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Governor Rick Snyder  
**REINVENTING MICHIGAN**  
Getting It Right. Getting It Done.

## In the News

Wednesday, November 4, 2015  
[NEWS \(Click the link to read the full article\)](#)

### GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

#### *Roads*

[Gov. Snyder says he will sign 'outstanding' plan that fixes Michigan's deteriorating roads \(AP\)](#)

Gov. Rick Snyder is applauding a road-funding plan passed by the Legislature that he calls comprehensive, fiscally responsible and "outstanding."

[Gov. Rick Snyder Praises New Roads Plan Live On WWJ \(WWJ\)](#)

A jubilant Rick Snyder spoke live on WWJ Newsradio Wednesday morning after the Michigan Legislature finally approved a plan to boost road spending late Tuesday and fix Michigan's long-lamented and crumbling roads.

[Road funding bills pass Michigan House, Senate finally \(Freep\)](#)

Michigan motorists would typically pay about \$20 more for their vehicle registration fees and spend about \$1.17 more for a 15-gallon fill-up under fee and tax increases passed by the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives Tuesday, as part of a \$1.2-billion road-funding plan. Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign the bills into law.

[Everything we know about the Michigan roads plan \(Freep\)](#)

Michigan motorists would typically pay about \$20 more for their vehicle registration fees and spend about \$1.17 more for a 15-gallon fill-up under fee and tax increases passed Tuesday by the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives, as part of a \$1.2-billion road-funding plan.

[Snyder says he's ready to sign \\$1.2B road fund package \(Detroit News\)](#)

Barring any issues that come up during a technical review, Gov. Rick Snyder said Wednesday he intends to sign the new \$1.2 billion road funding package put forth by the Legislature.

[Deal: \\$1.2B road funding plan heads to Michigan Gov. Snyder's desk after legislative approval \(Mlive\)](#)

Four years after Gov. Rick Snyder first called for a major funding bump to combat crumbling roads, Michigan's Republican-led Legislature has sent a long-term plan to his desk. The state House and Senate on Tuesday approved a seven-bill package designed to pump an additional \$1.2 billion a year into crumbling infrastructure by 2021 through a combination of higher taxes and spending re-prioritization.

Gov. Rick Snyder says he will sign roads deal (WDIV)

Michigan lawmakers have approved a new plan to boost road spending that includes a 20 percent hike in vehicle registration fees and a 7.3-cent gasoline tax increase. The Republican-controlled chamber voted 20-18 Tuesday for key pieces of the legislation. The House narrowly approved the gas tax and vehicle registration hikes from the Senate plan late Tuesday evening.

Governor Snyder says he's ready to sign road plan with gas, fee hikes (WLNS)

During a news conference Tuesday night, Governor Rick Snyder said he's ready to sign the road funding plan. Governor Snyder said, it takes some time to go through the bills, but "I'm ready."

Michigan House passes package of road funding bills; Will head to Gov. Snyder next (WXYZ)

The Michigan Legislature has narrowly approved a plan to boost road spending, which includes a 20 percent hike in vehicle registration fees and a 7.3-cent gasoline tax increase.

\$1.2B road funding plan heads to Gov. Snyder for approval (Fox 17)

Nearly 1,500 days ago, Gov. Rick Snyder called on state lawmakers to come up with a plan to invest in roads. Tuesday, lawmakers in both the House and Senate finally agreed on a plan to raise the necessary \$1.2 billion needed to fund road fixes, sending it to Snyder for final approval.

UPDATE: Snyder makes statement about road funding bills (ABC 10)

Governor Rick Snyder has released a statement in support of the road funding plan passed by the Michigan Legislature Tuesday night.

Governor Snyder Set To Sign Road Funding Plan (WILX)

After years of debate at the state capitol, a road funding plan is finally headed to Governor Snyder's desk.

Roads plan sent to Governor Snyder for signature (Michigan Radio)

After years of gridlock, state lawmakers have sent Governor Rick Snyder legislation to boost road funding. The legislation would increase the state's gas tax by seven cents a gallon and boost vehicle registration fees by twenty percent starting in 2017. It raises taxes by 600 million dollars starting in 2017. It also eventually shifts 600 million dollars from other areas of the state budget.

