



Michigan Townships Association

Our Mission:

To advance local democracy by fostering township leadership and public policy essential for a strong and vibrant Michigan

Townships...


- Vary in size & population
- 1,240 in total





Townships

- are home to 52 percent of all Michigan residents
- regulate 96% of Michigan's land area

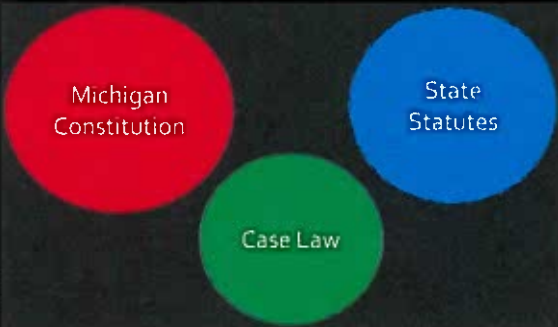


Revenue Sources

- Property taxes
- Revenue Sharing
 - Constitutional
 - Statutory



Sources of Authority...



Michigan Constitution...

- **Article VII, § 17 Townships; corporate character, powers and immunities.** Each organized township shall be a body corporate with powers and immunities provided by law.

Authority has limits...

- **Article VII, § 34 Construction of constitution and law concerning counties, townships, cities, villages.** The provisions of this constitution and law concerning counties, townships, cities and villages shall be liberally construed in their favor. Powers granted to counties and townships by this constitution and by law shall include those **fairly implied** and not prohibited by this constitution.

Township Officers

- Supervisor
- Clerk
- Treasurer
- Trustees - not to exceed 4
- Terms - 4 years



- **Article VII, § 18 Township officers; term, powers and duties.**

Service





Permissive Functions

- Fire Protection
- Police Protection
- Emergency Medical
- Water / Sewer
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning and Zoning
- Code Enforcement
- Ordinance Enforcement
- Liquor Inspections
- Library
- Cemetery





Public entity

- Open Meetings Act
- Freedom of Information Act
- Accounting, Audit & Financial Reporting
- Public scheduled meetings
- Decisions in best interest of the public

Municipal corporation

- Acquire, own and dispose of real and personal property
- Sue and be sued
- Appoint necessary agents and attorneys for that purpose
- Make contracts necessary for the exercise of their corporate powers
- Incur and pay obligations
- Receive and deposit monies



Ordinance Authority

- | | |
|--|--|
| "Police Power" Ordinances | Administrative Ordinances |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Blight Elimination▪ Cemetery▪ Dangerous Buildings▪ Utility Franchise▪ Cost Recovery (Fire Run Charge)▪ Land Division Ordinance▪ Liquor Control▪ Noise and Public Nuisance▪ Noxious Weeds▪ Nuisance Abatement▪ Outdoor and Open Burning▪ Truck Route | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Group Insurance Benefits▪ Retirement Benefits▪ Establishing Planning Commission▪ Fire Department Structure▪ Officials Compensation Commission▪ Housing Commission |
| | Zoning Ordinances |

Board Administrative Authority

The township board:

- Authorize contracts
- Acquire/convey property
- Control uses of property
- Manage facilities
- Direct litigation
- Employ township personnel, contractors, consultants, volunteers



Statutory Boards & Commissions

- Statutory boards and commissions are public bodies either required or authorized by law
- Advisory committees are not mandated

Statutory Boards & Commissions

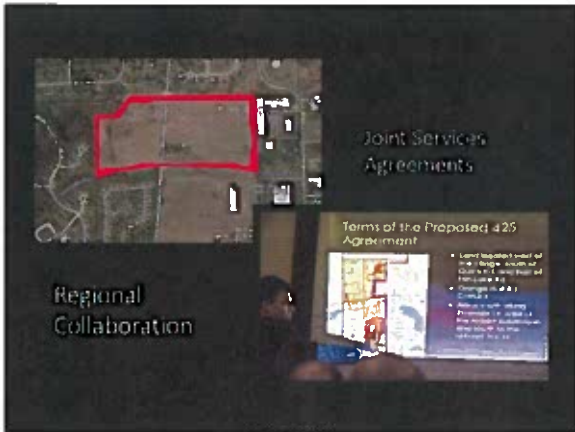
Common township boards and commissions:

- Planning Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Board of Review
- Election Commission
- Library Board
- Park Commission

Interact with gov't entities...

- Efficient delivery of services
- Infrastructure expansion
- Appropriate economic development site selection





Work with local units...

- Fire/police departments
 - Jointly
 - Contracted
- Cemeteries
- Parks/recreation
- Utilities
- Libraries
- Planning/zoning



Strengthening for the future

- Regional partnerships for economic growth
- Job creation
- Maintaining and creating attractive communities



Maintaining Local Democracy

- allow people to live and work in unique communities that best match their values and preferences for taxation, service levels and regulatory climate



for a vibrant Michigan



for a vibrant Michigan

Michigan's Local Governments

- Michigan has 10th largest population
- Michigan has fewer local units
 - Rank in bottom half of local units on a per capita basis
 - Lowest ratio of any other Great Lakes State

Service &
LEADERSHIP
for a vibrant Michigan

MTA

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