



16th BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
State Survey & Remonumentation Program
1990 PA 345, MCL 54.261 et. seq.
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023

Purpose and History of the State Survey and Remonumentation Act (SSRA)

Act	Purpose
1990 PA 345	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created the State Survey and Remonumentation Commission • Created the SSRA fund and provide for its use • Coordinate and implement the remonumentation of property controlling corners in the state • Provide for duties of certain state and local officers and agencies • Require the promulgation of rules
ERO 1996-2 ERO 1997-12	Dissolved the State Survey and Remonumentation Commission and its Executive Director, transferring their statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities to the Director of the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, now Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).
1998 PA 5	Permitted counties to “expedite” completion of their county plan. These counties would complete remonumentation sooner by “loaning” local monies to the county’s remonumentation program to pre-fund the completion of their remonumentation work. These loaned monies could then be recovered at later dates through grant distributions or contractual agreement with the Department.
2002 PA 700	The Revised Judicature Act of 1961 was amended to increase county recording fees to set aside \$4 for the State Survey and Remonumentation Fund. This increase, however, included a 2013 “sunset.”
2006 PA 76	\$15 Million was transferred from the State Survey and Remonumentation Fund to the State’s General Fund. As part of the amendment, the Legislature intended to guarantee deposits of \$10.134 Million in FY 2005- 2006 and \$11.134 Million in FY’s 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 by making up the difference between these totals and the statutory deposits from the Registers of Deeds collections. Due to the economic situation during this timeframe, monies were not available to the Legislature to make these intended appropriations, and the 2006 PA 76 language guaranteeing the State General Fund deposits was removed from the act under 2014 PA 166.
2006 PA 662	Extended the sunset date from 2013 to January 1, 2023, at which time the \$4 set-aside for the State Survey and Remonumentation Fund will return to the original \$2 through the Revised Judicature Act of 1961.

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2010 PA 259	Established a joint commission with the State of Indiana for the “... recovery or replacement of durable monuments defining the Michigan-Indiana state boundary line ...”
2010 PA 260	Funded Michigan’s share of the Michigan-Indiana state boundary line project, providing a set-aside of \$500,000 from the State Survey and Remonumentation Fund “... to pay the costs of the monumentation of the Michigan-Indiana state boundary line ...” In 2014 a \$200,000 project appropriation was made to support these
2011 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	The department entered a MOU with the Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Michigan History Foundation and the Archives of Michigan to image, catalogue and provide online access to the original U.S. government survey plats. Following completion of this project in 2012, a second project was initiated to image and catalogue the original field notebooks used by the U.S. Government surveyors to record their work and make them available to the public online. This provides access to County Registers of Deeds, county surveyors, private land surveyors, the Geographic Information community and the general public, and provides a secondary access/storage method for now fragile records. The original instructions focused on the Government Land Office (GLO) notes for sectionalized lands. It did not include the notes for the private (French) claims and the Ten Thousand Acre Tract lands around Detroit, most eastern counties and some counties in the Upper Peninsula.
2014 PA 166	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded the use of the fund to allow counties to perpetuate corners that were not monumented in the original GLO surveys • Required coordinate values for each corner • Allowed funds to be used to maintain CORS infrastructure • Reinstated the State Survey and Remonumentation Commission as an advisory panel • Required counties to review and update the county plans after the promulgation of rules
2022 PA 81	Established a state commission to administer a survey and remonumentation of the Michigan-Indiana state line to recover and reestablish monuments at the mileposts along the state line established in the 1827 federal survey.
2022 PA 82	Funded the state’s equitable share of the costs of the monumentation of the Michigan-Indiana state boundary line of an amount not more than \$500,000.
2022 PA 166	Requires the department to conduct a cost estimate study of the administration and remonumentation of the Michigan-Indiana border prior to the commission recovering and reestablishing the monuments along the state line. The department issued a grant to conduct the cost estimate study with the final report due in FY 2024.
2022 PA 271	Extended the sunset date from 2023 to January 1, 2043, at which time the \$4 set-aside for the State Survey and Remonumentation Fund will return to the original \$2 through the Revised Judicature Act of 1961.

