

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON  
MACOMB COUNTY, MI**

**RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN TO IMMEDIATELY BEGIN WORK ON  
FIXING THE ROAD FUNDING INEQUITY OF PA51 OF 1951**

At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Clinton held in the Board Chambers at 40700 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Township, Michigan on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, commencing at 6:30 pm.

INTRODUCED BY: Treasurer Paul Gielegem, and Trustees Joie West and Michael Keys

PRESENT: Trustees:

ABSENT: Trustees:

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan road network is ranked near the bottom in a comparison of states and the roads in SE Michigan are deteriorating at an alarming pace, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan has perpetually underfunded its roads in comparison to our neighboring states, where the state of Ohio spent over a billion dollars more per year for the past nine years and Wisconsin spends double per capita on roads, and;

WHEREAS, the bulk of transportation dollars are derived from the gas tax and car registrations, then placed into the Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), and then distributed via a formula known as Public Act 51 of 1951, that provides 39 percent of available funds to state roads, 39 percent to counties and 22 percent to cities and villages, and;

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan increased the gas tax and car registration fees to bring in more dollars into the MTF, but failed to address the structural issues that create gross inequities among Michigan communities, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan is a vastly different state than we were in 1951, and state legislators have not enacted any changes to PA 51 since its passage more than 67 years ago, and;

WHEREAS, the auto industry is building more fuel efficient and electric vehicles and as a result, the biggest funding source, the gas tax will continue to produce diminishing returns, and;

WHEREAS, PA 51 provides funding based on linear miles rather than lane miles, already developed communities like those in Macomb County, and Southeast Michigan where there are four and five lane roads receive the same funding per mile of road as rural communities that maintain two lane roads, and;

WHEREAS, PA 51 determined that roads located in townships are under the jurisdiction of their county government, and in the case of Clinton Township and other township roads, money from the MTF is allocated to the Macomb County Department of Roads, and;

WHEREAS, already developed communities like Clinton Township are struggling with aging roads in their neighborhoods, partly because of an unfair allocation of road dollar to Macomb County, but also because they are in competition for limited road dollars with townships in the North of Macomb County who's growth means a steady stream of new residents, new homes, and new money, prompting the call to turn two lane roads into five lanes, and;

WHEREAS, these problems are structural, and beyond the scope of any one community or county, and;

WHEREAS, several bills have been introduced to address component problems with PA 51, like House Bill 5706 that would recalculate the formula from linear road miles to lane miles, so, more populated areas with four and five lane roads would receive fairer allocation of road funding, and Senate Bill 945, to allocate the car registration increases to the county where the car is registered, so county road agencies see a fairer allocation of dollars, and:

WHEREAS, the passage of these bills that currently languish in committee will provide a fairer allocation of funding, we also need comprehensive solution to solve other inequities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clinton Township Board, with this resolution compel, on behalf of the more than 100,000 residents of Clinton Township that state legislators begin work on a comprehensive plan to fix PA 51, with solutions for funding shortfalls, funding inequity, and a fix, repair and replace existing roads first strategy before expanding or building new roads, so we can prevent the deterioration of our infrastructure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we ask the County to consider factors like age of neighborhoods, age of the infrastructure, road quality studies, the amount of roads that have outlived their useful life, and constraints like the average taxable value in a neighborhood or community, when allocating road funds among Townships.

FURTHERMORE, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Governor, the state Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the Speaker of the House and Minority Leader of the State House, legislators from Macomb County, the Macomb County Executive, and County Commissioners.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

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KIM MELTZER, CLERK  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON