Q1. What type of jurisdiction do you represent? 
- [ ] county  
- [ ] township  
- [ ] city  
- [ ] village  
What is the jurisdiction’s name?  
(if not a county) In what county is it located?  
What position do you hold?  

Q2. What would you say are the three most important problems facing your community today?  

Most important problem  
Second most important problem  
Third most important problem  

Q3. Now, turning to business conditions in your community, do you think that during the next twelve months your community will have good times financially, or bad times financially?  
- [ ] Good times  
- [ ] Bad times  
- [ ] Neither  
- [ ] Don’t know  

Q4. Thinking about the financial needs of your jurisdiction, would you say that your unit of government is less able or better able to meet its financial needs in... 

- [ ] Significantly Less Able  
- [ ] Somewhat Less Able  
- [ ] Neither Less Nor Better Able  
- [ ] Somewhat Better Able  
- [ ] Significantly Better Able  
- [ ] Don’t know  

...this fiscal year compared to the last fiscal year?  
...the next fiscal year compared to this fiscal year?  

Q5. Comparing your jurisdiction’s current fiscal year to its previous fiscal year, please consider the ways the following items have changed. Indicate whether -- in your opinion -- there has been a decrease, an increase, or no change from the previous fiscal year. (Leave individual items blank if not applicable to your jurisdiction.)  

Greatly Decreased  
Somewhat Decreased  
No Change  
Somewhat Increased  
Greatly Increased  
Don’t Know  

Revenue from property taxes  
Revenue from fees for services, licenses, transfers, etc.  
Revenue from local income taxes  
Amount of federal aid to your jurisdiction  
Amount of state aid to your jurisdiction  
Population of your jurisdiction  
Public safety needs  
Infrastructure needs  
Human service needs  
Employee wages and salaries  
Cost of employee pensions  
Cost of current employee health benefits  
Cost of retired employee health benefits  

Q6. Now, thinking about the next fiscal year, please indicate which actions your jurisdiction has taken or is likely to take.  

Greatly Decrease  
Somewhat Decrease  
No Change  
Somewhat Increase  
Greatly Increase  
Don’t Know  

Property tax rates  
Charges for fees, licenses, etc.  
Reliance on ending balance or reserve (rainy day funds)  
Amount of services provided  
Amount of debt  
Privatizing or contracting out of services  
Number and/or scope of interlocal agreements or other cost-sharing plans with other governments  
Your jurisdiction’s workforce hiring  
Your jurisdiction’s workforce layoffs  
Your jurisdiction not filling vacant positions  
Actual infrastructure spending  
Actual public safety spending  
Funding for economic development programs  

For more information, please contact: closup-mpps@umich.edu / (734) 647-4091
Q7. Does the public participate significantly in your jurisdiction’s budget setting process in any of the following ways? (check all that apply)

- Public forums (sometimes called “town hall meetings”)
- Budget public hearings
- Special sessions of the board or council
- Regular sessions of the board or council
- Individual contacts to local government officials
- Citizen surveys
- Other (please specify)
- None - citizens don’t participate in any significant way
- Don’t know

Q8. Are there any particularly unique or innovative approaches your jurisdiction has taken toward balancing the budget in the last few years or has planned for the next few years?

Q9. To what degree would you consider the following items as barriers or assets to your jurisdiction’s economic development efforts? (Leave individual items blank if not applicable to your jurisdiction.)

- Availability of land
- Cost of land
- Availability of buildings
- Information technology infrastructure
- Traditional infrastructure (roads, bridges, water/sep, etc.)
- Availability of appropriate workforce
- Cost of labor
- Presence of major employers
- Entrepreneurial culture
- Availability of capital/funding
- Tax rates
- Distance to major markets
- Permitting process(es)
- Environmental regulations
- Citizen input
- Impact of change in population
- Cost of housing
- K-12 education system
- Vocational and higher education system
- Recreational facilities
- Arts/cultural programs
- Traffic congestion

Q10. Does your jurisdiction use any of the following economic development strategies to attract or retain businesses? (check all that apply)

- Local or regional business incubator
- Economic development agency
- Tax abatements
- Infrastructure upgrades
- Workforce development programs
- Child care programs
- Tourism promotion
- Surveys of local businesses
- Marketing campaign
- Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations
- Partnering with other local governments
- Special zoning districts
- Other (please specify)
- None
- Don’t Know

Q11. Are any of the following sectors a focus of your jurisdiction’s current economic development efforts? (check all that apply)

- Retail
- Manufacturing
- Small business
- Finance
- Arts/Culture (other than the film industry)
- Film Industry
- Tourism/hospitality
- Education
- Health care
- Life sciences
- Energy
- Forestry and agriculture
- Technology/telecommunications
- Warehousing/distribution
- Other (please specify)
- None
- Don’t Know
Placemaking has been described as capitalizing on a local community’s assets in order to create appealing public spaces for economic development purposes. Proponents of placemaking argue that by improving a community’s quality of life, new workers will be drawn to move there and that new businesses then follow the workers.