Statutory Reporting

Section 6 (1)(f) of the SSRA requires a biennial status report to the Legislature and each county board of commissioners from the Department identifying seven specific items to be reported. Those items and Department comments follow.

Section 6(1)(f)(i)

A summary of the Department's activities regarding administration of this act:

Since the 2021 biennial report the Department has worked diligently with the counties in order to assure that complete and accurate grant applications, progress reports and completion reports are submitted for review and approval for payment.

Section 6(1)(f)(ii)

An assessment of the progress of the implementation of county monumentation and remonumentation plans throughout this state:

Revised County Plans have been completed for 82 of the 83 counties and have been utilized to assess the progress of the counties so that an accurate account of corners completed and corners remaining can be made. This allows for better planning by the counties and allows the Department to identify which counties may be to the point where they can enter the maintenance phase of remonumentation. By entering into the maintenance phase, a county receives reduced funding which provides a greater amount of funding to be distributed to the counties which are not yet in the maintenance phase allowing those counties to schedule more corners to be remonumented.

Counties now in maintenance for the 2024 grant year include:

Bay	Kent	Livingston	Macomb	Mason	Menominee	Muskegon
Oakland	Ottawa	Wayne				

The Department will work to encourage the remaining county without a revised county plan to have one completed by the end of 2023.

Section 6(1)(f)(iii)

A statement regarding the amount of money that was received and disbursed from the fund:

****See Table A****

The below Table A depicts the remonumentation grant funding and disbursement over the program's existence through the current 2022 grant year.

Section 6(1)(f)(iv)

An assessment of how much money is necessary to carry out the county plans in this state.

Based on the prior 2020 reporting of approximately 24 years until completion, the 2022 projection to have each county reach maintenance would be approximately 20 years. This timeframe may be reduced over time as the number of counties entering the maintenance phase increase resulting in the remaining counties having additional funding to complete additional corners.

As counties complete the remonumentation phase and enter the maintenance phase of remon a reduction of per corner cost should be recognized due to the initial research and field work having been done as part of the initial remonumentation phase. Under maintenance the counties may find that a portion of the years scheduled corners remain in good condition,

meeting the minimum requirements of 1970, PA 74, not requiring any additional work while others may require only minimal work to bring them up to the current 1970, PA 74 standard. These should be the standard while the exception should be corners which have been disturbed and need partial or complete replacement and new corner records filed.

Since only ten counties will be in the maintenance phase for the 2024 grant year, an accurate calculation of funds required to carry out the required 5% perpetual maintenance of corners per year cannot be determined. However, based on the total corners in the state being estimated at 250,108 the annual number of corners to be revisited on a 5% yearly basis would be 12,504, equating to an average of 150 corners per county per year to be revisited. This would place the program on a 20-year maintenance cycle.

Section 6(1)(f)(v)

An assessment of whether the money received in the fund is adequate to implement this act.

The money currently received in the fund appears to be adequate for the program to be carried out at an acceptable rate. Funding is mandated through the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, MCL 600.2567a, and has a sunset date of January 1, 2043.

Section 6(1)(f)(vi)

Recommendations including, but not limited to, the level of funding that is necessary to implement this act.

Amend 1990 PA 345 to allow counties to request a grant amount less than their projected annual grant allowing their remaining funds to remain in the overall grant dollar pool, increasing the amount of funds available to other counties.

Section 6(1)(f)(vii)

A statement of the amount of money disbursed from the fund to each grantee, the average amount of money spent per corner by each grantee, and the percentage of work in its county plan completed by each grantee.

****See Table B****

The below Table B identifies the overall number of corners in each county, the number of corners remonumented through the 2022 grant year and the estimated percentage of completion of each county as well as the overall grant amounts awarded to each county, the overall amounts spent by each county and the average amount spent per corner in each county. Overall state-wide numbers are listed in the last row of the table.

Table B also identifies counties which need to refine their overall corner counts (*) and counties which are in the Maintenance phase of their program (**).