Interview: Gov. Snyder talks roads with Paul W. Smith (WJR)

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder talks to Paul W. Smith about the plan to fix Michigan roads without jeopardizing other priorities. Governor Snyder says road work will get underway immediately because there is already money set aside to start the repairs.

*Bill signings*

Gov. Rick Snyder signs law to get the word out when a suspect kills or injures an officer (AP)

Michigan State Police will be required to notify the public about a search for suspects who have injured or killed a police officer. Gov. Rick Snyder signed a law Tuesday that calls for a "blue alert" to be issued to radio and TV stations if a dangerous suspect is on the run.

Gov. Rick Snyder signs law to help dozens of state police retirees getting less than \$16,000 (AP)

Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a law to ensure that certain Michigan State Police retirees get at least \$16,000 a year. The bill affects about 100 people, or their beneficiaries, who retired from the state police before October 1986 and collect less than \$16,000.

Snyder Signs Bill Raising Pensions for Some State Troopers (WILX)

Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a law to ensure that certain Michigan State Police retirees get at least \$16,000 a year. The bill affects about 100 people, or their beneficiaries, who retired from the state police before October 1986 and collect less than \$16,000.

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill creating state Blue Alert (Holland Sentinel)

Gov. Rick Snyder recently signed legislation to create a program to track at-large suspects who have injured or killed a police officer. Senate Bill 336 creates the Michigan Blue Alert Act, requiring the Michigan State Police to establish and maintain a notification system to rapidly disseminate information about the name, physical description and vehicle type of a suspect believed to have harmed or killed a law enforcement officer and who is a threat to public safety.

Gov. Snyder signs Blue Alert bill (UP Matters)

A federal program designed to track at large suspects who have injured or killed a police officer will be created in Michigan, under bipartisan legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### DEQ

Mich. plan to cut algae relies on past measures (The Detroit News)

Michigan has rolled out its plan for cutting the amount of phosphorus that reaches Lake Erie and helps generate harmful algal blooms. That plan will require little new action for the state to meet its goals. "We've made a tremendous reduction in phosphorus with DWSD," said Bill Creal, chief of the water resources division at Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality. "That is the biggest point source of phosphorus contamination for Lake Erie."

U.S. EPA will conduct 'full review' of Flint water crisis (Mlive)

Flint's water crisis is getting a review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the results are expected to be known by the end of this week. Kildee also requested that the agency answer questions, including whether the EPA was aware that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality was enforcing the wrong guidelines for water quality in Flint and whether the EPA notified MDEQ that the city should have treated water from the Flint River to make it less corrosive.

### DNR

Shotgun blank blasts considered to scare Canada geese from Saginaw pond (Mlive)

Saginaw officials are working with police to push a group of Canada geese landing on what must look like an inviting body of water on their way south for the winter. Saginaw Water Treatment Plant officials are considering working with the Saginaw Police Department to employ shotguns loaded with blanks to scare away the Canada geese that have congregated on the pond outside the plant at 522 Ezra Rust. There was no time set, and some other options were still under review as of Nov. 3 as officials work with the Department of Natural Resources to decide what to do, Mason said.

### MDOT

Hands-on learning promotes careers in civil engineering (Hillsdale Daily News)

A group of 10 science teachers from five of the county schools spent the day Monday outside of the classroom learning lessons in civil engineering and transportation. The program, held at the Hillsdale Intermediate School District administrative offices, was part of the Michigan Department of Transportation's Civil Engineering (TRAC) Program. The program, started in 2004, gives teachers hand-on tools that are designed to enhance math, science and civics curriculum.

### MSHDA

Report: Water Street site too contaminated to build \$12M affordable housing (Mlive)

A new investigation by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority found that high levels of contamination, including PCBs and metals like lead and arsenic, appear to remain on Ypsilanti's Water Street property.

## **MSP**

[Michigan State Police to participate in a multi-state initiative aimed at reducing commercial vehicle accidents](#) (MI News 26)

MSP motor carrier officers and troopers are participating in a two-day coordinated enforcement operation focusing on commercial vehicle crash reduction, along with law enforcement officers from the states of Ohio and Indiana on November 3rd through November 4th.

[Michigan State Police working with out-of-state officers to protect drivers](#) (Up North Live)

Michigan State Police are teaming up with law enforcement from out of state this week to protect drivers. State Police are working with officers from Indiana and Ohio for a commercial vehicle enforcement operation that will include the I-75 corridor in Michigan and Ohio, along with the I-70 corridor in Ohio and Indiana.

