#### LOWELL CITY COUNCIL

#### **MEMORANDUM**



**DATE:** March 4, 2022

TO: Mayor DeVore and the City Council

FROM: Michael T. Burns, City Manager

RE: Friday Memo

Attached to the Friday memo are the following:

- Cancellation notice for Thursday March 10, 2022 DDA Meeting
- Updated State of Michigan Fiscal Year 2022 Constitutional Revenue Sharing payments to Lowell
- Updated State of Michigan Fiscal Year 2023 Constitutional Revenue Sharing projection for Lowell
- State of Michigan Constitutional Revenue Sharing Adjustment for City of Lowell population adjustment
- Updated State of Michigan Fiscal Year 2022 Statutory Revenue Sharing payments for Lowell
- Updated State of Michigan Fiscal Year 2023 Statutory Revenue Sharing projection for Lowell
- February 22, 2022 Bridge Michigan article on decrease in marijuana prices
- March 1, 2022 M-Live article on proposal to modify term limits for the Michigan legislature
- March 3, 2022 Detroit News article on Michigan Senate approving \$2.5 billion tax cut and Governor Whitmer's response
- March 3, 2022 WOOD TV article on lack of diversity in Michigan police agencies

I am continuing to spend a lot of time on the same issue I was handling last week. However, I was able to commence working on several other items this week.

Firstly, I have been able to complete more work in preparation of the upcoming budget. I spent a lot of time on the DDA budget this week. One of the things I am looking into is trying to pay off the debt for the Oklahoma property and looking for the DDA to fund the majority of the air conditioning upgrades needed for City Hall. The estimate for the City Hall work has jumped from approximately \$120 K this summer to about \$145 K now.

You will see several attachments above for the City's revenue sharing projections. To explain this in a nutshell, our population increased in the census. As a result we will be seeing some increases to our constitutional revenue sharing. We are also going to receive an extra \$42,000 adjustment in April to our revenue sharing payments due to our population increase for FY 2020 and 2021. My suggestion would be to use these funds to make an additional payment to our pension this year. Preliminary projections for next year show an increase of approximately \$70,000 in revenue sharing payments from what we originally budgeted this fiscal year.

I was also able to send a letter to River City Cannabis requesting for them to resubmit an odor control plan for the new upgrades they are making to the facility. Also, they are required to have a third party expert certify this will address the odor concerns. Our ordinance also allows for the city to require a facility to seek information from an industrial hygienist to determine where the odor is emanating. I have asked for this also. Additionally, they are providing me weekly updates and have submitted one this morning. Since last Tuesday we have had no issues with odor.

I am still waiting to learn what our excise tax payment will be for marijuana facilities. I hope we hear something in the next week.

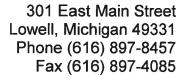
I am continuing working on network security issues. I had a call with Betsy Davidson on Wednesday and Charlie West and I met with IP consulting to review our updates to our security protocols. This week, I also enrolled the City into a phishing training program called KnowBe4. They will be providing email brief training segments on phishing and network security for all of our staff (council will get these short training segments also). There will also be security checks as we go along. We received this service for a very low price to have this training available to us for the next three years. More to follow on this in the next few weeks.

Additionally, I am looking into making the necessary changes for our email address handle. In the past, we looked at changing our email handles of ci.lowell.mi.us to match our website handle of lowellmi.gov. Betsy and I are working on this becoming a reality in the next few months. If we change, the previous handle will remain in place for one year before it is completely eliminated.

I also finalized some projections for you to review at our City Council meeting on Monday regarding payments toward our unfunded pension liability. Mike Overley will be present at the Council meeting on Monday night to discuss these with you.

I want to alert you to something that occurred over the winter months. One of the first few snow storms we had this winter, our DPW staff did some damage to lawns along Riverside Drive, Elizabeth, Suffolk, Lincoln Lake and some other areas in the City. I learned that one of our plow drivers was trying to clear snowbanks on the street and may have extended the blades of the plow truck too far causing ruts on lawns near the street along several streets. The DPW is aware of this and will address all impacted this spring. So, if you receive calls, refer them to us and we will take care of it. I do want to mention, there are some ruts on lawns on Hudson St. also. Those ruts were not caused by the City, but were done so by the Kent County Road Commission. DPW has notified KCRC of this.

This is all I have. Have a good weekend.





#### THE

#### DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MEETING

SCHEDULED FOR

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022

AT

12:00 NOON

### HAS BEEN CANCELLED

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING

AND IS SCHEDULED FOR

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022

# Projected Constitutional Revenue Sharing (adjusted for 2020 census numbers) Fiscal Year 2022 - January Consensus

				2020 FY 2022 Revenue Constitution		FY 2022 Constitutional	April 2022 Constitutional			June 2022		August 2022	FY 2022 Constitutional		
Local Uni	t	Local Unit		Sharing		Payments Issued		Projected		Projected	·	onstitutional Projected		tal Projected	
Code	Local Unit Name	Туре	County	Population (1)		t 2021 - Feb 2022		Payment		Payment		Payment		Payments (2)	
41-1120	Grattan	Township	Kent	3,809	\$	194,978		72,478	\$	56,608	\$	60,652		384,716	
41-1130	Lowell	Township	Kent	6,276	\$	320,331	•	122,038	\$	93,272	\$	99,934	\$	635,575	
41-1140	Nelson	Township	Kent	4,373	\$	229,601		67,003	Ś	64,990	\$	69,632	\$	431,226	
41-1150	Oakfield	Township	Kent	6,107	\$	311,339	\$	119,784	\$	90,760	\$	97,243	\$	619,126	
41-1160	Plainfield	Township	Kent	33,535	\$	1,666,648	\$	778,893	\$	498,388	\$	533,989	\$	3,477,918	
41-1170	Solon	Township	Kent	6,496	\$	321,678	\$	154,162	\$	96,541	\$	103,438	\$	675,819	
41-1180	Sparta	Township	Kent	5,151	\$	267,616	\$	86,904	\$	76,552	\$	82,021	\$	513,093	
41-1190	Spencer	Township	Kent	4,163	\$	212,047	\$	82,178	\$	61,869	\$	66,288	\$	422,382	
41-1200	Tyrone	Township	Kent	3,608	\$	188,354	\$	58,325	\$	53,621	\$	57,451	\$	357,751	
41-1210	Vergennes	Township	Kent	4,741	\$	225,562	\$	138,460	\$	70,459	\$	75,492	\$	509,973	
41-2010	Cedar Springs	City	Kent	3,627	\$	188,945	\$	59,759	\$	53,903	\$	57,753	\$	360,360	
41-2020	East Grand Rapids	City	Kent	11,371	\$	575,831	\$	233,938	\$	168,992	\$	181,064	\$	1,159,825	
41-2030	Grand Rapids	City	Kent	198,480	\$	10,098,101	\$	3,950,921	\$	2,949,758	\$	3,160,464	\$	20,159,244	
41-2040	Grandville	City	Kent	16,083	\$	828,046	\$	292,563	\$	239,021	\$	256,095	\$	1,615,725	
41-2050	Kentwood	City	Kent	54,268	\$	2,622,687	\$	1,469,981	\$	806,517	\$	864,127	\$	5,763,312	
41-2060	Lowell	City	Kent	4,142	\$	203,699	\$	102,269	\$	61,557	\$	65,954	\$	433,479	
41-2070	Rockford	City	Kent	6,142	\$	307,947	\$	135,057	\$	91,280	\$	97,801	\$	632,085	
41-2080	Walker	City	Kent	25,132	\$	1,267,378	\$	532,021	\$	373,505	\$	400,185	\$	2,573,089	
41-2090	Wyoming	City	Kent	76,501	\$	3,883,657	\$	1,546,763	\$	1,136,938	\$	1,218,151	\$	7,785,509	
41-3010	Caledonia	Village	Kent	1,622	\$	81,361	\$	35,559	\$	24,105	\$	25,827	\$	166,852	
41-3020	Casnovia	Village	Kent	151	\$	9,477	\$	ž	\$	192	\$	2,404	\$	12,073	
41-3030	Kent City	Village	Kent	1,262	\$	56,916	\$	45,666	\$	18,755	\$	20,095	\$	141,432	
41-3040	Sand Lake	Village	Kent	522	\$	26,924	\$	9,360	\$	7,757	\$	8,311	\$	52,352	
41-3050	Sparta	Village	Kent	4,244	\$	222,924	\$	64,755	\$	63,073	\$	67,578	\$	418,330	
42-1010	Allouez	Township	Keweenaw	1,301	\$	76,731	\$	ž.	\$	15,534	\$	20,716	\$	112,981	
42-1020	Eagle Harbor	Township	Keweenaw	217	\$	11,685	\$	2,503	\$	3,224	\$	3,455	\$	20,867	
42-1030	Grant	Township	Keweenaw	238	\$	11,792	\$	5,629	\$	3,537	\$	3,789	\$	24,747	
42-1040	Houghton	Township	Keweenaw	72	\$	4,307	\$	9	\$	687	\$	1,146	\$	6,140	
42-1050	Sherman	Township	Keweenaw	91	\$	3,608	\$	4,690	\$	1,352	\$	1,449	\$	11,099	
42-3010	Ahmeek	Village	Keweenaw	127	\$	7,861	\$	5	\$	470	\$	2,022	\$	10,353	
43-1010	Chase	Township	Lake	1,153	\$	61,224	\$	15,732	\$	17,135	\$	18,359	\$	112,450	
43-1020	Cherry Valley	Township	Lake	422	\$	21,324	\$	8,813	\$	6,271	\$	6,719	\$	43,127	
43-1030	Dover	Township	Lake	383	\$	21,269	\$	2,599	\$	5,692	\$	6,098	\$	35,658	

<sup>(1)</sup> Per MCL 141.903, Revenue Sharing population is the census gross population less 50% of any institutional population located in a local unit.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total amount paid in FY 2022 includes census adjustments for FY 2021.

# Projected Constitutional Revenue Sharing Governor's Executive Budget Recommendation - January Consensus Fiscal Year 2023

Local Unit		Local Unit		2020 Revenue Sharing		October 2022 Constitutional Projected		ecember 2022 Constitutional Projected		ebruary 2023 onstitutional Projected	c	April 2023 onstitutional Projected	C	June 2023 onstitutional Projected		August 2023 onstitutional Projected		FY 2023 nstitutional al Projected
Code	Local Unit Name	Туре	County	Population (1)	- 72	Payment		Payment		Payment		Payment		Payment		Payment		Payments
41-2060 41-2070	Lowell	City	Kent	4,142		70,065	100	68,117		69,625		60,771		62,282	\$	66,731	\$	397,591
	Rockford	City	Kent	6,142			777	101,008		103,244	\$	20000000000		92,356		98,953	\$	589,573
41-2080	Walker	City	Kent	25,132		425,127		•	\$	422,457		368,740	-	377,906	\$	404,900	\$	2,412,439
41-2090	Wyoming	City	Kent	76,501		1,294,073	\$			1,285,946		1,122,432	•	1,150,333	-		\$	7,343,388
41-3010	Caledonia	Village	Kent	1,622		27,437	-	26,674		27,265		23,798		24,389		26,131		155,694
41-3020	Casnovia	Village	Kent	151		2,554		2,483		2,538		2,215	\$	2,270	\$	2,432	\$	14,492
41-3030	Kent City	Village	Kent	1,262	\$	•	\$	20,754		21,213		18,516	\$	18,976	\$	20,332	\$	121,138
41-3040	Sand Lake	Village	Kent	522	- 1	8,830		8,584		8,774	•	7,658	\$	7,849	\$	8,409	\$	50,104
41-3050	Sparta	Village	Kent	4,244		71,790		69,794	\$	71,339	\$	62,268	\$	63,816	\$	68,374	\$	407,381
42-1010	Allouez	Township	Keweenaw	1,301			\$	21,395	\$	21,869	\$	19,088	\$	19,562	\$	20,960	\$	124,881
42-1020	Eagle Harbor	Township	Keweenaw	217	\$	3,670	\$	3,568	\$	3,647	\$	3,183	\$	3,262	\$	3,496	\$	20,826
42-1030	Grant	Township	Keweenaw	238	\$	4,025	\$	3,914		4,000	\$	3,491	\$	3,578	\$	3,834	\$	22,842
42-1040	Houghton	Township	Keweenaw	72	\$	1,217	\$	1,184	\$	1,210	\$	1,056	\$	1,082	\$	1,159	\$	6,908
42-1050	Sherman	Township	Keweenaw	91	\$	1,539	\$	1,496	\$	1,529	\$	1,335	\$	1,368	\$	1,466	\$	8,733
42-3010	Ahmeek	Village	Keweenaw	127	\$	2,148	\$	2,088	\$	2,134	\$	1,863	\$	1,909	\$	2,046	\$	12,188
43-1010	Chase	Township	Lake	1,153	\$	19,503	\$	18,961	\$	19,381	\$	16,916	\$	17,337	\$	18,575	\$	110,673
43-1020	Cherry Valley	Township	Lake	422	\$	7,138	\$	6,940	\$	7,093	\$	6,191	\$	6,345	\$		\$	40,505
43-1030	Dover	Township	Lake	383	\$	6,478	\$	6,298	\$	6,438	\$	5,619	\$	5,759	\$	6,170	\$	36,762
43-1040	Eden	Township	Lake	469	\$	7,933	\$	7,712	\$	7,883	\$	6,881	\$	7,052	\$	7,556	\$	45,017
43-1050	Elk	Township	Lake	940	\$	15,900	\$	15,458	\$	15,800	\$	13,791	\$	14,134	Ś	15,144	Ś	90,227
43-1060	Ellsworth	Township	Lake	622	\$	10,521	\$	10,229	\$	10,455	\$	9,126		9,352		10,021		59,704
43-1070	Lake	Township	Lake	810	\$	13,701	\$	13,320	\$	13,615		11,884		12,179			\$	77,748
43-1080	Newkirk	Township	Lake	437	\$	7,392	\$	7,186	\$	7,345	\$	6,411	Ś	6,571		7,040	•	41,945
43-1090	Peacock	Township	Lake	398	\$	6,732	\$	6,545	\$	6,690	\$	5,839	Ś	5,984	\$	6,412		38,202
43-1100	Pinora	Township	Lake	757	\$	12,805	\$	12,449	\$	12,724		•	\$	11,382	\$	12,195	•	72,661
43-1110	Pleasant Plains	Township	Lake	1,035	\$	17,507	\$	17,021	\$	17,397	-	15,185		15,563	\$	16,674		99,347
43-1120	Sauble	Township	Lake	373	\$	6,309	\$	6,134	\$	6,269	\$	5,472		5,608	\$	•	\$	35,801
43-1130	Sweetwater	Township	Lake	258	\$	4,364	\$	4,242		4,336		3,785		3,879	\$	4,156	•	24,762
43-1140	Webber	Township	Lake	1,517	\$	25,661	\$	-	\$	25,500	-	22,257		22,810	\$	•	\$	145,615
43-1150	Yates	Township	Lake	755	\$	12,771	\$	•	\$	12,691		11,077	-	11,352	\$	•	\$	72,470
43-3010	Baldwin	Village	Lake	873	\$	14,767	\$	14,356		14,674		12,808	\$	13,127	\$	•	\$	83,796
43-3020	Luther	Village	Lake	332	Ś		\$	-	\$	5,580		4,871		4,992	\$		\$	
44-1010	Almont	Township	Lapeer	4,115	Ś	•	\$	•	\$	69,171		60,375		61,876	\$	•	۶ 5	31,866
44-1020	Arcadia	Township	Lapeer	3,148	\$	53,250	\$	•	\$	52,916	•	•	\$	47,335	\$	•	\$ \$	394,999
44-1030	Attica	Township	Lapeer	4,706	\$		\$	77,392	•	79,105	-	69,047	-	70,763		· ·	•	302,175
		. 5p		7,700	Y	75,005	ų	11,332	Ą	/5,105	Ģ	09,047	Þ	70,763	Þ	75,818	\$	451,730

<sup>(1)</sup> Per MCL 141.903, Revenue Sharing population is the census gross population less 50% of any institutional population located in a local unit.

## Constitutional Revenue Sharing - 2020 Census Population Adjustments Fiscal Year 2021 & Fiscal Year 2022

					2020	2020									
			2020	2020	Census	Census		FY 2021	FY 2021		FY 2022	FY 2022			
Local			Census	Census	50%	Revenue	(	Constitutional	Constitutional	FY 2021	Constitutional	Constitutional	FY 2022		Total
Unit	Local Uni		Gross	Institutional		Sharing		yments Issued	Recalculated	Census	Payments Issued	Recalculated	Census		Census
Code Local Unit Name	Туре	County	Population	Population	Population	Population			Oct 2020 - Sept 2021		Oct 2021 - Feb 2022	Oct 2021 - Feb 2022	Adjustments (1)	Adj	justments (1)
41-1030 Alpine	Township		14,079	0	0	14,079	\$	1,305,266			\$ 718,093	\$ 743,305	\$ 25,212	\$	71,039
41-1040 Bowne	Township		3,289	0	-	3,289	\$	301,848			\$ 166,062		\$ 7,582	\$	21,363
41-1050 Byron	Township		26,927	0	0	26,927	\$	1,988,534		\$ 595,519	\$ 1,093,994			\$	923,143
41-1060 Caledonia 41-1070 Cannon	Township		14,189	0	0	14,189	\$		\$ 1,361,649	\$ 302,540	\$ 582,670	•		\$	468,982
41-1070 Cannon 41-1080 Cascade	Township		14,379	0	0	14,379	\$	, ,	\$ 1,379,883	\$ 74,617	\$ 718,093			\$	115,667
41-1090 Cascade 41-1090 Courtland	Township		19,667	0	0	19,667	\$	1,676,998	1		\$ 922,602			\$	326,072
41-1100 Gaines	Township Township		9,005	0	0	9,005	\$		\$ 864,166		\$ 413,431			\$	174,668
41-1110 Grand Rapids	Township		28,812	24 0	12	28,800	\$	2,461,175		\$ 302,621	\$ 1,354,017			\$	469,108
41-1120 Grattan	Township		18,905 3,809	0	0	18,905	\$	1,630,702			\$ 897,132			\$	284,482
41-1130 Lowell	Township		6,276	0	0	3,809	\$	354,407			\$ 194,978			\$	17,243
41-1140 Nelson	Township		4,373	0	0	6,276	\$	582,261			\$ 320,331			\$	31,028
41-1150 Oakfield	Township		•	0	0	4,373	\$	417,340			\$ 229,601			\$	3,589
41-1160 Plainfield	Township		6,107 33,535	0	0	6,107	\$	565,916	1	\$ 20,143	\$ 311,339			\$	31,225
41-1170 Solon	Township		6,496	0	0	33,535	\$		\$ 3,218,191			\$ 1,770,489		\$	292,593
41-1170 Sparta	Township		5,151	0	0	6,496	\$	584,708			\$ 321,678			\$	59,962
41-1190 Spencer	Township		4,163	0	0	5,151	\$	486,440			\$ 267,616			\$	12,208
41-1200 Tyrone	Township		3,608	0	0	4,163	\$	385,433			\$ 212,047			\$	21,810
41-1210 Vergennes	Township		4,741	0	0	3,608	\$	342,368			\$ 188,354			\$	6,005
41-2010 Cedar Springs	City	Kent	3,627	0	0	4,741	\$	410,001			\$ 225,562		•	\$	69,710
41-2020 East Grand Rapids	City	Kent	11,371	0	0	3,627 11,371	\$ \$	343,446				\$ 191,488		\$	7,163
41-2030 Grand Rapids	City	Kent	198,917	875	437	198,480	\$	1,046,680			\$ 575,831	1		\$	69,044
41-2040 Grandville	City	Kent	16,083	0/3	437		\$	18,355,161			\$ 10,098,101			\$	1,072,706
41-2050 Kentwood	City	Kent	54,304	73	36	16,083	Ś	1,505,128	ORDER TO ANALOGO AND ANALOGO ANALOGO AND ANALOGO A	\$ 38,279	\$ 828,046	ESS CARDING CONTRACTOR OF	\$ 21,060	\$	59,339
41-2060 Lowell	City	Kent	4,142	0	0	54,268	S	4,767,217 370,262	72		\$ 2,622,687			\$	683,026
41-2070 Rockford	City	Kent	6,142	0	0	6,142	\$	559,749		\$ 27,226	\$ 203,699			\$	42,205
41-2080 Walker	City	Kent	25,132	0	0	25,132	\$		\$ 589,418 \$ 2,411,796	15.410	\$ 307,947			\$	45,991
41-2090 Wyoming	City	Kent	76,501	0	0	76,501	\$	7,059,264			\$ 1,267,378 \$ 3,883,657			\$	167,575
41-3010 Caledonia	Village	Kent	1,622	o	0	1,622	\$	147,890						\$	437,400
41-3020 Casnovia	Village	Kent	151	0	0	151	Ś	17,227			\$ 81,361 \$ 9,477			\$	12,038
41-3030 Kent City	Village	Kent	1,262	0	0	1,262	\$	103,454		, , , , , , ,	\$ 56,916			\$	(4,241)
41-3040 Sand Lake	Village	Kent	522	0	0	522	Ś	48,938			\$ 26,924		\$ 9,712 \$ 635	\$	27,366
41-3050 Sparta	Village	Kent	4,244	0	0	4,244	\$		\$ 407,276		\$ 222,924		\$ 1,139	\$ \$	1,791
42-1010 Allouez	Township	Keweenaw	1,301	0	0	1,301	\$	139,474			\$ 76,731		,		3,212
42-1020 Eagle Harbor	Township	Keweenaw	217	0	0	217	Ś	21,239	. , -	. , ,	. ,	\$ 11,457	. , ,	\$ \$	(22,667)
42-1030 Grant	Township	Keweenaw	238	0	0	238	Ś	21,435		. ,	\$ 11,792		\$ (228) \$ 773	\$	(643)
42-1040 Houghton	Township	Keweenaw	72	0	0	72	Ś	,	\$ 6,909		\$ 4,307		\$ (506)	\$	2,178
42-1050 Sherman	Township		91	0	0	91	Ś		\$ 8,733				\$ 1,196	\$	(1,427) 3,371
42-3010 Ahmeek	Village	Keweenaw	127	0	0	127	\$	•	\$ 12,188	\$ (2,102)		.,	\$ (1,156)	\$	(3,258)
43-1010 Chase	Township	Lake	1,153	0	0	1,153	\$		\$ 110,648	, , , , , , , ,	. ,		\$ (351)	\$	(3,236)
43-1020 Cherry Valley	-		422	0	0	422	Ś	38,759			\$ 21,324		\$ 956	\$	2,694
43-1030 Dover	Township		383	0	0	383	\$	38,661				\$ 20,221		\$	(2,954)
43-1040 Eden		Lake	469	0	0	469	\$	-		\$ (2,657)			\$ (1,462)	\$	(2,954) (4,119)
43-1050 Elk	Township	Lake	940	0	0	940	Ś		\$ 90,207	, , ,	,		\$ (3,411)	\$	(9,613)
43-1060 Ellsworth	Township	Lake	622	0	0	622	Ś	68,219			. ,		\$ (4,691)	\$	
43-1070 Lake	Township		810	0	0	810	Ś		\$ 77,732				\$ (4,691)	\$	(13,220) (10,289)
43-1080 Newkirk	Township	Lake	437	0	0	437	Ś		\$ 41.937	,		\$ 23,072		\$	(10,289)
43-1090 Peacock	Township		398	0	0	398	Ś	48,155	,	. ,,	\$ 26,492			\$	(840) (15,440)
43-1100 Pinora		Lake	757	0	0	757	Ś		\$ 72,646		,		\$ 1,358	ş Ś	3,827
43-1110 Pleasant Plains		Lake	1,035	0	0	1,035	Ś		\$ 99,324		\$ 54,977		\$ (334)	۶ \$	(940)
43-1120 Sauble	Township		373	0	0	373	\$	32,592		. , ,	\$ 17,932		, ,,	\$	4.964
			_	_	_			,	. 55,755	- 5,203	+ 17,332	÷ 13,033	7 1,701	ų	4,304

