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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Treasury: 16 Local Units of Government Awarded Grants  
from Competitive Grant Assistance Program  
More than \$3.7 Million Awarded to Communities  
for Consolidation and Collaboration Projects***

LANSING, Mich. – Sixteen Michigan local units of government looking to merge or share services have been awarded more than \$3.7 million in grants as part of the Competitive Grant Assistance Program, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

The funds are designed to help offset costs associated with mergers, inter-local agreements and cooperative efforts for projects started on or after Oct. 1, 2013. In total, more than \$3.7 million was available to cities, villages, townships, counties, authorities, school districts, intermediate schools districts, public community colleges and public universities.

For an authority, school district, intermediate school district, public community college or public university to qualify for grant funding under this program, the entity must combine operations with a city, village, township or county.

“I am pleased to announce the recipients of this latest round of grant funding,” said Deputy State Treasurer Dr. Eric Scorsone, head of Treasury’s State and Local Finance Group. “These grants will help communities share or merge services, bolstering budgets while improving services that residents depend on every day.”

The following entities will receive funding this year, with projects and amounts noted:

**City of Bay City**

Collaboration with Hampton Township for joint fire training and purchase of an aerial apparatus  
\$245,115

**County of Branch**

Collaboration with three communities to unify the building and zoning permit process  
\$190,060

**Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works**

Collaboration with five communities for GIS mapping  
\$113,750

**Great Lakes Water Authority**

Collaboration with Waterford Township to implement a real-time water and wastewater cloud platform  
\$94,000

**City of Hamtramck**

Collaboration with the city of Highland Park to conduct a residential target market analysis  
\$75,000

**County of Ionia**

Consolidation of the Ionia County Sheriff's Office with the Village of Lake Odessa Police Department  
\$40,000

**Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority**

Consolidation of five Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) into a single Authority  
\$1,966,006

**County of Kent**

Consolidation of two Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) into a single PSAP  
\$500,000

**City of Lincoln Park**

Collaboration of the 25th District Court and the Lincoln Park Police Department to share facilities  
\$40,000

**County of Macomb**

Collaboration with three drainage districts and a sanitary district to combine administration  
\$150,000

**City of Muskegon**

Consolidation of fire services with the city of Muskegon Heights  
\$30,000

**Charter Township of Orion**

Consolidation of planning and zoning functions with the village of Lake Orion  
\$15,983

**City of Saugatuck**

Consolidation of the Allegan County Sheriff's Office with the City of Saugatuck Police Department  
\$160,083

**City of St. Johns**

Collaboration with Bingham Township to develop a master plan  
\$25,000

**St. Joseph County**

Consolidation of the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department with the Village of Centreville Police Department  
\$82,250

**Charter Township of Union**

Conduct a feasibility study for consolidating water systems with the city of Mt. Pleasant  
\$29,349

The grant panel gave preference to applications calling for complete mergers and consolidation of departments or services between local units of government. The grant funding expires on Sept. 30, 2018.

For more information about the Competitive Grant Assistance Program, go to [www.michigan.gov/revenuesharing](http://www.michigan.gov/revenuesharing)

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