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WELCOME
TO THE 2016 CAPITAL CONFERENCE!

Capital Conference is the source for answers on all the state and federal issues that impact local communities. It’s also the best place to network and make your voice heard on matters of public policy.

This year, we’re highlighting a variety of issues of great significance to municipalities. Participants who arrive early will have a chance to participate in in-depth workshops on topics ranging from neighborhood revitalization to inclusive communities. The remainder of the conference will get you up-to-date on TED, the state’s new Department of Talent and Economic Development, and explore the intricacies of the Grand Bargain that helped Detroit emerge from bankruptcy. We’ll also boost your knowledge quotient with sessions on the League’s pro-active legislative agenda, the case for fixing municipal finance in Michigan, the emerging mobility industry, and much more.

While you’re in Lansing, we hope you reach out to your representatives and schedule a time to meet with them and share your concerns. For your convenience, we’ve provided some potential talking points in this program and in the Conference App.

We have a value-packed Capital Conference in store for you. We’re glad you chose to join us!
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MEETINGS WITH LEGISLATORS

While attending the League’s annual Capital Conference, you are encouraged to take some time and meet with the senator or representative that represents your community. It cannot be understated how important interaction with your legislator is and the assistance it provides to the League’s staff advocating on your behalf.

OVERVIEW

Municipal finance reform is the top priority for the organization this year and we need your help to inform legislators that now is the time to fix the broken system. For the state of Michigan to succeed, the Michigan Municipal League believes that a comprehensive solution is needed to create sustainable, vibrant communities that will provide for long-term economic success.

Here are three key areas of municipal finance reform to discuss with legislators:

▸ STRUCTURE

The State should be maximizing investment in the existing infrastructure of our established communities rather than creating new systems elsewhere that are inefficient and duplicative. Focus should be placed on investing in the entities that have the best resources available to provide quality service to the greatest amount of people. Evaluating the structure of local government in Michigan can reveal innovative ways to increase effectiveness in how our communities meet the demands of residents and businesses.

▸ COSTS

Michigan’s communities are burdened by employment contracts that evolved during a different economic and labor relations environment than exists today. This has resulted in a crushing level of debt from retiree healthcare obligations (OPEB), and to a lesser degree employee pensions. These labor costs have added
substantial debt to our communities in the presence of revenue shortfalls. All of this diverts money from delivering services to the taxpayer in order to fund legacy costs. The amount diverted can be staggering and is unsustainable. Significant reform is needed to ensure that these costs do not prevent a community from maintaining and delivering essential services to their residents.

**REVENUE**

Local government has very few options to generate the revenue needed to support the services desired by their residents. In a typical city, property taxes and state shared revenues make up 75% of a local general fund budget. Our municipal finance system tracks with the economy in decline, but not in prosperous times. We should develop policies that allow for local government to rebuild and invest during a recovery.

**CONCLUDING POINT**

We need to rethink and redesign our municipal finance model. Michigan needs a system that:

1) invests resources where the greatest need and return exists,
2) promotes long-term sustainability,
3) ensures that revenues track with the state economy, and
4) limits long-term cost exposures.
ELECTED OFFICIALS ACADEMY

Congratulations to the Elected Officials Academy Graduates!

Did you know that you can enroll in the Elected Officials Academy for free?

The Elected Officials Academy (EOA) is a four-level program that recognizes your educational and leadership accomplishments. It’s easy. Any League class that you take, conference that you attend, or committee that you serve on, earns you EOA credits.

Earn 2 conference credits for attending Capital Conference, 1 advocacy credit for attending the Lobbyist 2.0 session, and 1 more advocacy credit for attending the Lobbyist 3.0 session!

Go to eoa.mml.org to enroll.

EXECUTIVE SEARCH

The League can help you find your community’s next leader with our professional search service. For more information call (734) 669-6325.

