

MICHIGAN PUBLIC POLICY SURVEY (MPPS)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FISCAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES
SPRING 2009

	start, please confirm . What type of jurisdiction do you represent?								
	county	What is the jurisdiction's name?							
	township city	(if not a county) In what county is it located?							
	☐ village What position do you hold?								
Q2.	. What would you say are the three most importa	ınt problems facing y	our communi	ity today?					
	Most important problem								
	wost important problem								
	Second most important problem								
	Third most important problem								
Q3.	Now, turning to business conditions in your co	ommunity, do you thin	nk that during	the next twelv	e months your o	community will hav	e good		
	times financially, or bad times financially? ☐ Good times ☐ Bad times	☐ Neither			☐ Don't	t know			
		_			_				
Q4.	. Thinking about the financial needs of your juristinancial needs in	sdiction, would you s	ay that your i	unit of governn	nent is <u>less able</u>	or <u>better able</u> to m	eet its		
	imanciai needs in	Significantly Son	newhat N	either Less	Somewhat	Significantly	Don't		
			_	r Better Able	Better Able	Better Able	Know		
	this fiscal year compared to the last fiscal year? the next fiscal year compared to this fiscal year			H	H	H			
	· · ·		_						
Q5.	 Comparing your jurisdiction's <u>current fiscal ye</u> Indicate whether in your opinion there has 								
	items blank if not applicable to your jurisdictio			o onango non	. and provided in		rai ria dai		
		Greatly	Somewhat	No	Somewhat	Greatly	Don't		
		Decreased	Decreased	Change	Increased	Increased	Know		
	Revenue from property taxes								
	Revenue from fees for services, licenses, trans								
	Revenue from local income taxes								
	Amount of federal aid to your jurisdiction				Ц				
	Amount of state aid to your jurisdiction								
	Population of your jurisdiction Public safety needs								
	Infrastructure needs		H		H	H			
	Human service needs		_ H						
	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 <u>next fiscal year,</u> please	e indicate which action	ns vour iuris	diction has tak	en or is likelv to	take.			
	, <u> </u>	Greatly	Somewhat		Somewhat	Greatly	Don't		
		Decrease	Decrease	Change	Increase	Increase	Know		
	Property tax rates					П			
	Charges for fees, licenses, etc.								
	Reliance on ending balance or reserve (rainy da								
	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				H		H		
	Your jurisdiction's workforce layoffs								
	Your jurisdiction not filling vacant positions								
	Actual infrastructure spending								
	Actual public safety spending	ä							
	Funding for economic development programs								

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						
☐ 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 <u>balancing the budget</u> in the last few year or has planned for the next few years?						
Q9. To what degree would you consider the following items as <u>barriers</u> or <u>assets</u> to your jurisdiction's eco	onomic development efforts? (Leave					
individual items blank if not applicable to your jurisdiction.) Neither A						
	newhat of A Significant Don't n Asset Asset Know					
Availability of land						
Availability of buildings						
Traditional infrastructure						
, , ,						
	H H					
_						
Permitting process(es)						
Environmental regulations						
Citizen input						
Cost of housing						
,						
Traffic congestion						
Q10. Does your jursidiction use any of the following economic development strategies to attract or retain businesses? (check all that apply)						
☐ Retail						
☐ Local or regional business incubator ☐ Manufacturing						
☐ Economic development agency☐ Small business☐ Tax abatements☐ Finance	☐ Small business					
	than the film industry)					
☐ Workforce development programs ☐ Film Industry						
☐ Child care programs ☐ Tourism/hospitality☐ Tourism promotion ☐ Education						
☐ Surveys of local businesses ☐ Health care						
☐ Surveys or rocar pusinesses [Healtif Care						
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences						
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences ☐ Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations ☐ Energy	H					
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences ☐ Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations ☐ Energy ☐ Partnering with other local governments ☐ Forestry and agricu						
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences ☐ Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations ☐ Energy	nmunications					
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences ☐ Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations ☐ Energy ☐ Partnering with other local governments ☐ Forestry and agricu ☐ Special zoning districts ☐ Technology/telecon ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ Warehousing/distrit ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ Other (please specify)	nmunications bution					
☐ Marketing campaign ☐ Life sciences ☐ Partnering with other nongovernmental organizations ☐ Energy ☐ Partnering with other local governments ☐ Forestry and agricu ☐ Special zoning districts ☐ Technology/telecon ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ Warehousing/distrib	nmunications bution					