['Blue alert' will notify Michigan residents about attacks on police](#) (AP)

Michigan State Police will be required to notify the public about a search for suspects who have injured or killed a police officer.

[State police retirees from decades ago to get financial help](#) (AP)

Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a law to ensure that certain Michigan State Police retirees get at least \$16,000 a year. The bill affects about 100 people, or their beneficiaries, who retired from the state police before October 1986 and collect less than \$16,000.

## **LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

[Former Reps. Courser, Gamrat defeated in comeback tries](#) (Detroit Free Press)

Two former Republican state representatives who lost their seats in September amid a sex and cover-up scandal were soundly defeated Tuesday in their special primary bids to regain their seats.

[Michigan joins other Great Lakes states in considering microbead products ban](#) (MLive)

Michigan lawmakers are taking another stab at banning the sale of products that contain tiny plastic particles which environmental groups and university researchers say are polluting the Great Lakes.

## **DETROIT**

[Detroit teachers protest school district reorganization plan](#) (Michigan Radio)

Several hundred demonstrators chanted "enough is enough" at a state Capitol rally opposing Governor Rick Snyder's proposed reorganization of the Detroit Public Schools.

[Ex-DPS official 'steered' \\$40M deal, feds say](#) (The Detroit News)

A former Detroit Public Schools administrator worked to "fraudulently steer" a \$40 million contract from the district to a textbook publisher where she once worked, an FBI agent alleged in a federal court filing.

[Detroit casino workers support strike option](#) (The Detroit News)

More than 1,300 union employees from Detroit's three casinos voted Monday night to go on strike if their wage, health care and benefit demands aren't met.

[New Detroit arena will have \\$95 million in 'fan enhancements'](#) (WDIV)

Gondola seating, a video wall and on-site practice ice are part of \$95 million in "fan enhancements" for the new Detroit arena that were announced Wednesday by Olympia Entertainment.

## **OPINION**

[Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else](#) (Detroit Free Press)

Irresponsible, reckless, shortsighted, ill-advised, wrongheaded ... we're running out of adjectives to describe Lansing's latest plan to fix our terrible roads.

Lawmakers fail LGBT in Mich., who deserve civil rights (Detroit Free Press)

It's a conundrum: Same-sex couples can now get married in Michigan, but only at the risk that prospective employers or landlords will punish them for exercising that hard-won right — or even for acknowledging an attraction to others of the same sex.

Michigan road funding bill: How we got to a bad deal (Detroit Free Press)

"When we elect politicians who hate the government we end up with a government that we hate."

Michigan continues its dark money streak (Detroit Free Press)

Well, Michigan, we did it again. A new report from the Brennan Center, Justice at Stake and the National Institute for Money in State Politics reveals that the 2014 Michigan Supreme Court election campaign was the most expensive and least transparent in the nation. This is the third election cycle in a row that we've had that distinction and that's a hat-trick that shouldn't be a point of pride.

Ken Braun: Michigan needs a taxpayer bill of rights (MLive)

Michigan should have Colorado's problems.

Old Michigan Senate rivals do a little R&D on campaign 2018 (MLive)

Here's a new twist on the old "he said, she said" story. It will leave you scratching your collective heads.

Our Editorial: Cybersecurity bill threatens privacy (Detroit News)

The U.S. Senate voted last week to further enable the government's efforts to collect the personal data of its citizens.

Editor's note: New business openings surge in Detroit (Detroit News)

For most of my years in Detroit, every day the city became something less. Another restaurant closed, another business shuttered.

Berman: UAW is neglecting workers (Detroit News)

The United Auto Workers (UAW) has been negotiating new labor contracts with the Detroit Big Three since July. In that time, much has been made of what's on the table: a \$17 starting hourly wage for entry-level workers, \$3,000 signing bonuses, and a revamped benefits structure.

Michigan brings transparency to civil forfeiture (Detroit News)

Here's a \$270 million question: When will Michigan stop seizing private property from individuals who have done nothing wrong? With Gov. Rick Snyder's signature on a package of bills, the answer may be "soon."

How to begin to stop the decline of Detroit's schools (Detroit Free Press)

The bleak news announced last week about student performance in Detroit Public Schools has become an all-too-familiar and numbing element of the season, and something that Detroiters dread.

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