



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Ken
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Borton
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
City of Lake City
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
115 W. John Street City of Lake City
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
M 66/55 Dual Trunkline State Highway through downtown City of Lake City
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Ken Borton: District 105
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
M 66/55 is a busy east-west state highway in Northern Michigan which not only serves local traffic but also accommodates a significant amount of pass-through traffic. It functions as a dual trunkline and plays an essential role in servicing the many communities across Northern Michigan, including the transportation of commercial vehicles that support the region's economy.  
This project will help enhance both pedestrian and vehicle safety and will help ensure that pedestrians and vehicles can coexist safely.

The improved design will support residents, businesses, and visitors, creating a safer and more efficient environment for everyone.

In addition to the transportation improvements, there are also upgrades needed to the storm drains, particularly those that flow into Lake Missaukee which is a vital part of Lake City and a key resource for our residents and visitors alike. Outdated storm drain systems can have long-term ecological impacts, affecting water quality and the health of the lakes' ecosystems. Upgrading these storm drains is essential for preserving the lake's beauty and ensuring that it remains a sustainable resource for future generations.

Addressing both the total reconstruction of the highway and the storm drain system will have a lasting positive impact on the safety, economy and environment of Lake City.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. **The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

10000000

11. **Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["None"]

12. **Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Local unit government

13. **For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Not applicable

14. **For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Not applicable

15. **For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Not applicable

16. **For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'**

n/a

17. **"I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."**

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Summer of 2025

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



2/27/25

The Honorable Rep. Ken Borton  
S-1389 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable Rep. Donni Steele  
N-988 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014 Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Representatives Borton and Steele,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Lake City, following a recent community meeting with Representative Borton regarding the condition of the dual truckline M55/66 that runs through the heart of our downtown. The meeting focused on the significant issues related to the road's deterioration, its impact on pedestrian safety, and the runoff that contributes to the ongoing degradation of Lake Missaukee.

The M55/66 trunkline is a crucial transportation corridor in Lake City for an inordinate number of trucking companies traversing Northern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. M55/66 also serves as a major connector for travelers coming from Chicago and West Michigan with over 12,000 vehicles passing through our downtown daily. However, the road's current state presents significant challenges for both residents and visitors. The condition of the road continues to deteriorate, creating safety hazards for motorists and pedestrians alike. The city is committed to improving pedestrian safety and making much-needed street enhancements, but addressing the state of the road is paramount.

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned about the environmental implications of the runoff from this road into Lake Missaukee. The degradation of this vital water source could have long-term negative effects on the local ecosystem and the health of our community.

To substantiate this request, the administration of Lake City had the following community representatives in attendance, along with pertinent data from several sources to justify our request:

- Missaukee County Commissioner Chair Dean Smallegan
- Missaukee County Commissioner Pam Niebrzydowski
- Missaukee County Administrator Jessica Neilson
- Missaukee County Road Commission Manager Brad Siddle
- City of Lake City (CLC) Council/Interim City Administrator Pat Smith
- CLC City Council and Safety Chairperson Kathy Ostrander
- CLC City Council Member Bob Pickford
- MDOT Northern District Manager Dan Wagner
- CLC Mayor Craig J. Ardis

The progressive City Council is currently engaged in a \$2 million beautification park project on Lake Missaukee, which aims to enhance the aesthetic appeal and recreational opportunities along the lake. Additionally, the City Council is working collaboratively with county commissioners to improve business parking, increase access to the courthouse campus, and develop safer options for both visitors and beachgoers. These efforts underscore our commitment to enhancing the overall quality of life for our residents and visitors, but addressing the urgent needs of M55/66 remains a top priority.

With the support of our community representatives, we respectfully ask that you use your positions in the House to assist in securing an opportunity for the City of Lake City to present in person to the House Appropriations Committee. Our goal is to discuss the necessary steps to address the urgent needs surrounding the dual truckline M55/66 and secure funding for improvements that are critical to the safety and wellbeing of our community.

We hope that you will consider this request and work with us to ensure that Lake City's infrastructure receives the attention and support it needs. We look forward to the possibility of presenting our case in person to the Appropriations Committee and would greatly appreciate your assistance in making this a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We are grateful for your continued service to our community.

Sincerely,



Craig J. Ardis  
Mayor  
City of Lake City  
Lake City, Michigan 49651