	<u>Placemaking</u> 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.	e. Is your unit of government currently engaged in any placemaking programs or projects for economic development purposes? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know							
Q13.	3. (If yes to Q12) Please describe your jurisdiction's placemaking projects:							
014	Regardless of whether you have any placemaking projects underway, how confident are you that placemaking can be an effective							
Q14.	economic development st			now connuent a	re you mat placen	iaking can be an	refrective	
	Not at all Confident	Somewhat Unconfident	Neither Confident nor Unconfident	Somewhat Confident	Completely Confident		Don't Know	
Q15.	5. 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 or has planned for the ne	unique or innovat	ive approaches your jurisc	liction has taken	toward <u>economic</u>	<u>development</u> in	the last few years	
Q17.	How much of the time do Nearly Always	you think you can Most of the ti	_ ~		~	ht? Almost never	☐ Don't know	
Q18.	How much of the time do Nearly Always	you think you can ☐ Most of the ti	_ ~	_	· _	Almost never	☐ Don't know	
Q19.	How much of the time do	you think you can	trust other local governme	ents to do what is	right?			
	■ Nearly Always	☐ Most of the ti	me Some of th	e time 🔲	Seldom	Almost never	□ Don't know	
			nmental or regional coope we mean efforts to provide					
Q20.	Is your jurisdiction curren	tly involved in any	of the following types of i	intergovernment	al or regional effor	ts?		
			Not Involved At All	Somewhat Involved	Very Involved	Don't Know		
	Land use planning Transportation/public tran	neit						
	Police services	isit	H	H	H	H		
	Fire services							
	Utilities/water/waste	,						
	Parks/recreation/libraries. Economic development	/culture				<u> </u>		
	Emergency preparedness	.	H	H	H	H		
Q21.	21. Now, thinking specifically about <u>regional land use planning</u> between two or more units of government, is your jurisdiction currently involve in any of the following? <i>(check all that apply)</i>						n currently involved	
	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 jurisdic					S 14. 1		
	☐ Too Much	Just right	☐ Not enough	n	□ [Oon't know		

Q23.	If your jursidiction were to engage in a <u>new</u> regional land use planning effort, do you believe that existing organizations in your region-such as the county government, a metropolitian 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 Stim jurisdiction through the Stimulu-Not at all	U /	rmed do you feel yo		the opportunities available to you Completely	to your Don't			
	Informed	Uninformed	nor Uninformed	Informed	Informed	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 All Most	for your jurisdiction so About ha		None	Did not request any funding	Don't Know			
Q27.				ent requested Fede	ral Stimulus Package funding wo	uld you have			
	undertaken anyway, even without All Most	ut the possibility of Stir Some	nulus funding? Few	None	Did not request any projects	Don't Know			
Q28.	Overall, do you think the Stimult		antly help improve ☐ Don't know (<i>ski</i>		tions in your community?				
Q29.	Please explain why you think the	e Stimulus Package <u>will</u>	or <u>will not</u> significa	intly help improve yo	our community's economic condi	ions:			
Q30.		nulus Package, what wo	ould you say are the	most important thin	ngs state and/or federal policymal	ers could do			
	to help your jurisdiction?								
Q31.	The Michigan Public Policy Surv	rey (MPPS) will be an or	ngoing program, all	owing us to track fur	ndamental local and state policy i	ssues over			
	general topic areas and/or speci				in future surveys. Please describ	e either the			
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 reported in aggregate form only s				survey, these are optional. Respo	nses will be			
Q33.	What is your gender?	e	Q38.	What is the highest 12 th grade or less	degree or level of school you have				
Q34.	In what year were you born?			High school grad	luate or GED 🔲 Master's degree				
Q35.	How many years have you served	d in your current position	on?	Associate degree		otorate degree			
	Are you of Spanish, Hispanic, or	_	es No Q39.		do you think of yourself as a? Independent Democrat	Something Else			
u 37.	Please check one or more category what race(s) you consider yours	self to be. (check all tha	• • • /	Q40. (if Republican or Democrat) Would you consider yourself a					
	☐ White ☐ Black or African American ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Na	Asian Mulitra ative Other	acial	strong or not very st Very strong	trong Republican/Democrat? Not very strong Don't	Know			
	Native Hawaiian or other Pacifi				ould you consider yourself closer arty				