#MITransportation Month of Action

Over the past 2 years the Michigan Legislature has unsuccessfully attempted to find a fix for funding our complete transportation system. More than \$1.2 billion in additional revenue is needed annually just to keep up with maintaining our roads, but that doesn't account for the needs of the rest of our transportation infrastructure.

On June 10, the House passed a package that will raise revenue for roads and bridges by taking money from Michigan's economic development programs, imposing higher registration fees for electric and hybrid vehicles, and harming our state's lowest-income working families by eliminating the Earned Income Tax Credit.

This is not a real solution for our crumbling transportation system.

The Senate is currently drafting their plan, and they need to hear from you. Beginning on June 14 we invite you to participate in a Transportation Month of Action so you can tell your Senator just how important it is to fund transportation the right way. Each week, we will communicate one of the following messages to the Senate:

- 1. **Support our complete transportation system** (June 14-20) Historically we have funded public transportation, rail, bike and pedestrian infrastructure and trails by putting money through the full <u>Act 51 formula</u>. The House legislation would bypass all other transportation infrastructure and just send money to roads and bridges. The Senate has the opportunity to change this.
- 2. Find a sustainable, dedicated funding source that does not pull money from other important Michigan priorities (June 21-27) Michigan's transportation system is in crisis, but that doesn't mean that other Michigan programs and services don't also need their designated funds. Taking money from things like our economic development programs will only hurt other aspects of Michigan's comeback. In order to continue funding transportation adequately, funds need to come from a sustainable source so we don't face this crisis again.
- 3. Create enough new revenue to meet the real needs of building and maintaining a 21st century transportation system (June 28- July 4)- We need an estimated \$1.2 billion annually just to fix our roads. If we are going to experience the benefits of a robust transportation system, we have to find at least this much, and to do so must look at creating new revenue instead of relying solely on funding dedicated to other Michigan priorities.
- 4. Our final week (July 5-11) will be our final week to stress all three of these messages.

You can make a difference by participating in the #MITransportation Month of Action! Here's how:

- Call, email or write your Senator. Share with them the week's message.
- Use social media (Facebook/Twitter). Take a selfie with your preferred transportation means (bike, walk, bus, rail, etc) and tell us why you need it at #MITransportation.
- Share our educational graphics available at bit.ly/MITransportation
- Get your friends and family involved. The louder our voices, the more our Legislature will listen!

Together we can help the Michigan Legislature find a real fix for state transportation funding.