



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Greg
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Alexander
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Village of Sebewaing
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
110 W. Main Street, Sebewaing Michigan 48159
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Village of Sebewaing, Sebewaing Township, Huron County
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Sebewaing Light and Water, Village of Sebewaing, Sebewaing Township, Huron County
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
Purpose  
Sebewaing Light and Water (SLW) respectfully requests \$1.2 million in state support to implement Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI)—a project that will provide immediate, measurable public benefits to the residents of the Village of Sebewaing. AMI will empower customers with real-time usage data to manage their energy consumption and prevent unexpected billing surprises, while enabling SLW to proactively monitor system performance, detect inefficiencies, and reduce costly outages.

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## Background and Need

SLW has been serving the Village of Sebewaing since 1911. Our electric utility currently operates on an outdated 2.4kV/4.16kV distribution system, which relies on a 40kV feed from DTE Energy under a wholesale agreement. Industry standards now call for transitioning to a 12.47kV system to improve safety, efficiency, and long-term reliability.

As part of a broader modernization plan, SLW aims to ultimately interconnect with the ITCT-owned transmission grid to improve energy resilience. However, the first and most critical step toward this vision is AMI implementation.

AMI will serve as the digital backbone of a modern utility—improving demand forecasting, outage detection, crew dispatch efficiency, and system planning. It will enhance both internal operations and customer service, making SLW a more responsive, transparent, and resilient energy provider.

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## Financial Considerations

In 2025, SLW partnered with Utility Financial Solutions to conduct financial and cost-of-service analyses. These studies confirmed that major infrastructure upgrades are necessary—but also revealed that funding them through ratepayer increases alone would be unsustainable for our small community.

While recent rate adjustments are guiding SLW toward long-term financial stability, the cost of implementing AMI without external support would result in further rate hikes, placing an undue burden on local residents.

A \$1.2 million legislative investment would allow SLW to proceed with this essential project without overburdening ratepayers. AMI will also enable more equitable rate structures and improve SLW's ability to manage energy purchases more effectively.

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## Why Now

Postponing AMI implementation increases risks related to system failures, service disruptions, and emergency repair costs due to lack of real-time data. It also creates compliance challenges as regulatory requirements for utility performance and transparency continue to increase.

Immediate action will allow SLW to:

- Prevent future cost spikes for the community
- Identify and address infrastructure problems early
- Deliver a sustainable, data-driven solution with long-term cost predictability
- Improve workforce deployment, reduce liability risks, and enhance public trust in utility services

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### Project Readiness

SLW has proactively taken steps to ensure this project is shovel-ready. We have engaged Power System Engineering (PSE), a nationally recognized utility consultant, to lead planning and procurement. With PSE's guidance, SLW has:

- Completed a tailored AMI system design
- Developed detailed technical specifications
- Conducted a competitive bidding process, resulting in vendor selection and confirmed implementation pricing

This groundwork positions SLW to begin deployment immediately upon receipt of funding.

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### Conclusion

This project represents a strategic, high-impact use of public funding that delivers real value to Michigan residents. By supporting SLW's AMI implementation, the Legislature will help secure safe, efficient, and affordable electricity for a rural community, while enabling smarter long-term infrastructure planning.

**9. Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

**10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

1200000

**11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["None"]

**12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Local unit government

**13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Not applicable

**14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Not applicable

**15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Not applicable

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

n/a

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Within 2 years of money being awarded

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes