



## Land Use

The *Land Use Technical Report* (November 2006) provided an overview of land use trends and issues and examined how land use issues affect and integrate with Michigan's transportation system. It also identified problems and opportunities which still exist. Future transportation systems can have a positive or negative effect on Michigan's landscape. The *Land Use Technical Report* provides the ways that Michigan and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) can adapt its policies and programs and develop and implement tools to impact land use decisions and help achieve the goals of 2035 *MI Transportation Plan*. The purpose of this white paper is to identify significant changes to land use patterns and trends since the 2005-2030 MI Transportation Plan (MITP) was completed.

### Research

The majority of research and information on land use within the state of Michigan takes place at the Land Policy Institute (LPI) housed at Michigan State University. The LPI was founded in 2006 with a mission of helping to deliver a better quality of life in Michigan through science-based solutions, helping to strengthen the state's economy, and better protect our environment in ways that are fair for all. Information regarding LPI, its partners, initiatives, land-use types, updated coverage maps, effects on the economy, and future projections of land use can be found at <http://www.landpolicy.msu.edu/>.

Another resource for information on land use, specifically in urban areas, is the Michigan Higher Education Land Policy (MIHELP) Consortium. It is the first statewide initiative of its kind as a multi-university, inter-disciplinary, public-private partnership designed to address the fundamental research and outreach void in urban and metropolitan issues in the state of Michigan. The MIHELP Website can be found at <http://www.mihelp.org/>.

### Initiatives

Some of the current initiatives being carried out by LPI include the Land Policy Research Program, which was created in 2007 to address the paradigm shift in society's pressing land use issues and the increased demand for new and anticipatory land use and strategic growth information in the realm of public policy. The People and Land Program was developed to establish a permanent land use capacity at Michigan State University to address land policy issues at the community, regional, and state levels. The Michigan Prosperity Initiative (MPI) is an innovative and collaborative effort to help return economic prosperity to the state.

### Summary

While there have been no major changes in land-use regulations or recent updates of statistical data since the *Land Use Technical Report* was completed in 2006, an abundance of resources and information is available to assist in making wise land-use decisions. There is continuous research happening within our state and around the country to help integrate land use policy into all facets of decision making. The MDOT



will continue to pursue and be part of those collaborative efforts, which will assist state and local leaders and the public in making smarter land-use decisions; and provide parties involved, the latest and most innovative tools for creating a more sustainable and efficient transportation system within the state of Michigan.

**Additional Resources on Land Use:**

A study describing drivers of economic performance (with a base on land-use types and availability) in Michigan can be found at the following link:

[http://www.landpolicy.msu.edu/modules.php?name=Documents&op=viewlive&sp\\_id=2030](http://www.landpolicy.msu.edu/modules.php?name=Documents&op=viewlive&sp_id=2030)

The *Michigan Land Resource Project* study can be found at the following link:

<http://www.peopleandland.org/resourcelibrary/lbilu/fullreport.pdf>

A study completed by the Federal Highway Administration on the relationship between freight and land use can be found at the following link:

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12006/index.htm>