



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Joey
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Andrews
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:
Saugatuck Township Fire District
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
3342 Blue Star Highway Saugatuck, MI 49453
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
415 Wiley Rd, Douglas, MI 49406
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Joey Andrews, House District 38
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.
The Saugatuck Township Fire District is requesting state funding to establish a new southern fire station that will expand and strengthen emergency response capabilities throughout the District. This project is essential for addressing increasing service demands, reducing response times, and ensuring the safety of residents and visitors in the southern portion of our coverage area.

The Saugatuck Township Fire District serves approximately 28 square miles, including

the City of Saugatuck, the City of the Village of Douglas, and Saugatuck Township. Although possessing similar names, the Saugatuck Township Fire District is an independent government entity formed under Public Act 33 of 1951 to serve the three communities. With increasing call volumes, seasonal tourism, and rapid residential growth, a second station is critical for maintaining the level of service and public safety our residents expect and deserve. The southern fire station will strategically place our personnel and equipment in closer proximity to underserved areas of the District, resulting in faster emergency response and broader community protection.

This project is a fiscally responsible and sustainable solution made possible through a collaborative and cost-effective facility reuse. The City of the Village of Douglas has acquired an 18,000-square-foot building, previously used by Holland Hospital, and is offering to sell 5,200 square feet of that space, along with the corresponding land, to the Fire District at their cost. The remaining portion of the building will be utilized by the City of Douglas as their new City Hall, Police Department, and Department of Public Works offices, allowing for shared infrastructure and long-term operational efficiency for both entities.

By re-purposing this existing structure, we will significantly reduce construction costs—from an estimated \$580 per square foot for new construction to approximately \$325 per square foot. These savings allow the Fire District to prioritize investments in critical areas such as equipment, 24-hour staffing needs, and service readiness. The new station will provide modern firefighter sleeping quarters, expanded administrative space, and a vital presence in the southern region of the Fire District. It directly addresses existing facility limitations and helps ensure that our firefighters can respond more quickly and effectively across all three communities.

This initiative represents a forward-thinking public safety investment rooted in fiscal responsibility and smart regional planning. It aligns with our mission to protect lives and property, and it delivers a tangible benefit to taxpayers across the District. The proposed funding fully complies with Article IV, Section 30 of the Michigan Constitution, as it is administered by a local unit of government for a clear public purpose.

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.

3500000

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:

Start Date: July 1, 2025, End Date: December 31, 2026

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

Yes