<sup>(1)</sup> A negative amount indicates an overpayment, which will be deducted from future payments starting April 2022. A positive amount indicates an underpayment, which will be issued with the April 2022 payments.

Local Unit		Local Unit		FY 2022 CVTRS		October 2021 CVTRS	December 2021 CVTRS	February 2022 CVTRS		April 2022 CVTRS Projected	June 2022 CVTRS Projected	August 2022 CVTRS Projected	FY 2022 CVTRS	FY 2022 CVTRS
Code	Local Unit Name	Туре	County	Total Eligible Payments		Actual Payment	Actual Payment	Actual Payment		Payment (1)	Payment (1)	Payment (1)	Total Projected Payments	Total Forfelt Amount
41-2020	East Grand Rapids	City	Kent	\$ 100,689	\$			<del></del>	Ś	16,781				Ś
41-2030	Grand Rapids	City	Kent	\$ 5,677,043	\$			\$ 946,173		946,173	•		\$ 5,677,043	Ś
41-2040	Grandville	City	Kent	\$ 55,459	\$	9,243		\$ 9,243		9,243	•		\$ 55,459	\$ -
41-2050	Kentwood	City	Kent	\$ 175,659	\$	29,276	\$ 29,276	\$ 29,276		29,276	a 0.00 views 200 views		152 S. Territorio (150 miles)	\$ -
41-2060	Lowell	City	Kent	\$ 69,258	\$	11,543	\$ 11,543	\$ 11,543	\$	11,543				S .
41-2070	Rockford	City	Kent	\$ 38,805	\$	6,467	\$ 6,467	\$ 6,467	\$	6,467	6,467	6,470	\$ 38,805	\$ -
41-2080	Walker	City	Kent	\$ 84,884	\$	14,147	\$ 14,147	\$ 14,147	\$	14,147	14,147	14,149	\$ 84,884	\$ -
41-2090	Wyoming	City	Kent	\$ 715,185	\$		\$ 119,197	\$ 119,197	\$	119,197	119,197	119,200	\$ 715,185	\$ -
41-3020	Casnovia	Village	Kent	\$ 3,100	\$		\$ 516	\$ 516	\$	516	516	5 520	\$ 3,100	\$ -
41-3030	Kent City	Village	Kent	\$ 9,692	\$		\$ 1,615	\$ 1,615	\$	1,615	1,615	1,617	\$ 9,692	\$ -
41-3040	Sand Lake	Village	Kent	\$ 10,902	\$		\$ -	\$ 1,817	\$	1,817	1,817	1,817	\$ 9,085	\$ 1,817
41-3050	Sparta	Village	Kent	\$ 81,298	\$		\$ 13,549	\$ 13,549	\$	13,549	13,549	13,553	\$ 81,298	\$ -
42-3010	Ahmeek	Village	Keweenaw	\$ 4,494	\$		\$ 749	\$ 749		749	749	749	\$ 4,494	\$ -
43-3010	Baldwin	Village	Lake	\$ 22,052	\$	, ,	\$ 3,675	20	200	3,675	_,,		\$ 22,052	\$ -
43-3020	Luther	Village	Lake	\$ 6,537	\$	,	\$ 1,089	\$ 1,089	7.0	1,089		8	\$ 6,537	\$ -
44-1140	Mayfield	Township	Lapeer	\$ 28,689	\$		\$ 4,781	\$ 4,781	20	4,781		4,784	\$ 28,689	\$ -
44-2010	Imlay City	City	Lapeer	\$ 84,811	\$		400	\$ 14,135	- 50	14,135			\$ 84,811	\$ -
44-2020	Lapeer	City	Lapeer	\$ 112,313	\$			\$ 18,718		18,718		8	\$ 112,313	\$ -
44-3010	Almont	Village	Lapeer	\$ 47,513	\$		- 100	\$ 7,918	5.0	7,918			\$ 47,513	\$ -
44-3020	Clifford	Village	Lapeer	\$ 8,986	\$	_,	\$ 1,497	\$ 1,497	- 52	1,497			25	\$ -
44-3030 44-3040	Columbiaville	Village	Lapeer	\$ 21,608	\$		5)	70	(5.0)	3,601		N	\$ 21,608	\$ -
	Dryden	Village	Lapeer	\$ 6,531	\$	-,	50	\$ 1,088	55	1,088		8		\$ -
44-3060 44-3070	North Branch	Village	Lapeer	\$ 21,623	\$	,	\$ 3,603	\$ 3,603		3,603			\$ 21,623	\$ -
46-1150	Otter Lake Raisin	Village	Lapeer	\$ 9,565	\$		\$ 1,594	\$ 1,594	200	1,594		_,	\$ 9,565	\$ -
46-2010	Adrian	Township	Lenawee	\$ 27,261 \$ 510,212	\$				700	4,543			\$ 27,261	\$
46-2020	Hudson	City	Lenawee		\$	,	551	\$ 85,035	200	85,035			\$ 510,212	\$ -
46-2030	Morenci	City City	Lenawee	· 0.,55.	\$			\$ 11,225	100	11,225	7		\$ 67,354	\$ -
46-2040	Tecumseh	City	Lenawee Lenawee	,	\$		550	1.556	7.0	10,926			\$ 65,556	\$ -
46-3010	Addison	Village	Lenawee	\$ 115,512 \$ 9,848	\$				7.0	19,252		P)	\$ 115,512	\$ -
46-3020	Blissfield	Village	Lenawee	\$ 58,902	\$	9,817	60	7))		1,641		()	\$ 9,848	\$ -
46-3030	Britton	Village	Lenawee	\$ 8,902	\$		\$ 9,017	.70	5.0	9,817	9	2	\$ 58,902	\$ -
46-3040	Cement City	Village	Lenawee	\$ 5,979	\$		\$ 996	1.65	200	1,483 \$ 996 \$	2	3	\$ 7,418 \$ 5.979	\$ 1,484
46-3050	Clayton	Village	Lenawee	\$ 5,136	Š		\$ 856		7.0	856		3	9	ş -
46-3060	Clinton	Village	Lenawee	\$ 24,332	Ś		\$ 4,055	70	2.0	4,055			\$ 5,136 \$ 24,332	\$ - \$ -
46-3070	Deerfield	Village	Lenawee	\$ 12,007	\$		\$ 2,001	\$ 2,001		2,001			\$ 12,007	\$ -
46-3080	Onsted	Village	Lenawee	\$ 4,059	\$		\$ 2,001	7,002		676			\$ 3,383	\$ 676
47-1010	Brighton	Township	Livingston	\$ 64,162	\$		100			10,693			\$ 64,162	\$ -
47-1050	Genoa	Township		\$ 71,484	Ś		50		7.0	11,914			\$ 71,484	s -
47-1060	Green Oak	Township	Livingston	\$ 62,842	\$			\$ 10,473	1000	10,473			\$ 62,842	\$ -
47-1070	Hamburg	Township	Livingston	\$ 76,330	\$	12,721		140	550	12,721	9	3	\$ 76,330	š -
47-1090	Hartland	Township	Livingston	\$ 52,882	\$	8,813		\$ 8,813		8,813			\$ 52,882	\$ -
47-1120	Marion	Township	Livingston	\$ 36,050	\$	6,008	\$ 6,008	20		6,008			\$ 36,050	\$ -
47-1130	Oceola	Township	Livingston	\$ 43,046	\$	7,174	\$ 7,174	\$ 7,174		7,174			\$ 43,046	\$ -
47-1150	Tyrone	Township	Livingston	\$ 36,137	\$	6,022	\$ 6,022	\$ 6,022	\$	6,022	6,022		\$ 36,137	Š -
47-2010	Brighton	City	Livingston	\$ 62,108	\$	10,351	\$ 10,351	\$ 10,351	\$	10,351	10,351		\$ 62,108	\$ -
47-2020	Howell	City	Livingston	\$ 114,290	\$	19,048		\$ 19,048		19,048		6	\$ 114,290	\$ -
47-3010	Fowlerville	Village	Livingston	\$ 48,970	\$	8,161	\$ 8,161	\$ 8,161	\$	8,161			\$ 48,970	\$ -
48-3010	Newberry	Village	Luce	\$ 66,375	\$	11,062	\$ 11,062	\$ 11,062		11,062			\$ 66,375	\$ -
49-2020	St Ignace	City	Mackinac	\$ 25,543	\$	4,257	\$ 4,257	\$ 4,257	\$	4,257	4,257		\$ 25,543	\$
50-1030	Chesterfield	Township	Macomb	\$ 156,452	\$	26,075	\$ 26,075	\$ 26,075	\$	26,075	26,075	26,077	\$ 156,452	\$ -
50-1040	Clinton	Township	Macomb	\$ 512,805	\$	85,467	\$ 85,467	\$ 85,467	\$	85,467	85,467	85,470	\$ 512,805	\$ -
50-1050	Harrison	Township	Macomb	\$ 88,673	\$		-15	\$ 14,778	\$	14,778	14,778	14,783	\$ 88,673	\$ -
50-1080	Macomb	Township	Macomb	\$ 287,000	\$	47,833	\$ 47,833	\$ 47,833	\$	47,833	47,833	47,835	\$ 287,000	\$ -

<sup>(1)</sup> A local unit must submit the required documentation by the first day of a payment month to qualify for a payment.

#### Projected City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) Governor's Executive Budget Recommendation Fiscal Year 2023

