

Streamlining Government

The Seven Core Functions of Government

Introduction: Because the people of Michigan value justice, opportunity and an educated citizenry, the government of the State of Michigan — in partnership with federal and local government — will provide efficient, effective and sustainable services and systems to ensure a quality of life characterized by the safety, prosperity and wellness of its citizens and the natural resources of the state.

Public Safety: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect their daily lives, their residences and their workplaces to be safe; and that they should enjoy the unfettered freedom to come and go within their residences and their communities, and that protection of their personal safety and pursuit of freedom in their private and public lives is paramount.

The State of Michigan should protect the citizens of the state in good times as well as during crisis or disaster.

Education: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect a system of public education that from early childhood to all stages of adulthood serves to provide them the skills and abilities necessary to secure the best jobs in the state and around the globe. Citizens of the state should expect a creative and diverse education that enhances human life, spirit and physical well-being. Citizens expect educational facilities designed and constructed to enhance and further education and learning.

The State of Michigan should promote a well-integrated network among the state's numerous childcare centers, primary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and training and certification programs. The state should provide a statewide public library system to support the continuum of education for both our children and adult citizens.

Public Systems: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect state and local government, in partnership with the federal government, to build and maintain a physical infrastructure that provides a public transportation system, water and waste management systems, the transmission of information, public recreation, and those public facilities necessary to conduct the business of the state. The citizens expect access to a public transportation system that allows safe and efficient travel. They also expect public utilities to deliver heat, light and water for personal comfort and safety, at reasonable rates and in sufficient supply for residential, public, commercial and industrial purposes. Further, citizens in every corner of the state, and of every age, expect access to the highest levels of information technology available.

Well-being: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect they will be free from hunger and have access to medical care and safe shelter.

The State of Michigan, in partnership with federal, local and non-governmental organizations, will promote the health and well-being of the citizens of the state. The state should strive to maintain a health care system that serves all citizens, is available at reasonable cost, is of excellent quality and preserves privacy. Additionally, the State of Michigan should provide support systems for those who, because of age or circumstance, are in need of attention, support or supervision.

Sustainability: The State of Michigan should steward Michigan's land, air, ecosystems and water resources in a sustainable manner.

The citizens of the State of Michigan expect that their air, water, soil, food and physical surroundings are free from hazard and contaminants, and that buildings are safe for habitation and free enterprise.

Economic Opportunity and Prosperity: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect state government is working to advance the economic opportunity and prosperity of all its residents, communities and business interests, and is providing evenhanded regulation of consumer affairs, occupations and commercial activity.

The State of Michigan should coordinate and integrate the resources of state government to encourage job creation, stimulate entrepreneurship and promote both the state's existing and emerging industries.

Efficiency and Effectiveness: The citizens of the State of Michigan expect the timely levy of taxes, transparency in decision making and spending, and the effective delivery of services. State government shall track expenditures and match revenues with expenses, provide accurate annual reporting, and maintain internal control mechanisms to ensure an honest and accurate accounting.

The State of Michigan should provide the citizens of the state with efficient and fair administration of general government and the legislative, judicial and executive branches, along with efficient and effective administration of taxes and spending to avoid deficit spending and exorbitant indebtedness. The citizens of the state expect the building and maintenance of a modern, state of the art information system.