



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Timothy
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Beson
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:  
City of Bay City
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
301 Washington Ave. Bay City, MI 48708
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
N/A
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Rep. Timmy Beson, 96th District
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 purpose of this legislatively directed spending item is to build a centralized public safety building on the east side of Bay City. The facility would allow both police and fire operations to be headquartered in the same building. Police and fire operations merged into a Public Safety Department in 2013, and combining them into one building will assist with communication among department members and the streamlining of operations.

With the transition to public safety and budget cuts over the years, the overall number of police officers and firefighters is roughly half of what it was 25 years ago. Even with this transition, the number of facilities has not changed, and our staffing does not match the number of stations we operate. In addition, all the fire stations are over 60 years old and in need of major updates. We have consolidated operations into one fire station on the west side of the city, mainly due to staffing, but also because one of the stations (Station #5) is in such poor condition. The fire station in the south end of the city (Station #2) is our oldest and is located on a site that is extremely contaminated with PFOS chemicals.

The Law Enforcement Center is a building our police officers share with the County Sheriff's Department and the jail. This building, constructed in the 1970s, was poorly designed. Our police operations are located directly beneath the jail, which has resulted in sewage and water leaks seeping into our offices for at least the past 25 years—an issue that has only gotten worse. This building also requires significant repairs, but we have found no solution that would stop the constant leaks affecting our personnel.

The Fire Operations Division would be better served by aligning the number of stations with the number of available personnel. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends that each fire engine have a minimum of four personnel assigned to it. We do not have any stations that can meet that standard with our current staffing. This includes Public Safety Officers (PSOs) who serve dual roles. Even with their inclusion, no fire engine has four personnel assigned. Station #2 has only one firefighter assigned at any given time. Even if the PSO assigned to that area is available, only two personnel would arrive at a scene—an unsafe situation when attempting to rescue people or combat a fire while severely understaffed.

Our personnel do an exceptional job with the resources they have and provide quality service, but we must operate with reasonable consideration for their safety. Another drawback of having only one firefighter per station is the need to respond to all medical calls in a fire engine, which costs nearly \$1,000,000 to replace. The reason for using the fire engine is that no one else remains at the station if a fire were to occur. If a station has at least two personnel, one can respond to a medical call in a much smaller, less expensive, and quicker vehicle (rescue vehicle), while the other remains available to drive the fire engine in the event of a fire. Utilizing a rescue vehicle reduces wear and tear on the million-dollar fire engine and significantly extends its service life.

If we can raise the funds for the initial investment, the city's budget and staffing levels are better suited to maintaining one centrally located station on each side of the city. This would allow us to have three firefighters at each station regularly, supplemented by Public Safety Officers when a fire occurs. The city would have only two buildings to maintain and would save on the replacement costs of fire apparatus by utilizing rescue vehicles for medical calls. With the use of smaller vehicles and centralized locations, response times throughout the city would remain below the five-minute average we have maintained, despite the drastic reduction in personnel over the years.

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.

25000000

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:

If funding were approved, the project could be completed withing two years of funding approval

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

Yes