INTERNET ESSENTIALS

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# AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

## TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>9:00 AM–NOON</td>
<td>Capital Conference Workshops</td>
<td>Rooms 204 &amp; 205</td>
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<td>Neighborhood Revitalization</td>
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<td>Streamlining Evaluation of Municipal Programs</td>
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<td>Inclusive Communities</td>
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<td>Signs of the Times</td>
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<td>Michigan’s Municipal Water Infrastructure</td>
<td>Rooms 102-104</td>
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<td>9:00 AM – 4:30 PM</td>
<td>MAMA Advanced Institute</td>
<td>Room 201</td>
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<td>10:30 AM–1:00 PM</td>
<td>League Board of Trustees Meeting &amp; Lunch</td>
<td>League Capital Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Conference Registration Open</td>
<td>Central Hallway</td>
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<td>1:00 – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Elected Officials Academy Advisory Board Meeting</td>
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<td>1:30–2:30 PM</td>
<td>Meetings with Legislators</td>
<td>On your own</td>
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<td>2:45–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Capital Conference Welcome</td>
<td>Banquet Rooms 1-8</td>
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<td>4:30–6:30 PM</td>
<td>MML Liability &amp; Property Pool Welcome Reception</td>
<td>Halls A &amp; B</td>
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

7:30 AM–3:30 PM  Central Hallway
Conference Registration Open

7:30–8:30 AM  Banquet Rooms 1-8
Legislative Breakfast

8:30–9:45 AM  Banquet Rooms 1-8
General Session: Meet TED

9:30 AM–3:15 PM  Halls A & B
Annual Expo

9:45–10:30 AM  Halls A & B
Networking Break in the Expo Hall

9:45–10:30 AM  Governor’s Room
MWIMG Coffee Talk

10:30–11:45 AM  Breakout Sessions
The Case for Fixing Municipal Finance ........................................... Room 101
The Emerging New Mobility Industry ............................................. Room 103
Lobbying 2.0 .................................................................................. Room 204
Collaborative Community Development ........................................ Room 201
Meetings with Legislators ........................................................... On your own

11:45 AM–1:15 PM  Banquet Rooms 1-8
Awards Luncheon & Keynote

1:15–1:45 PM  Halls A & B
Dessert Break in the Expo Hall

1:45–3:00 PM  Breakout Sessions
Dark Stores .................................................................................. Room 101
Delivering Value-Based Solutions ............................................... Room 103
Lobbying 3.0 ................................................................................ Room 204
Communicating with Your Residents .......................................... Room 201
Meetings with State Legislators ............................................... On your own

3:00–3:30 PM  Halls A & B
Networking Break in the Expo Hall

3:30–4:45 PM  Banquet Rooms 1-8
General Session: Detroit Grand Bargain Panel

4:45–5:45 PM  Room 101
MBC-LEO Annual Meeting
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TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

9:00 AM–NOON
CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Neighborhood Revitalization
Rooms: 204 & 205
Presented by: The Center for Community Progress
Speakers: Payton Heins, Associate Director of Michigan Initiatives
          Robert Linn, Senior GIS/Data Manager, Detroit Land Bank Authority
          Christopher Lussier, Community Development Manager, City of Battle Creek

Streamlining Evaluation of Municipal Programs
Room: Governor’s Room
Presented by: The Levin Center at Wayne Law
Moderator: Carl Levin, Retired United States Senator
Speakers: Elise Bean, Interim Co-Director, Levin Center at Wayne Law
          Mike Flowers, Chief Analytics Officer, Enigma.io and Senior Fellow, Bloomberg Philanthropies

Inclusive Communities
Room: 101
Presented by: Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
Sponsored by: Comcast
Speaker: Kenya J. Rutland, Learning & Development Catalyst and Chief Enthusiasm Officer, KJR Consulting

Signs of the Times
Room: 203
Speakers: Patrick Sloan, Principal Planner, McKenna Associates
          Daniel P. Dalton, Dalton & Tomich, PLC
          Larry Opalewski, Dalton & Tomich, PLC
          Kenneth Peskin, Director of Industry Programs, International Sign Association

Michigan’s Municipal Water Infrastructure: Public Policy Choices and Issues Conference
Rooms: 102–104
Presented by: MSU Extension Center for Local Government Finance and Policy
NOON–6:00 PM
Conference Registration
Central Hallway

1:00–2:00 PM
Elected Officials Academy Advisory Board Meeting
Board Room 2

1:30–2:30 PM
Meetings with Legislators
Did you schedule time to meet with your legislators? This time is set aside for you to meet with your state legislators to discuss issues of importance to you and your community.