Table A				
Grant Year	Remonumentation Fee (in \$)	FY Deposits into Remonumentation Fund (in Millions of \$)	Funds Appropriated for Remonumentation Grants (in Millions of \$)	Funds Expended for Remonumentation Grants (In Millions of \$)
1991	\$2.00	\$1.29	N/A	N/A
1992	\$2.00	\$3.42	N/A	N/A
1993	\$2.00	\$3.87	\$4.00	\$4.00
1994	\$2.00	\$4.26	\$5.00	\$5.00
1995	\$2.00	\$3.30	\$3.00	\$3.00
1996	\$2.00	\$3.72	\$4.00	\$4.00
1997	\$2.00	\$3.83	\$4.00	\$4.00
1998	\$2.00	\$4.78	\$4.00	\$4.00
1999	\$2.00	\$5.48	\$4.00	\$4.00
2000	\$2.00	\$5.10	\$4.50	\$4.50
2001	\$2.00	\$4.78	\$5.00	\$5.00
2002	\$2.00	\$6.50	\$6.00	\$5.91
2003	\$4.00	\$8.67	\$6.00	\$5.75
2004	\$4.00	\$14.49	\$9.81	\$9.69
2005	\$4.00	\$10.71	\$10.00	\$9.60
2006	\$4.00	\$10.02	\$10.11	\$9.71
	*See 2006 PA 76		\$15.00	\$15.00
2007	\$4.00	\$8.47	\$10.13	\$9.79
2008	\$4.00	\$6.95	\$7.50	\$7.29
2009	\$4.00	\$6.08	\$4.00	\$3.82
2010	\$4.00	\$5.83	\$5.09	\$5.00
2011	\$4.00	\$5.92	\$5.08	\$4.85
2012	\$4.00	\$6.45	\$5.30	\$5.21
2013	\$4.00	\$7.85	\$5.30	\$5.13
2014	\$4.00	\$6.47	\$7.30	\$7.13
2015	\$4.00	\$6.78	\$7.30	\$7.12
2016	\$4.00	\$6.63	\$5.13	\$5.06
2017	\$4.00	\$6.97	\$5.62	\$5.46
2018	\$4.00	\$6.54	\$6.63	\$6.37
2019	\$4.00	\$6.58	\$6.50	\$6.33
2020	\$4.00	\$6.42	\$6.00	\$5.89
2021	\$4.00	\$8.29	\$5.50	\$5.32
2022	\$4.00	\$7.28	\$6.00	\$5.82
Total	N/A	\$203.73	\$192.80	\$188.75

Table B

Counties with one * are in corner review. Counties with two ** are in Maintenance.