Local Unit		Local Unit		(	October 2022 CVTRS Projected	D	ecember 2022 CVTRS Projected	F	ebruary 2023 CVTRS Projected		April 2023 CVTRS Projected		June 2023 CVTRS Projected		August 2023 CVTRS Projected	Tot	FY 2023 CVTRS al Projected
Code	Local Unit Name	Type	County		Payment		Payment (1)		Payment (1)		Payment (1)		Payment (1)		Payment (1)		syments <sup>(1)</sup>
41-1010	Ada	Township	Kent	\$	8,689	\$	8,689	\$	8,689	Ś		Ś	8,689	\$	8,691		52,136
41-1020	Algoma	Township	Kent	\$	6,566		6,566	\$	6,566	\$	•		•	\$	6,571		39,401
41-1030	Alpine	Township	Kent	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$				\$	8,821	\$	52,906
41-1050	Byron	Township	Kent	\$	13,433	\$	13,433	\$	13,433	\$	13,433	\$		\$	13,434		80,599
41-1060	Caledonia	Township	Kent	\$	7,154	\$	7,154	\$	7,154	\$	7,154	\$	7,154	\$	7,158	\$	42,928
41-1070	Cannon	Township	Kent	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$	8,817	\$	8,821	\$	52,906
41-1080	Cascade	Township	Kent	\$	11,328	\$	11,328	\$	11,328	\$	11,328	\$	11,328	\$	11,332	\$	67,972
41-1090	Courtland	Township	Kent	\$	5,076	\$	5,076	\$	5,076	\$	5,076	\$	5,076	\$	5,079	\$	30,459
41-1100	Gaines	Township	Kent	\$	16,626	\$	16,626	\$	16,626	\$	16,626	\$	16,626	\$	16,626	\$	99,756
41-1110	Grand Rapids	Township	Kent	\$	11,015	\$	11,015	\$	11,015	\$	11,015	\$	11,015	\$	11,020	\$	66,095
41-1160	Plainfield	Township	Kent	\$	20,464	\$	20,464	\$	20,464	\$	20,464	\$	20,464	\$	20,469	\$	122,789
41-2010	Cedar Springs	City	Kent	\$	8,701	\$	8,701	\$	8,701	\$	8,701	\$	8,701	\$	8,704	\$	52,209
41-2020	East Grand Rapids	City	Kent	\$	18,459	\$	18,459	\$	,	\$	18,459	\$	18,459	\$	18,463	\$	110,758
41-2030	Grand Rapids	City	Kent	\$	1,040,791	\$	1,040,791	\$		\$	1,040,791	\$	1,040,791	\$	1,040,792	\$	6,244,747
41-2040	Grandville	City	Kent	\$	10,167	\$	10,167	\$	10,167		10,167		10,167	\$	10,170	\$	61,005
41-2050	Kentwood	City	Kent	\$	32,204	\$	32,204	\$	32,204	\$				\$	32,205	\$	193,225
41-2060	Lowell	City	Kent	\$		\$	12,697		12,697	-0	12,697		SHOW BOOK OF THE	\$	12,699	\$	76,184
41-2070	Rockford	City	Kent	\$	7,114	-00	7,114	•	7,114	\$	7,114		7,114	100	7,116	\$	42,686
41-2080	Walker	City	Kent	\$	15,562	\$	15,562	\$	15,562		15,562		•	\$	15,562	\$	93,372
41-2090	Wyoming	City	Kent	\$	131,117	\$	131,117	\$	131,117	\$	131,117		•	\$	131,119	\$	786,704
41-3020	Casnovia	Village	Kent	\$	568	\$	568	\$	568	\$	568	\$		\$	570	\$	3,410
41-3030	Kent City	Village	Kent	\$	1,776	\$	•	\$		\$	1,776	\$	•	\$	1,781	\$	10,661
41-3040 41-3050	Sand Lake	Village	Kent	\$	1,998	\$	1,998	\$	1,998	\$	1,998	\$	•	\$	2,002	\$	11,992
42-3010	Sparta	Village	Kent	\$	14,904	\$	14,904	\$	14,904		14,904	\$	•	\$	14,908	\$	89,428
43-3010	Ahmeek	Village	Keweenaw	\$	823	\$	823	\$	823	\$	823	\$		\$	828	\$	4,943
43-3010	Baldwin Luther	Village	Lake	\$	4,042	\$	4,042		4,042		4,042	\$	,	\$	4,047	\$	24,257
44-1140	Mayfield	Village	Lake	\$	1,198	\$	1,198	\$	1,198	\$	1,198	\$		\$	1,201	\$	7,191
44-2010	Imlay City	Township	Lapeer	\$	5,259	\$	5,259	\$	5,259	\$	•	\$	•	\$	5,263	\$	31,558
44-2010	Lapeer	City	Lapeer	>	15,548	\$	15,548	\$	15,548	\$	15,548	\$	•	\$	15,552	\$	93,292
44-3010	Almont	City	Lapeer	<b>ب</b>	20,590	\$	,	\$	20,590	\$	•	\$	•	\$	20,594	\$	123,544
44-3020	Clifford	Village	Lapeer	ş S	8,710	\$		\$	8,710	\$	8,710	\$		\$	8,714	\$	52,264
44-3030	Columbiaville	Village Village	Lapeer	\$ \$	1,647	\$	1,647	\$	1,647	\$	1,647	\$		\$	1,650	\$	9,885
44-3040	Dryden	Village	Lapeer	\$	3,961	\$ \$	•	\$	3,961		3,961	\$	•	\$	3,964	\$	23,769
44-3060	North Branch	Village	Lapeer	\$	1,197	Ş S	1,197	\$		\$	1,197	\$		\$	1,199	\$	7,184
44-3070	Otter Lake	Village	Lapeer	S	3,964	\$	3,964	•	3,964		3,964	\$	•	\$	3,965	\$	23,785
46-1150	Raisin	Township	Lapeer Lenawee	۶ \$	1,753 4,997	\$	1,753 4,997	\$		\$	1,753	\$		\$	1,757	\$	10,522
46-2010	Adrian	City	Lenawee	ç		ş Ś	•	- 1		\$	,	\$		\$	5,002	\$	29,987
46-2020	Hudson	City	Lenawee	\$	93,538	Ş	93,538	\$	93,538	\$	93,538	\$	•	\$	93,543	\$	561,233
46-2030	Morenci	City	Lenawee	¢	12,348 12,018	\$	12,348 12,018	\$	12,348	\$		\$		\$	12,349	\$	74,089
46-2040	Tecumseh	City	Lenawee	ş Ś	21,177	•				\$	•	\$	•	\$	,	\$	72,112
46-3010	Addison	Village	Lenawee	\$ \$	•	\$ \$	21,177 1,805	\$	,	\$	•	\$		\$	21,178	\$	127,063
46-3020	Blissfield	Village	Lenawee	۶ \$	•	\$	•		•	\$		\$	,	\$	1,808	\$	10,833
	Districtu	v mage	Lenawee	ş	10,798	Þ	10,798	Þ	10,798	Þ	10,798	\$	10,798	\$	10,802	\$	64,792

<sup>(1)</sup> A local unit must submit the required documentation by December 1, 2022, or the first day of a payment month, to qualify for a payment.



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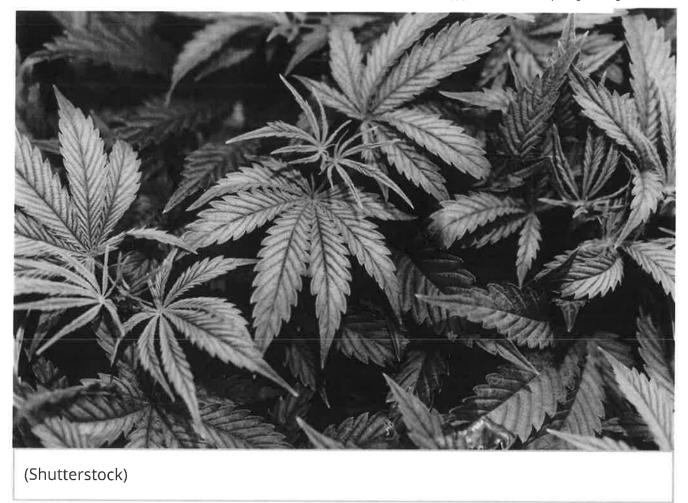


#### TRENDING:

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**Business Watch** 

Marijuana prices plummet in Michigan. Customers are happy, farmers worried



**#** February 25, 2022

Zahra Ahmad

Business Watch

Michigan marijuana

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**Business Watch** 

Marijuana prices plummet in Michigan. Cu...

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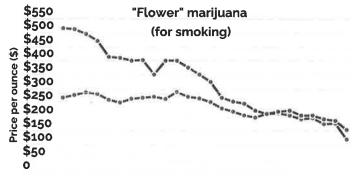
LANSING — Michigan's marijuana prices hit all-time lows in January, which is great for retailers and customers but has smaller growers sounding alarms.

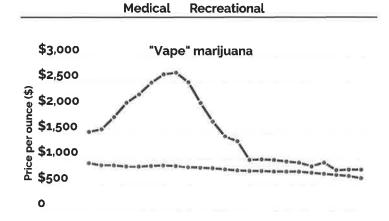
Record marijuana supply is driving down prices so much customers are buying it at record rates. There's <u>55</u> times more pot on the market and people are purchasing it at 16 times the rate since marijuana hit the market two years ago, state records show.