2:45–4:30 PM
Capital Conference Welcome & General Session
Banquet Rooms 1–8
Welcoming Remarks: John B. O’Reilly, Jr., Mayor, Dearborn; President, League Board of Trustees

Municipal Finance Reform
Last year, the League’s Board of Trustees made municipal finance reform a top legislative priority. Since then, League staff have been working behind the scenes to build a legislative and policy case for why communities matter and how there has been a consistent disinvestment in communities at the state level. The League’s Anthony Minghine will unveil some of our findings and lay out the next steps in this significant effort to reshape policy making around this important issue.

Speaker: Anthony Minghine, Associate Executive Director & COO, The League

League Legislative Team Breaks It Down
See today’s political landscape through the eyes of your Michigan Municipal League lobbyists. We’ll decode the challenges and opportunities ahead and explain how communities can influence the biggest legislative issues of 2016.

Speakers: Chris Hackbarth, Director, State Affairs, The League
John LaMacchia II, Legislative Associate, State Affairs, The League
Summer Minnick, Director, External Relations & Federal Affairs, The League
4:30–6:30 PM
MML Liability & Property Pool Conference Welcome Reception
Halls A & B
Sponsored by: MML Liability & Property Pool; Meadowbrook Insurance Group; Plunkett Cooney; Munder Capital Management, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield–Michigan

The Liability & Property Pool is a long-term, stable, and cost-effective risk management alternative for the League’s members and associate members. Join us at the Capital Conference Welcome Reception in the Expo Hall, where vendors and attendees mix and mingle in a fun and informal setting.

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SPRING EXPO
GET CONNECTED, GET INSPIRED!

Wednesday, March 23
9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Halls A & B

Check out the latest in all the services and products that are essential to local government.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

7:30 AM–3:30 PM
Conference Registration Open
Central Hallway

7:30–8:30 AM
Legislative Breakfast
Banquet Rooms 1-8
Sponsored by: Michigan Association of Mayors & DTE Energy

Welcoming Remarks: Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor, Grand Rapids; Vice President, League Board of Trustees

Back by popular demand! Enjoy breakfast in a relaxed setting as you network with senators, representatives, key legislative staff members, and other top state officials and hear their perspectives on state issues.

Located outside the banquet room, please reference the map indicating your seating area relative to your community’s location.

8:30–9:45 AM
General Session: Meet TED: New Department Design Focuses on Community Development
Banquet Rooms 1-8

Talent attraction, retention, and training are the currency for the state’s future economic growth. The Department of Talent and Economic Development (TED) allows the state to leverage its ability to build talent with in-demand skills while helping state businesses grow and thrive. Joining job creation and economic development efforts under one umbrella, TED consists of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the Michigan Strategic Fund, and the newly created Talent Investment Agency (TIA). In this session, you’ll learn how TED can help your community grow and prosper.

Moderator: John B. O’Reilly, Jr., Mayor, Dearborn; President, League Board of Trustees

Speakers: Steve Arwood, CEO, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Stephanie Beckhorn, Acting Director, Workforce Development Agency
Kevin Elsenheimer, Executive Director, Michigan State Housing Development Authority
9:30 AM–3:30 PM  
**Spring Expo: Get Connected, Get Inspired!**  
Halls A & B

Check out the latest in all the services and products that are essential to local government. It’s the perfect venue for making face-to-face connections with the specialists in engineering, project management, funding, and so much more.