Q12. Is your unit of government currently engaged in any placemaking programs or projects for economic development purposes?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Don’t Know

Q13. (If yes to Q12) Please describe your jurisdiction’s placemaking projects:

Q14. Regardless of whether you have any placemaking projects underway, how confident are you that placemaking can be an effective economic development strategy for your jurisdiction?
   - Not at all
   - Somewhat
   - Neither Confident nor Unconfident
   - Somewhat Confident
   - Completely Confident
   - Don’t Know

Q15. What types of external assistance or resources would be most valuable to help your jurisdiction improve its economic development capabilities? (check all that apply)
   - Financing
   - Information about economic development best practices
   - Assistance in assessing community assets/opportunities for economic development
   - Strategic planning assistance
   - Information about state, federal, or private grants
   - Grant writing assistance
   - Assistance in improving the capacity of local economic development organization(s)
   - Other (please specify)
   - None
   - Don’t know

Q16. Are there any particularly unique or innovative approaches your jurisdiction has taken toward economic development in the last few years or has planned for the next few years?

Q17. How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right?
   - Nearly Always
   - Most of the time
   - Some of the time
   - Seldom
   - Almost never
   - Don’t know

Q18. How much of the time do you think you can trust the state government in Lansing to do what is right?
   - Nearly Always
   - Most of the time
   - Some of the time
   - Seldom
   - Almost never
   - Don’t know

Q19. How much of the time do you think you can trust other local governments to do what is right?
   - Nearly Always
   - Most of the time
   - Some of the time
   - Seldom
   - Almost never
   - Don’t know

Many communities are turning to intergovernmental or regional cooperation as a way to cut costs and/or improve services. By intergovernmental or regional cooperation, we mean efforts to provide government services that involve two or more units of government.

Q20. Is your jurisdiction currently involved in any of the following types of intergovernmental or regional efforts?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Not Involved At All</th>
<th>Somewhat Involved</th>
<th>Very Involved</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land use planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation/public transit</td>
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<td>Police services</td>
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<td>Fire services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities/water/waste</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks/recreation/libraries/culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency preparedness</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Q21. Now, thinking specifically about regional land use planning between two or more units of government, is your jurisdiction currently involved in any of the following? (check all that apply)
   - Partnerships or joint planning efforts with one or more neighboring communities
   - Participation in a council of governments within your county
   - Participation in county-led planning efforts
   - Participation in a multi-county council of governments
   - None
   - Don’t Know

Q22. Do you think your jurisdiction’s involvement in regional land use planning efforts is ...?
   - Too Much
   - Just right
   - Not enough
   - Don’t know
Q23. If your jurisdiction were to engage in a new regional land use planning effort, do you believe that existing organizations in your region—such as the county government, a metropolitan planning organization, a regional council, or a joint planning commission—have the capacity to engage in those efforts, or do you think a new organization would be required?

☐ Existing organization(s) have the capacity
☐ A new regional planning organization would be needed
☐ Don't know

Q24. What do you believe are the largest barriers to regional land use planning in your region?

Q25. Thinking about the Federal Stimulus Package, how informed do you feel you have been about the opportunities available to your jurisdiction through the Stimulus Package?

☐ Not at all informed
☐ Somewhat informed
☐ Neither informed nor uninformed
☐ Somewhat uninformed
☐ Completely informed
☐ Don't know

Q26. Some Stimulus Package funding has already been allocated and/or distributed, while funding decisions for other projects are still pending. Overall, considering the number and total cost of all of your requested projects, please estimate the portion of the total requested stimulus funding that has been approved for your jurisdiction so far.

☐ All
☐ Most
☐ About half
☐ Some
☐ None
☐ Did not request any funding
☐ Don’t know

Q27. In your opinion, what portion of the projects for which your unit of government requested Federal Stimulus Package funding would you have undertaken anyway, even without the possibility of Stimulus funding?

☐ All
☐ Most
☐ Some
☐ Few
☐ None
☐ Did not request any projects
☐ Don’t know

Q28. Overall, do you think the Stimulus Package will significantly help improve the economic conditions in your community?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know (skip to Q30)

Q29. Please explain why you think the Stimulus Package will or will not significantly help improve your community’s economic conditions:

Q30. Now, outside of the Federal Stimulus Package, what would you say are the most important things state and/or federal policymakers could do to help your jurisdiction?

Q31. The Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) will be an ongoing program, allowing us to track fundamental local and state policy issues over time. We would like your advice regarding the most important issues that should be included in future surveys. Please describe either the general topic areas and/or specific questions that you would like to see included in the MPPS:

Q32. CLOSUP will protect your privacy and anonymity to the full extent provided by law. We need to confirm your personal information such as name, email address, and phone number for tracking and administrative purposes only. Your personal information will not be linked with your survey responses nor will it be shared with any outside sources.

Your name _______________________________________________
Your phone number ___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
Your email address _______________________________________

Finally, we would like to ask some demographic questions. As with all of the questions in this survey, these are optional. Responses will be reported in aggregate form only so that your individual responses will remain confidential.

Q33. What is your gender?

☐ Male
☐ Female

Q34. In what year were you born? __________

Q35. How many years have you served in your current position? ________

Q36. Are you of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino descent?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Q37. Please check one or more categories below to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be. (check all that apply)

☐ White
☐ Black or African American
☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
☐ Asian
☐ Multiracial
☐ Other
☐ Don’t know

Q38. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

☐ 12th grade or less/no diploma
☐ High school graduate or GED
☐ Some college, no degree
☐ Professional/Doctorate degree
☐ Bachelor’s degree
☐ Master’s degree
☐ Associate degree

Q39. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a…?

☐ Republican
☐ Independent
☐ Democrat
☐ Something Else

Q40. (If Republican or Democrat) Would you consider yourself a strong or not very strong Republican/Democrat?

☐ Very strong
☐ Not very strong
☐ Don’t know

Q41. (If Independent) Would you consider yourself closer to …?

☐ the Democratic Party
☐ the Republican Party
☐ Neither