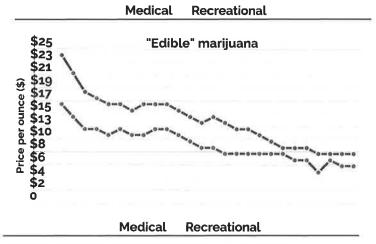
Prices are now lower than they were 30 or 40 years ago when pot was illegal: The average price for an ounce, 28 grams, fell 70 percent to \$152 in January from \$516 in December 2019.

## Legal marijauna prices fall as demand skyrockets

The prices for medical and recreational marijuana have fallen steadily as more dispensaries open and sales have soared. For instance, total sales of recreational "flower" marijuana in January — \$60.8 million — were 15 times higher than in December 2019. But the current price for an ounce, \$153, is 30 percent of the \$516 it cost in 2019.







Source: Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency

- Mike Wilkinson

Bridge

Some dispensaries in Kalamazoo are selling an ounce for as low as \$50, while the average price for a gram in Michigan is \$5, less than half the national average.

#### Related:

- Michigan's largest marijuana farm coming to tiny village, ready or not
- Federal help may be on the way for Detroit's budding weed industry
- Recreational pot is nestling comfortably into small-town Michigan

"The buzzword right now about the market is growth, but I think we're entering a stage where the prices and supply are meeting demand and it's stabilizing," said Andrew Brisbo, executive director of the Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency.

In all, Michigan has grown rapidly to become the <u>fourth-largest marijuana market</u> in the nation, with \$1.8 billion in sales in 2021. <u>Voters legalized recreational marijuana in November 2018</u>, but it took the state another year to set up the licensing framework for sales.

While customers benefit from lower prices, small and mid-sized growers say they are struggling to match the prices of larger operations.

Competition among marijuana growers is increasing as more cities allow operations: In the past year, the number of municipalities allowing marijuana businesses jumped to 118 from 87, while the number of licensed businesses jumped by nearly 150 to 1,238.

The prices entice customers like Haley Poag of East Lansing, who had avoided buying weed from dispensaries to avoid Michigan's 10 percent excise tax on marijuana.

#### **SPONSOR**

"I have accounts with a couple of the dispensaries here so I get texts when they're having deals and that's always when I buy," Poag said.

Justin Palmatier, who owns Lake Effect and Doja dispensaries in Portage, said retailers were able to buy marijuana at low prices and increase sales. When his dispensary dropped its price per gram to \$5, competitors quickly matched it.

When Lake Effect began selling an ounce for \$100, or 28 grams, some competitors dropped their price to \$75, Palmatier said.

"If a local competitor were to drop their prices, we have to match or beat them," Palmatier said. "When prices drop, we start racing to the bottom."

Brisbo said he's not sure when the retail price will bottom out. Until prices start increasing, some growers say they're struggling to make a profit.

Large marijuana growing operations are opening more regularly, squeezing out smaller operations, said Chris Krestchmer, general manager at Homegrown Cannabis Company in Lansing, which grows marijuana for wholesale and sells it at retail.

In two years, the <u>number of growers has nearly quadrupled</u> to 1,238, and more than a third of those — 458 — are classified as Class C, larger operations that can harvest 2,000 to 10,000 plants.

In one year, the amount of recreational pot on the market jumped from 273,453 pounds to more than 1 million pounds, state records show, creating an oversaturated market.

"We knew it was coming, but it came quicker and more aggressive than anyone anticipated," Krestchmer said. "It's become a tough game for us."

Operators of some farms — <u>such as a massive one planned in Lawrence in southwest Michigan</u> — worked with communities to change ordinances that allowed them to combine multiple licenses to grow even more marijuana.

Krestchmer said farmers will continue to struggle until more cities allow marijuana shops to open or the state limits the number of licenses a grower can have at one time.

Nearly 80 percent of Michigan municipalities, 1,400 of 1,773, prohibit the sale of marijuana, while the state now allows local municipalities to regulate how much is grown in their towns.

Cities, especially struggling ones, have an economic motive to allow bigger operations.

Michigan's 10 percent sales tax on pot — which is paid atop the normal 6 percent sales tax — is on the lower end of the 18 states where marijuana is fully legalized. In Washington, for instance, tax is 37 percent tax, while it's 16 percent in Arizona.

Last year, Michigan collected an estimated \$250 million taxes from marijuana sales. Cities and counties each get 15 percent of that excise tax.

A small community like Lawrence — population 1,000 — can get \$200,000 from a large operation, or twice its annual budget from marijuana.

"When you see larger (growers) coming in and growing thousands of square foot of product, (then) releasing it for lower prices, it forces everyone else to fall in line behind that price," Palmatier said.

"The smaller guys can't compete at that price level and they're not going to find that out till it's too late. So, they might end up shutting down."

Palmatier is concerned that when smaller grow operations shut down, large companies will raise their prices when the price bottoms out and limit the market.

"Eventually, I think we will see fewer options at higher prices from these larger companies," Palmatier said.

#### **SPONSOR**

Palmatier and Krestchmer said Michigan is five years behind the marijuana crisis hitting growers in states like California and Oregon now.

In California, which has the lowest marijuana prices and largest market, small growers can't compete with larger operations that can afford the state's licensing fees and taxes, which include a 15 percent excise tax, 7.25 percent sales tax and local sales taxes of another 1 percent or more.

Shelly Edgerton, board chair of the Michigan Cannabis Manufacturers Association, said growers will work through the state's marijuana market adjustments. The association is a lobbying agency for some of Michigan's largest marijuana corporations.

"As with any business, lower prices in the cannabis industry can impact your business model," Edgerton said in a statement Thursday. "Michigan's cannabis industry is a viable marketplace and will continue to grow to serve the state's patients and adultuse customers."

#### **Related Articles:**

# **The Detroit News**

#### **POLITICS**

# Michigan Senate OKs \$2.5 billion tax cut; Whitmer calls it 'fiscally irresponsible'



### **Craig Mauger**

The Detroit News

Published 12:52 p.m. ET March 3, 2022 | Updated 7:07 p.m. ET March 3, 2022

Lansing — The Republican-controlled Michigan Senate voted Thursday to send a \$2.5 billion tax cut proposal to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's desk, a move that could spur a high-profile, election-year veto from the state's top Democrat.

Whitmer voiced her concerns about the bill in a letter to legislative leaders after the vote, calling it "fiscally irresponsible" and "unsustainable." The Democratic governor called on Republicans and Democrats to come together to negotiate a compromise.

With billions of dollars in surplus funds available, GOP lawmakers in the House and Senate reached their own deal this week on the legislation. It would drop the state's income tax rate from 4.25% to 3.9%, increase tax deductions for seniors and allow parents to claim \$500 credits for each of their dependents.

State Sen. Aric Nesbitt, R-Lawton, the proposal's sponsor, labeled it "historic" during a Thursday speech. He and other Republicans have said tax relief is due to residents amid rising consumer prices and the state's finances outperforming expectations.

But Whitmer and Democrats have argued the new measure goes too far. The tax cut bill passed the Senate in a 22-15 vote with all of the Democrats in attendance opposing it, a sign of Whitmer's opposition.

"Now is the time for us to come together and begin formal negotiations over state budget and tax policy decisions that are focused on putting money back in people's pockets and making responsible investments that will fuel a strong and growing economy," the governor wrote in a letter to the leaders of the House and Senate Thursday, hours after the Senate's vote.