9:45–10:30 AM  
**Networking Break in the Expo Hall**  
Halls A & B

**Michigan Women in Municipal Government (MWIMG) Coffee Talk**  
Governor’s Room

Moderator: Rebecca Hopp, Mayor Pro Tem, Ferrysburg; President, MWIMG  
Speaker: Melodee Colbert-Kean, President, National League of Cities; Councilmember, Joplin, MO

Please join your fellow women local government leaders as we hear from current National League of Cities President Councilmember Melodee Colbert-Kean on her experiences rising up in leadership in Joplin, Missouri and through the NLC.

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10:30–11:45 AM
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The Case for Fixing Municipal Finance in Michigan
Room 101

The League has made a substantial commitment to reform the state’s broken municipal finance system and provide a fiscally strong future for Michigan’s local governments. The first phase of this effort involved a comprehensive evaluation of why communities are vital to the economic future of our state and what factors are preventing them from being able to provide the services and development that lead to prosperity. Come hear experts discuss the findings of their research and lay out the case for fixing municipal finance in Michigan.

Moderator: Anthony Minghine, Associate Executive Director & COO, The League
Speakers: Shanna Draheim, Senior Consultant, Public Sector Consultants
          Joe Heffernan, CPA, Audit Partner, Plante Moran
          Robert Kleine, Former State Treasurer, Great Lakes Economic Consulting

The Emerging New Mobility Industry
Room 103

We’re quickly moving past the auto-dominated transportation system of the 20th century, and disruptively transitioning to a smart, integrated, IT-enabled multi-modal system that can move people more efficiently, in the ways they prefer to travel, and allows them to do the things they need to do, on demand. Learn about the assets Michigan has in place to lead this revolution and what communities will need to do to put the right policies in place to deploy the platforms that will support the new mobility industry.

Moderator: Rick Haglund, President, Haglund Communications
Speakers: Tim Johnson, Director, Transportation Initiatives, Next Energy
          Glenn Stevens, Vice President, MICHauto & Strategic Development, Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce
Lobbying 2.0
Room 204

The Legislature is constantly changing and taking on new issues. How can you keep up with it all? Join members of the League’s lobbying staff as we discuss the ins and outs of understanding the Michigan Legislature. This session is for members who are just diving into the Lansing arena, as well as veterans seeking a refresher. Earn an Elected Officials Academy Advocacy Credit in this session!

Moderator: Pete Zamora, Mayor, Leslie
Speakers: Chris Hackbarth, Director, State Affairs, The League
          John LaMacchia II, Legislative Associate, State Affairs, The League

Collaborative Community Development
Room 201

Michigan’s new Collaborative Community Development team focuses on supporting the growth of a vibrant, diverse, and resilient Michigan. We do this by providing economic development services and programs. By encouraging a compact mixture of uses and walkable urban fabric, we decrease the impact of sprawling development and efficiently utilize infrastructure. In this session we’ll take a look at the state’s focus on community development and about tools available to redevelop Michigan’s downtowns.

Moderator: Katharine Czarnecki, Vice President Collaborative Community Development, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Speakers: Joe Borgstrom, Regional Director, Collaborative Community Development, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
          Jennifer Rigterink, Manager, Redevelopment Ready Communities Michigan Economic Development Corporation
          Chris Whitz, Manager, Community Development Block Grant Program Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Meetings with Legislators

Did you schedule time to meet with your legislators? This time is set aside for you to meet with your state legislators to discuss issues of importance to you and your community.
11:45 AM–1:15 PM

**Awards Luncheon**
Banquet Rooms 1-8
Sponsored by: *Michigan Municipal League Foundation*

Presenter: Samantha Harkins, Director, MML Foundation

Join us to hear what the Michigan Municipal League Foundation has been up to. As part of the Foundation donation campaign the community who donates the most collectively will have a League team come to your community to discuss implementation of a placemaking project. The individual who donates the most will receive a free registration to the League’s Convention September 14-16 on Mackinac Island and this includes two free nights of accommodation at the Grand Hotel!

