



For Immediate Release  
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## Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association Supports Plan for Increased Transportation Funding

*Program provides federal match to local communities and road agencies*

**Lansing, Mich.** — The Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association welcomes Governor Granholm’s plan announced today to provide \$80 million in much needed state money to expedite road projects in 2006 and 2007.

“The membership of MITA applauds the Governor’s proposal to assist local communities with their transportation needs,” said Bob Patzer, executive vice president of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association. “Obviously the short term effect is increased employment, but the long term benefit of reliable, safe transportation is equally as important.”

The Governor’s plan follows a report released last week by The Road Information Program, which gave Michigan’s road and bridge system poor grades due largely to under funding. Under the Governor’s program, the state would provide grants and loans to cities, counties, and local transit agencies to allow them to take advantage of available federal transportation funding. The plan is also expected to create more than 7,100 jobs in Michigan in 2006 and 2007.

Sen. Michael Prusi (D-Ishpeming) has sponsored a bill, which MITA supports, that will amend a portion of the transportation funding law to allow the state to issue the bonds for the local transportation grants and loans.

MITA represents a broad spectrum of underground and highway construction companies and suppliers that help build a better Michigan infrastructure from the bottom up. For more information, visit [www.mi-ita.com](http://www.mi-ita.com).

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