



SaveMI City

Invest. Support. Grow.



saveMlcity.org

The Issue

Michigan communities – the true drivers of economic prosperity – can't thrive with our broken municipal finance system. This means we can't create great places that attract talent and business.

For more than a decade, we've seen:

- Money diverted away from local services by the state
- Steep drops in taxable values that are horribly constrained by conflicting tax laws
- Little or no ability to solve the problem locally

We need a new way forward.

“We are **dead last** in this state in providing direct support to cities and there are consequences to that decision.

It is incumbent upon policymakers to accept this reality and to do something about it.”

-U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (MI-5)

What is SaveMlCity?

SaveMlCity is a campaign to educate Michigan residents, decision-makers and businesses about how municipalities are funded in our state and why the current system does not work for our communities. Money that is owed to our cities, villages and townships by state statute has been redirected to plug holes in the state budget.

That money should have gone to your communities – where local people have a say on how it is spent on local needs.

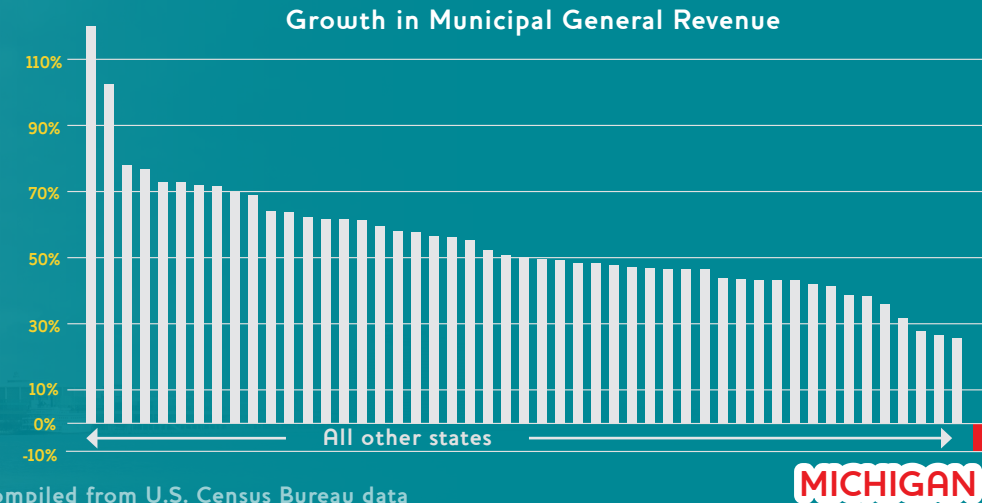
Learn more. Spread the word. Get involved.

“We need to be a city where we have mobility options for everyone; we need to be a people-focused, smart city – one that nurtures innovation and one that is prepared for future and changing technology.”

-Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss

“We’re **rock bottom** in helping communities raise revenue to pay for essential services.”
-Ferndale Councilwoman Melanie Piana

Michigan ranks **DEAD LAST** in investing in its communities*



The Facts

According to data compiled from the Michigan Department of Treasury, \$8.6 billion has been diverted away from Michigan cities, villages and townships since 2002.

Across the country, Michigan ranked 50th — DEAD LAST — in investing in its communities during that same time. The results of this disinvestment are clear: crumbling roads, deteriorating infrastructure, cuts to local police and fire protection and other cost-cutting measures that have led to disastrous consequences.

Insights and Analysis

Two separate EPIC-MRA polls commissioned in 2016 and in 2018 clearly showed that the public wants and values local services.

We found 86% of Michigan residents prefer that their taxes be spent locally.



SaveMICity Ambassadors

Local leaders throughout Michigan have volunteered to share stories regarding disinvestment in their communities, spreading the word at the local level. Ambassadors play a key role in educating Michigan residents about how they are impacted by state disinvestment in a more personal way.

This past fall, SaveMICity Ambassadors throughout the state authored op-eds explaining that the lack of investment in communities has reached a critical point and have shared their stories with the media. Please contact us if you're interested in having a SaveMICity Ambassador speak in your community.

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Want to support SaveMICity?

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