-6707
FAX: (231)727-6904

Finance Dept.
(231)724-6713
FAX: (231)724-6768

Fire Dept.
(231)724-6792
FAX: (231)724-6985

Income Tax
(231)724-6770
FAX: (231)724-6768

Inspection Services
(231)724-6715
FAX: (231)728-4371

Leisure Services
(231)724-6704
FAX: (231)724-1196

Mayor's Office
(231)724-6701
FAX: (231)722-1214

Planning/Zoning
(231)724-6702
FAX: (231)724-6790

Police Department
(231)724-6750
FAX: (231)722-5140

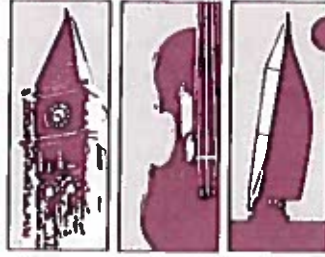
Public Works Dept.
(231)724-4100
FAX: (231)722-4188

Treasurer's Office
(231)724-6720
FAX: (231)724-6768

Water Billing Dept.
(231)724-6718
FAX: (231)724-6768

Water Filtration
(231)724-4106
FAX: (231)755-5290

MUSKEGON



West Michigan's Shoreline City

September 20, 2019

Chairman Filler and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

As Mayor of the City of Muskegon, Michigan, I have seen firsthand how an individual's criminal record can impede employment opportunities, but when given a second chance, these individuals are able to rise above their past. That is why I am extremely grateful for your efforts to help citizens get back on their feet and reintegrated into our communities.

I and the City of Muskegon, Michigan offer my/our full support of the effort to reform the expungement process. I will use my voice as a city leader to advocate for making Michigan a leader in this area and set an example for other states to follow.

Currently the expungement process can be expensive and confusing, resulting in only 6.5% of eligible individuals attempting to have their record expunged. Allowing for those crimes that are eligible, to be automatically expunged after 10 years is a critical step toward putting individuals on a path for better employment and higher wages. Additionally, such a change will expand education and housing opportunities for the individuals and ultimately lower Michigan's recidivism rate.

Increasing the number of felonies and misdemeanors that can be set aside, creating a process to deal with marijuana convictions that would now be legal under the law, reducing the misdemeanor waiting period, and making some traffic offenses eligible for expungement, will undoubtedly change the lives for thousands of Michigan citizens.

I cannot emphasize enough the positive impact this issue will have on the residents and businesses of the City of Muskegon, Michigan. I whole heartily support your efforts to reform the expungement process in Michigan and extend my support for House Bills 4980-4985.

Sincerely,

CITY OF MUSKEGON


Stephen J. Gawron
Mayor