



michigan municipal league

## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2014

# Michigan Municipal League Statement on State Budget Surplus Announcement

The following statement is from Utica Mayor and Michigan Municipal League President Jacqueline Noonan regarding the state budget surplus announced today (Friday, January 10, 2014):

*“We would again remind Gov. Snyder and state lawmakers that the budget surplus is at least in part a result of the governor and Legislature taking \$6 billion over the past decade that by law was supposed to go to local communities to fund local police and fire services, road maintenance, snow plowing, drinking water systems, and more. Now that Michigan has a budget surplus created in part by the state taking local revenues from local communities, we strongly urge the Legislature to restore funds to local governments, and to fix Michigan’s broken municipal finance system. It’s time for the Legislature to partner with local communities to enable them to provide essential services, such as police and fire, invest in critical infrastructure improvements, and create vibrant places that attract and retain talent. The Legislature needs to take ownership of the fact that by taking local revenues to plug holes in the state budget, they have helped create the fiscal crises facing many local communities across Michigan, even as spending on the state budget has increased 26 percent in the past decade or so. This is a critical time to reinvest in communities.*”

*“To move Michigan forward, the League, along with numerous partners, has developed a policy vision and plan for Michigan’s cities called the Partnership for Place: An Agenda for a Competitive 21<sup>st</sup> Century Michigan. You can view this policy agenda [here: www.mml.org/advocacy/partnership-for-place.html](http://www.mml.org/advocacy/partnership-for-place.html).”*

The Michigan Municipal League advocates on behalf of its member communities in Lansing, Washington, D.C., and the courts; provides educational opportunities for elected and appointed municipal officials; and assists municipal leaders in administering services to their communities through League programs and services.

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