Visit the registration desk to donate by 3:30 pm. The Foundation donation campaign winners will be announced during today’s closing session.

**Recognition of the Elected Officials Academy Graduates**

Level 1: Education Award
Level 2: Leadership Award
Level 3: Governance Award
Keynote: Cities Lead 2016

Hear about the National League of Cities priorities, specifically the Cities Lead 2016 program which gets local leaders engaged in the presidential election. And, hear how local leaders can take center stage in this important election.

Moderator: Pat Lockwood, Mayor Pro Tem, Fenton; Vice Chair, MML Foundation; NLC Board Member

Speaker: Melodee Colbert-Kean, President, National League of Cities; Councilmember, Joplin, MO

1:15–1:45 PM
Networking Break in the Expo Hall
Halls A & B

Following lunch, join your fellow attendees in the Expo Hall for dessert!

“Managing for a Water-Resilient Community”

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by Elizabeth Garvin,
Planning Manager for SAFEbuilt

✔ Planning for water conservation
✔ Applying water law
✔ Pricing and financing water

SAFEbuilt
To access, visit: SAFEbuilt.com/MIWater
1:45–3:00 PM
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Dark Stores: What Are They and How Do They Impact Your Community?
Room 101

The “Dark Store” theory of appealing property tax assessment is looming large over communities throughout the state of Michigan, and unfortunately could soon be coming to a city, village, township, or county near you. In fact, it may already be there. Learn more about this important issue and about the steps being taken in Lansing to protect Michigan communities from these unfair property tax assessments.

Moderator: Oliver Turner, City Manager, Sault Sainte Marie
Speakers: Tom Casperson, State Senator, 38th District
          Martin Marshall, Administrator, Lenawee County
          Jack Van Coevering, Attorney, Bloom, Sluggett, Morgan

Delivering Value-Based Solutions for Michigan Communities
Room 103

The Michigan Municipal Services Authority (MMSA) is a public-private partnership created to deliver shared services and functions to local units of government throughout the state of Michigan. Learn about their vision to revolutionize the delivery of services and functions by local governments across the state through access to best practices and shared services in order to contain costs, manage resources, enhance the quality of life and the state funding available to participating communities.

Moderator: Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor, Grand Rapids, Vice President, League Board of Trustees
Speakers: Robert Bruner, CEO, Michigan Municipal Services Authority
          Jeff Dood, Deputy CFO, Grand Rapids
          Stephen Duarte, Fiscal Services Director, Kent County
          Keith Francis, Controller, Genesee County
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Lobbying 3.0
Room 204

The League is a successful grassroots organization largely because of the involvement of active members. In the Lobbying 2.0 session, you heard about the nuts and bolts of lobbying. Now, learn about upcoming issues we will be working on in this legislative session and how you can become actively engaged in the conversation.

Moderator: Rusty Showalter, Councilmember, West Branch; League Board of Trustees
Speakers: Chris Hackbarth, Director, State Affairs, The League
          John LaMacchia II, Legislative Associate, State Affairs, The League

Fact or Advocacy: Communicating with Your Residents about a Local Ballot Question
Room 201

Communicating factual information to residents about a local millage, annexation, or a charter amendment, is a critical function of local government. Recent actions in Lansing have raised significant questions about how a community can provide that information to their residents. Hear from the experts about how your community can comply with state law and still effectively communicate with your citizens.

Moderator: John B. O’Reilly, Jr., Mayor, Dearborn; President, League Board of Trustees
Speakers: Scott Eldridge, Principal, Miller Canfield
          Gary P. Gordon, Government Policy Attorney, Lansing
          Chris Thomas, Director of Elections, Michigan Department of State
          Frank Walsh, Manager, Meridian Charter Township
Meetings with Legislators
Did you schedule time to meet with your legislators? This time is set aside for you to meet with your state legislators to discuss issues of importance to you and your community.