County	Total Remon Corners in County	Remon Corners Completed thru 2022 Grant Cycle	Percent Remon Corners Completed thru 2022 Grant Cycle	Average Spent per Corner Completed	Total State Grants Awarded thru 2022 Grant Cycle	Total State Grants Expended thru 2022 Grant Cycle
Alcona	2,120	1,612	76%	\$768.44	\$1,244,055.97	\$1,238,722.34
Alger	4,256	1,757	41.28%	\$910.19	\$1,603,254.97	\$1,599,209.33
Allegan	4,054	3,166	78.10%	\$751.40	\$2,486,223.41	\$2,378,924.60
Alpena	2,060	1,414	68.64%	\$815.50	\$1,160,873.67	\$1,153,113.72
Antrim	2,007	987	49.18%	\$1,139.45	\$1,151,102.89	\$1,124,632.87
Arenac	1,092	818	74.91%	\$934.41	\$764,546.46	\$764,344.69
Baraga	2,941	1,378	46.85%	\$1,092.72	\$1,521,989.86	\$1,505,767.30
Barry*	2,250	2,366	105.16%	\$645.22	\$1,561,737.50	\$1,526,592.83
Bay**	2,071	2,071	100.00%	\$1,001.70	\$2,167,209.83	\$2,074,511.23
Benzie	1,657	1,225	73.93%	\$595.49	\$827,089.29	\$729,478.96
Berrien	2,628	1,755	66.78%	\$1,208.90	\$2,178,759.19	\$2,121,620.65
Branch*	1,872	1,373	73.34%	\$832.06	\$1,143,219.59	\$1,142,418.08
Calhoun	3,481	3,250	93.36%	\$776.95	\$2,592,044.09	\$2,525,074.83
Cass	2,591	1,224	47.24%	\$966.94	\$1,221,920.29	\$1,183,536.40
Charlevoix	1,906	859	45.07%	\$1,410.45	\$1,224,662.13	\$1,211,579.79
Cheboygan	2,615	2,036	77.86%	\$703.96	\$1,436,120.09	\$1,433,268.29
Chippewa	7,335	3,906	53.25%	\$762.47	\$2,978,226.70	\$2,978,223.54
Clare	2,416	1,854	76.74%	\$709.14	\$1,314,977.51	\$1,314,751.26
Clinton	2,127	1,649	77.53%	\$938.03	\$1,549,635.00	\$1,546,805.61
Crawford	2,727	1,316	48.26%	\$833.81	\$1,110,506.04	\$1,097,293.27
Delta	5,478	4,679	85.41%	\$517.57	\$2,424,956.15	\$2,421,687.64
Dickinson	2,941	2,589	88.03%	\$554.11	\$1,436,385.08	\$1,434,579.87
Eaton	2,786	2,579	92.57%	\$787.96	\$2,032,369.33	\$2,032,144.09
Emmet	2,398	991	41.33%	\$1,152.14	\$1,153,714.46	\$1,141,766.33
Genesee	3,089	2,591	83.88%	\$1,439.92	\$3,811,310.25	\$3,730,826.67
Gladwin	2,455	1,487	60.57%	\$759.68	\$1,129,648.80	\$1,129,648.80
Gogebic	4,121	3,456	83.86%	\$554.11	\$1,927,832.61	\$1,914,988.91
Gr. Traverse	2,384	1,954	81.96%	\$836.55	\$1,639,868.09	\$1,634,618.20
Gratiot	2,704	1,669	61.72%	\$781.18	\$1,304,934.95	\$1,303,797.58
Hillsdale	2,884	1,447	50.17%	\$922.74	\$1,336,623.48	\$1,335,209.25
Houghton	4,009	1,558	38.86%	\$1,195.81	\$1,869,210.94	\$1,863,066.21

