

## **INVEST**

Determine, recommend, and advocate for adequate funding for Michigan's infrastructure and promote effective and efficient investments to achieve maximum benefit

Allocating limited taxpayer funds among the competing demands of municipal needs is the most significant task of any government official. Reallocation of existing monies necessarily impacts other budget items, while asking citizens to increase investment can be unpopular. When the City of East Grand Rapids realized that greater than 60% of its water main infrastructure was at its end-of-life, with fewer than 15 years of service remaining, they knew they would be tackling an expensive investment challenge. Using the principles of asset management to properly identify, plan, prioritize, and manage aging infrastructure, coupled with a systematic approach to mapping, assessing condition, and evaluating rates, the city was able to make a compelling, data-driven case for increased funding. A dedicated water and sewer rate increase created fee stability for its users and approximately \$400,000 annually for capital projects. Additionally, targeted

## The Role of Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC)

Affirm bold and creative investments that encourage integrated infrastructure asset management

coordination with road projects allowed for cost-sharing, thereby stretching the investment further.

- Champion policies that incentivize long-term, coordinated investment in Michigan's infrastructure
- Develop budget and funding recommendations for decision-makers across federal, state, regional, and local governments and the private sector

## Michigan Impact

Governor Whitmer stated, "no one will invest in a state that doesn't invest in itself." (Michigan State of the State Address, 2019). Leveraging the tools of asset management to maximize the effects of limited funds will ensure all Michiganders have access to safe, effective, and affordable infrastructure.



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Invest in good infrastructure because it's good for Michiganders.