



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE
No. 2016-1

DATE: May 12, 2016

TO: Michigan Department of Transportation

FROM: Governor Rick Snyder 

RE: Collaboration with Local Governments on Infrastructure Projects

Michigan's residents deservedly expect every level of government to provide safe and cost-effective access to transportation, water and sewer, wastewater treatment and drainage, energy, communications, and other services. Recently, we have learned about the enormous costs that can be attributed to outdated water and sewer infrastructure both from a public health perspective as well as a burden to taxpayers. Far too often, infrastructure is literally "out-of-sight, out-of-mind." Replacing outdated water and sewer infrastructure in conjunction with road construction can increase the timeliness and efficiency of infrastructure improvements and improve public safety at minimized additional cost.

The Michigan Department of Transportation engages in road construction projects on state highways all across our state and also advises local road agencies undertaking projects with state or federal funding on county roads and city and village streets all across our state. Since infrastructure providers including the state, local units of government, and utilities all have varying interactions with underground infrastructure, by better collaborating on infrastructure projects, we can all deliver better customer service to Michigan's residents, improve our hidden infrastructure and achieve cost savings for taxpayers and ratepayers.

Section 1 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 vests the executive power in the Governor. Section 8, Article V of the Michigan Constitution places each principal department under the supervision of the Governor. Pursuant to these provisions of the Michigan Constitution, I direct the following:

The Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation is directed to improve the coordination of infrastructure installation, repair, or replacement in conjunction with road infrastructure reconstruction. To help achieve that end, the Director of the Department of Transportation shall:

- Work with the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality to identify locations where there are major critical infrastructure projects or projects where threats to water or wastewater services from inadequate facilities could occur, and coordinate efforts to address them.
- Work with the Chair of the Public Service Commission and the Executive Director of the Michigan Agency for Energy to identify any entities that are known to be planning major critical infrastructure projects or projects in rights of way, to coordinate efforts where possible.
- Work with the Michigan Utilities Coordinating Committee and the Transportation Asset Management Council to encourage local agencies and their design consultants to consider incorporating infrastructure installation, replacement or improvement projects into their road construction projects.
- Work with the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission to identify opportunities for partnership, funding alternatives and coordination of infrastructure investment in conjunction with road reconstruction.
- Provide information on a public website about methods for local agencies, design consultants and contractors to use in coordinating road reconstruction projects with infrastructure installation, relocation or replacement.
- Identify best practices for coordination of road work and infrastructure installation, relocation and replacement employed by state departments of transportation across the country or in Canadian provinces or recommended by technical experts.
- Research and test new and better methods to discover and locate underground infrastructure in partnership with the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission.
- Coordinate with other regulatory agencies to maximize the efficient maintenance, modernization and protection of underground infrastructure.