"I have serious concerns that the legislation passed by the House and Senate this week does not meet that standard," Whitmer added.

The nonpartisan Senate Fiscal Agency has projected the Republican-backed changes would cut state revenues by \$2.9 billion in the next fiscal year and by \$2.5 billion the year after that.

In a statement, Nesbitt said the money belongs to taxpayers. "Lowering the income tax and providing a child tax credit will save an average family of four around \$1,200 each year," he said. "This money can be better spent putting food on the table and clothing our kids than it can be growing the size of our state government."

The tax cut discussions are a key component of ongoing budget deliberations in Lansing. Whitmer has proposed a \$74 billion spending plan for next year with targeted relief aimed at seniors and low-income workers.

She and lawmakers have to approve a new budget by Oct. 1, the start of the next fiscal year.

Tax cuts that are too large will "undermine our ability to fund things like education and infrastructure and public safety," Whitmer said at an event in Lansing last month.

As one of her top policy goals, Whitmer has proposed phasing back in the retirement benefits that were dropped by then-Gov. Rick Snyder in 2011, including again exempting public pensions from the 4.25% personal income tax.

Her current plan, which would be phased in over four years, would exempt public pensions from the income tax and restore deductions for private retirement income, according to a summary shared by the governor's office.

Republican lawmakers have called for an "across-the-board" approach to cutting taxes for retirees, which they have also prioritized.

Their new bill would lower the eligibility age for the state's current retirement tax deduction from 67 to 62. It also effectively doubles available retirement deductions for those born after 1945 to \$40,000 for individuals and \$80,000 for couples.

In her Thursday letter to lawmakers, Whitmer contended the large tax cuts could jeopardize federal COVID-19 relief funds the state has received.

That's because of a federal policy tied to the 2021 American Rescue Plan that requires drops in revenue to be paid for with alternative revenue increases or spending cuts, according to the Michigan House Fiscal Agency.

"While I will not support legislation that forces cuts to schools, road repairs, and public safety, I am encouraged that the House and Senate agree in principle that putting money

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back in the pockets of Michigan's retirees and working families is a priority," Whitmer wrote.

A variety of groups that support Whitmer called on her Thursday to veto the bill.

David Hecker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, and Paula Herbart, president of the Michigan Education Association, issued a joint statement, saying the GOP bill is "an unsustainable approach that would cause irresponsible cuts to our schools at a time when we can least afford it."

Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, said Whitmer's veto threat was "a slap in the face of Michigan residents struggling to fill their gas tanks and pay for groceries at a time of record inflation."

"If she does veto this bill, the governor will be making it clear that she thinks she knows how to spend Michiganders' money better than they do," Shirkey said.

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Staff Writer Beth LeBlanc contributed.

**MICHIGAN** 

# 'An American problem': Law enforcement diversity struggles

'An American problem:' Law enforcement diversity struggles

3 minutes left



by: Byron Tollefson

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This comes as police agencies across West Michigan are facing **significant officer shortages**.

"The officers are suffering. Most officers who work in law enforcement right now will not recommend their children or their grandchildren to work the job," Allen Cox, the president of the Wayne County Deputy Sheriff's Association, said.

### West MI police academies recruitment numbers drop 'significantly' $\rightarrow$

Out of 1,903 Michigan State Police officers, nearly 90% are white, according to **MSP statistics**. Just over 100 officers are Black — just under 6% — while 14% of the state's population is Black, according to **2020 census data**.



It's an issue that Victor Ledbetter, the director of the Kalamazoo Law Enforcement Training Center, is seeing first-hand.

"I've been here since 2018, and I have not graduated one Black female," Ledbetter said. "Matter of fact, I haven't had one Black female apply."

"This place will be filled with about 80 different people from the community who want to develop relationships with the cadets," he said. "It's a two-pronged process. It shows the community that not all white officers are racist, and it shows the cadets that not all Black people hate the police."

In the Kent County Sheriff's Office, 7% of sworn-in deputies are Black and 7% are Hispanic.

"We've had some very determined efforts to increase our contact with potential people who might want to join the career," Sheriff Michelle LaJoye-Young said. "We've been doing this for a number of years. We've worked with the Grand Rapids Urban League, we've worked with the (Hispanic Center of West Michigan)."

### Kent County's first Latinx Police Academy aims to 'break barriers' $\rightarrow$

The sheriff also said the dialogue about increasing diversity in law enforcement needs to translate into action.

"It needs to start focusing on how do we get community groups, neighborhoods, churches and families to start fixing the problem?" she said. "We have to dig very deep to help people we come into contact with in neighborhoods to know, we need people to go into the industry. Not just law enforcement, not just corrections, but public service in general."

Cox said that for law enforcement to create change, it will need to do some reflection.

"When we ask someone to be the change they want to see, we should also take a mirror and hold it at ourselves and say we want to help to institute the change that we want to be," he said.

"My cousin was an African American female," Hornbuckle said. "She worked for Detroit. She's what made me want to join. You have to be able to see yourself in those positions that are out there."

The issue goes far beyond our region, Hornbuckle said.

"I don't think this is a Wayne County problem, a Michigan problem; I think it's an American problem," she said. "We have an American policing challenge right now. In order to be able to get those people of color, those females, we have to actually want those people of color and want those females."

Elton Oliver, the second vice president of the Wayne County Deputy Sheriff's Association, added that since recruiters are predominantly white, bringing in minorities can be challenging.

"You have a person coming in who's recruiting, who's part of law enforcement, who that group of people feel is oppressing them or standing on their neck telling them, 'Come on and get on board," Oliver said. "Well, they're thinking, 'If I get on board with them, am I selling out? Am I selling out my fellow people who are being oppressed like me? Am I going to the other side?"

### Thinning blue line: Deputy shortages in West Michigan $\rightarrow$

He said Black officers should be a part of changing that narrative, too.

"Where the group of people are feeling like, 'No, I'm not changing sides, I'm helping to bridge the gap," he said. "I'm helping to change it for everyone so we can feel like we're on the same team."

It's important for officers to come from the same neighborhoods that they police, Cox added.

occupational force. As we should be protectors, protectors of the people."

Dave LaMontaine, representing the Police Officers Association of Michigan, said that "if you live where you work, it changes how you work."

"This is an integral piece of this discussion," he said. "The facts are we (LaMontaine, Cox, Oliver, Hornbuckle) lived where we worked. We saw the people we arrested in the grocery store. And that relationship doesn't go away. All of us endeavor to treat people fairly without prejudice."

Many law enforcement agencies are struggling to hire new recruits, including the Kent County Sheriff's Office as well. It is fully-staffed right now, but that hasn't been easy.

"When I first started to get involved with hiring, if we posted an opening for one or two deputies, we would literally have hundreds of applications," LaJoye-Young said. "Now the ratio is, at best, two applicants for one spot."

Another cause of officer shortages: low pay, Hornbuckle said.

"We're some of the lowest-paid professionals," she said. "Why would I go to college and get a \$70,000 loan when I only start off at \$25,000 a year? Whether you're Black, white, purple or green, it doesn't help that the money is not there."

"I have three sons," Hornbuckle added. "All three of my sons, I would not allow them to come to the department."

"Neither would I," Cox agreed.

"Neither would I, with my sons," Oliver said.

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