3:00–3:30 PM
Networking Break in the Expo Hall
Halls A & B

3:30–4:45 PM
GENERAL SESSION

The Detroit Grand Bargain Panel
Banquet Rooms 1-8

In 2013, Detroit filed for bankruptcy, marking the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history. This case culminated in the creation and approval of the $194.8 million Detroit Grand Bargain. The Grand Bargain allowed the city to accept more than $800 million from nonprofit foundations, the state, and others over two decades. That deal protected the city from selling a noted art collection at the Detroit Institute of Arts and reduced the size of pension cuts. In this session, judges involved in Detroit’s bankruptcy case will discuss the complexities of arranging the Grand Bargain.

Moderator: Chad Livengood, Political Reporter, The Detroit News
Speakers: Judge Michael F. Gadola, Michigan Court of Appeals, Fourth District
Judge Steven W. Rhodes, Retired, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
Chief Judge Gerald E. Rosen, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

The Foundation donation campaign winners to be announced.

4:45–5:45 PM
Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (MBC-LEO) Annual Meeting
Room 101
Presiding: Lois Allen-Richardson, Mayor Pro Tem, Ypsilanti, MBC-LEO President
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Serving over a half a million homes in Metro Detroit every week!

At Rizzo Environmental Services, we make sure that our municipal clients get real value for their residents. That is why we serve over 43 communities in Metro Detroit, making us the largest municipal waste hauler in the region.

Contact Mary Jo Van Natter at mvannatter@rizzoservices.com today and find out how we can help bring that value to your community.
2016 CAPITAL CONFERENCE
EVALUATION

(Please circle only one of the numbers)

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TUESDAY, MARCH 22

9:00 am          Workshop: Neighborhood Revitalization    4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
9:00 am          Streamlining Evaluation of Programs        4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
9:00 am          Inclusive Communities                       4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
9:00 am          Signs of the Times                           4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
9:00 am          Municipal Water Infrastructure               4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
2:45 pm          Welcome & General Session                    4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
4:30 pm          Capital Conference Welcome Reception        4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

7:30 am          Legislative Breakfast                         4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
8:30 am          General Session: Meet TED                     4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
9:45 am          MWIMG Coffee Talk                             4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
10:30 am         Fixing Municipal Finance                      4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   The Emerging New Mobility Industry                 4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   Lobbying 2.0                                       4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   Collaborative Community Development                  4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
11:45 am         Awards Luncheon & Keynote                      4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
1:45 pm          Dark Stores                                   4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   Delivering Value-Based Solutions                      4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   Lobbying 3.0                                       4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
                   Communicating with Your Residents                   4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1
3:30 pm          General Session: Detroit Grand Bargain Panel  4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1

The session topics were valuable for my municipality     4 ----- 3 ----- 2 ----- 1

The most helpful session for my municipality was (and why):

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Continued on the next page...
Suggested improvements for future Capital Conferences are:

Did you meet with your legislators while in Lansing? If so, what did you discuss?

How did you hear about the 2016 League Capital Conference? (select one)

- [ ] Magazine Flyer
- [ ] Email
- [ ] Phone Call
- [ ] Other
MERS partners with Michigan municipalities to prepare their employees for retirement.

Visit us at Booth #115 to see how we can help you – and your employees – be ready!

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Michigan Municipal League

COMMUNITY Excellence Awards

March 22 – Start Submitting Projects
June 15 – Start Voting Online

Get all the details atcea.mml.org
“WHO BRINGS ENERGY TO THIS COMMUNITY?”

Strong communities are the foundation of a healthy, thriving environment for all people. That’s why DTE Energy helps power communities through supporting projects and programs that enhance life. We take pride in our efforts to provide positive growth opportunities. We partner with local leaders to promote community initiatives from environmental education to economic development, including community outreach services. We’re using our energy to serve.

DTE Energy is proud to sponsor the Michigan Municipal League Capital Conference.