



Coalition for a Strong and Prosperous Michigan

From Rescue to Prosperity: A Roadmap to Michigan's Future

The events that have taken place since March of 2020 have forever changed Michigan. The pandemic, while it has led to pain, suffering, and immense challenges, it has also provided Michigan with an opportunity. An opportunity to set the trajectory of our prosperity for decades to come.

The American Rescue Plan dedicates billions of dollars to support individuals, families, education, small business, infrastructure, and government. Flexible resources are now at the state's disposal to provide immediate help to those who are hardest hit by the pandemic while making strategic long-term investments that will multiply Michigan's prosperity. This is an opportunity that must not be wasted, but rather leveraged to maximize our returns.

The question being asked of everyone is, "How do we create transformational change?" Our **Coalition for a Strong and Prosperous Michigan** has set out to answer that question. We took the month of September to come together, discuss our priorities, listen, and learn about other priorities beyond our own—all to develop a comprehensive and strategic roadmap for Michigan's future.

This effort has highlighted the tremendous need for direct investment across multiple sectors, but it has also underscored that we can't solve every problem or cure every ill. What we can do is maximize these one-time dollars with investments that leverage other resources, amplifying and sustaining future returns.

Our bold vision to build Michigan's future capitalizes on the economic value of thriving communities, advances equity, builds community wealth, supports entrepreneurship, prioritizes the need for talent, and spurs business development.

To meet these ambitious goals, we suggest focusing the state's American Rescue Plan resources in a coordinated fashion across five key areas:

Infrastructure: Resilient and Sustainable Water Systems (\$2.5B) and High-Speed Broadband Access (\$500M)

- Water infrastructure across Michigan is in desperate need of repair and replacement. The American Rescue Plan provides an opportunity to repair and replace aging water infrastructure, resolve public health problems, reduce environmental contamination, and provide current and future generations with resilient and sustainable systems. This roadmap leverages American Rescue Plan funds to make capital improvements, replace lead service lines, improve planning at the local level, and address issues of sustainability and resiliency related to water.
 - Key Investments: Capital Improvements, Lead Line Replacement, Drinking Water Assistance, PFAS Mitigation, Dam Repair and Retro Fit, Planning
- High-speed broadband should be accessible to homes and businesses across Michigan to enhance economic development, provide access to education and life-long learning opportunities, and support remote work demands. Utilizing the American Rescue Plan, Michigan can support the buildout of high-speed broadband and help modernize the way we work and learn.

- Key Investments: Connecting Michigan Communities Grant Program, Digital Literacy, Access to Devices, Mapping, and Planning

Fiscal Health: Smart Investments that Provide Stability for State and Local Government (\$800M)

- Supporting the long-term fiscal health of the state and local governments of all sizes is key to stabilizing Michigan’s economic landscape. State economic policy sets the stage for business growth and personal wealth creation. Local government complements state policy by balancing and tailoring quality of life, infrastructure, and economic initiatives for a community’s specific needs. Utilizing the American Rescue Plan to enhance Michigan’s prosperity is strengthened by providing stability at the state and local level.
 - Key Investments: Revenue Sharing, Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, Technical Assistance

Thriving Communities: Attainable Housing and Community Development (\$805M)

- Access to attainable housing and thriving communities have a significant impact on education, health, employment, economic, and equity outcomes, while providing greater opportunities for wealth creation. Michigan can utilize American Rescue Plan resources to address the state’s housing needs, invest in great places, and layer in wrap-around services to improve outcomes for all Michigan families.
 - Key Investments: Housing and Community Development Fund, Building Trades Training, Placemaking, Non-Profit Assistance, Regional Resiliency

Strong Economy: Economic Development, Business Assistance, Skilled Workforce, and Talent (\$910M)

- Recovering from the pandemic will require more than just a return to normal. To propel Michigan’s future success, it is critical to learn from the experiences of the last year and a half and capitalize on the changing environment to make the state a model for recovery, innovation, and growth. The American Rescue Plan can help streamline Michigan’s recovery, better connect talent to the state’s growing job market, accelerate entrepreneurship, and increase community wealth.
 - Key Investments: Office Conversion, Brownfield Redevelopment, Strategic and Large Site Development, Job Training and Direct Business Support Grants, EV Readiness

Public Health and Safety: Healthy and Safe People, Families, and Communities (\$500M)

- Strengthening Michigan’s health and safety infrastructure is critical to improving the quality of life for residents while protecting their ability to fully participate in their economy and community. Through the American Rescue Plan, the state can make targeted investments necessary to support a safer, healthier, and more stable population.
 - Key Investments: Mental Health and Addiction Services in Rural and Underserved Areas, Facility Improvements, Cybersecurity, Restaurant Licensing

As leaders representing people from every corner of Michigan, this roadmap is our bold vision to build Michigan’s future. In sharing this, we come as partners, interested in helping build a path forward for Michigan residents, businesses, and communities that is supported with the tools and resources necessary to achieve shared prosperity. We are ready to work, to find common ground, and to invest in Michigan’s future. Together we can, and will, emerge from this stronger.

COALITION MEMBERS

American Water Works Association - Michigan Section
Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
Battle Creek Mayor Mark Behnke
Bay City Mayor Kathleen Newsham
Berrien County
Center for Community Progress
City of Ypsilanti
Community Economic Development Association of Michigan
Community Mental Health Association of Michigan
Conference of Western Wayne
Former Dearborn Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr.
Donna Inch, Former Chairman and CEO, Ford Land Development Corp., Ford Motor Company
DTE Energy
Evan Pratt, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner
Global Detroit
Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss
Home Builders Association of Michigan
Housing North
Former Jackson Mayor Derek Dobies
Jared Fleisher, Vice President of Government Affairs, Rock Central
Kalamazoo Mayor David Anderson
Lansing Mayor Andy Schor
LIUNA Michigan
Michigan Association of Counties
Michigan Association of County Administrative Officers
Michigan Association of Land Banks
Michigan Association of Planning
Michigan Association of Regions
Michigan Association of RVs and Campgrounds
Michigan Association of United Ways
Michigan Broadband Alliance
Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association
Michigan Manufactured Housing Association
Michigan Minority Contractors Association
Michigan Municipal Electric Association
Michigan Municipal League
Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association
Michigan Rural Water Association
Michigan Townships Association
Michigan Water Environment Association
Michael P. McGee, Past CEO and Senior Principal, Miller Canfield
Former Muskegon Mayor Steve Gawron
Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
Oakland County Water Resources
Port City Ventures
RDS Management
Renovare Development
Rural Partners of Michigan
Saginaw Mayor Brenda F. Moore
Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce
Scout Institute
Shaheen Development
Short's Brewing Company
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber of Commerce
T.A. Forsberg, Inc.
The Nature Conservancy
Welsh & Associates
West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission
5 Lakes Energy