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Huron	4,086	1,985	48.58%	\$830.78	\$1,674,064.70	\$1,649,097.05
Ingham	2,698	2,682	99.41%	\$1,029.19	\$2,771,267.77	\$2,760,293.13
Ionia	2,674	1,664	62.23%	\$820.09	\$1,364,637.26	\$1,364,637.26
Iosco	2,875	1,286	44.73%	\$892.77	\$1,155,612.86	\$1,148,100.28
Iron	5,040	4,141	82.16%	\$480.42	\$1,994,479.49	\$1,989,434.88
Isabella	2,275	2,007	88.22%	\$728.87	\$1,466,091.17	\$1,462,850.72
Jackson	3,452	2,709	78.48%	\$867.47	\$2,368,831.12	\$2,349,966.35
Kalamazoo	2,721	2,136	78.50%	\$1,189.20	\$2,715,955.42	\$2,540,126.33
Kalkaska	2,117	1,968	92.96%	\$547.43	\$1,077,773.00	\$1,077,338.90
Kent**	4,712	4,717	100.11%	\$1,023.31	\$5,528,442.84	\$4,826,942.15
Keweenaw	1,468	828	56.40%	\$1,067.27	\$896,965.48	\$883,699.23
Lake	2,223	1,894	85.20%	\$574.48	\$1,088,334.00	\$1,088,058.60
Lapeer	3,133	1,781	56.85%	\$977.09	\$1,743,017.59	\$1,740,194.04
Leelanau	1,134	1,076	94.89%	\$801.30	\$866,842.83	\$862,200.22
Lenawee	3,539	2,121	59.93%	\$880.36	\$1,977,205.99	\$1,867,237.85
Livingston**	2,365	2,395	101.27%	\$1,362.79	\$3,367,653.67	\$3,263,872.88
Luce	3,624	1,834	50.61%	\$820.26	\$1,504,361.28	\$1,504,361.28
Mackinac	4,210	2,173	51.62%	\$852.37	\$1,852,563.25	\$1,852,206.04
Macomb**	2,420	2,409	99.55%	\$2,992.47	\$7,229,042.50	\$7,208,864.92
Manistee	2,191	1,702	77.68%	\$621.82	\$1,124,756.55	\$1,058,341.28
Marquette	7,533	2,735	36.31%	\$1,321.73	\$3,618,934.52	\$3,614,925.64
Mason**	1,852	1,861	100.49%	\$563.60	\$1,054,163.43	\$1,048,860.38
Mecosta	2,753	2,337	84.89%	\$525.52	\$1,263,084.24	\$1,228,130.88
Menominee**	4,142	4,218	101.83%	\$459.69	\$2,024,249.27	\$1,938,991.47
Midland	2,050	1,828	89.17%	\$802.06	\$1,482,583.52	\$1,466,162.52
Missaukee	2,132	1,632	76.55%	\$653.48	\$1,066,471.57	\$1,066,471.57
Monroe	2,231	1,744	78.17%	\$1,095.10	\$1,971,319.67	\$1,909,859.34
Montcalm	3,415	2,639	77.28%	\$760.74	\$2,011,554.73	\$2,007,592.12
Montmorency	2,182	1,672	76.63%	\$623.69	\$1,047,346.20	\$1,042,813.30
Muskegon**	2,204	2,210	100.27%	\$865.88	\$2,019,384.11	\$1,913,585.29
Newaygo	3,394	3,085	90.90%	\$692.39	\$2,136,087.71	\$2,136,037.79
Oakland**	4,252	4,415	103.83%	\$2,637.67	\$11,945,795.18	\$11,645,310.13
Oceana	2,034	1,781	87.56%	\$642.63	\$1,145,060.85	\$1,144,529.30
Ogemaw	2,829	1,266	44.75%	\$916.20	\$1,164,587.87	\$1,159,908.26
Ontonagon	5,040	3,450	68.45%	\$790.15	\$2,176,849.33	\$2,726,004.48
Osceola	2,807	2,378	84.72%	\$539.31	\$1,282,543.85	\$1,282,489.23
Oscoda	2,531	1,865	73.69%	\$552.25	\$1,029,949.03	\$1,029,949.03
Otsego	2,100	1,328	63.24%	\$766.63	\$1,090,347.25	\$1,018,085.48
Ottawa**	2,901	2,901	100.00%	\$919.73	\$2,909,343.81	\$2,668,131.13
Presque Isle	2,627	1,785	67.95%	\$679.80	\$1,218,007.68	\$1,213,434.97

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Roscommon	2,712	1,818	67.04%	\$802.46	\$1,469,422.55	\$1,458,874.38
Saginaw	2,894	2,416	83.48%	\$1,017.52	\$2,553,956.88	\$2,458,332.81
Sanilac	4,602	2,312	50.24%	\$831.49	\$1,922,891.68	\$1,922,409.92
Schoolcraft	4,640	2,531	54.55%	\$790.13	\$2,000,154.35	\$1,999,829.81
Shiawassee	2,206	1,987	90.07%	\$848.71	\$1,667,226.77	\$1,686,383.37
St. Clair	3,550	1,686	47.49%	\$1,678.03	\$2,837,500.09	\$2,829,153.91
St. Joseph	2,801	1,515	54.09%	\$927.18	\$1,406,367.64	\$1,404,684.36
Tuscola	3,992	2,010	50.35%	\$894.46	\$1,798,745.48	\$1,797,873.80
Van Buren	3,667	1,703	46.44%	\$1,189.70	\$2,060,322.31	\$2,026,060.06
Washtenaw	3,373	2,552	75.66%	\$1,373.27	\$3,557,357.20	\$3,504,583.69
Wayne**	4,110	3,638	88.52%	\$4,110.19	\$15,875,864.79	\$14,952,865.38
Wexford	2,140	1,608	75.14%	\$744.18	\$1,196,743.94	\$1,196,645.23
2006 PA 76					\$15,000,000.00	\$15,000,000.00
Total	250,108	177,430	70.94%	\$947.88	\$192,077,124.89	\$188,588,995.56