

New report: Michigan needs around \$4 billion a year to maintain roads and bridges

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A new study examining Michigan's roadways finds that the state needs an additional \$3.9 billion each year to fix deteriorating roads and bridges across the state.

Investment and Jobs Act, which will provide \$7.9 billion in road, highway and bridge funding over five years.

The study concluded that the cost per motorist in various urban areas in the state adds up to \$17 billion.

The TRIP report cites increased inflation rates over the past few years as a reason why the gap is so large.

"We're moving to more efficient vehicles. That's certainly a positive in terms of fuel use. That will take a bite out of fuel tax resources. Most states are finding that their fuel tax revenue is flatlining as we move to more efficient vehicles," said Rocky Moretti, TRIP's director of policy and research.

Ultimately, advocates at the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association say that increased funding for infrastructure projects will lead to safer roads, increasing the overall quality of life for Michiganders.

Nearly \$4 billion are needed annually to keep Michigan's bridges and roads in a safe and workable condition, according to a new report from TRIP, a non-profit transportation research group.

The report also found 40% of major roads and 11% of bridges in the state are in poor or mediocre condition,

The report's suggestion of billions more in financial resources comes despite recent local and federal investments in infrastructure improvements in the past decade.

- In 2017, the state increased the fuel tax by 26 cents per gallon, generating \$347 million annually.
- In 2019, the state passed the Rebuilding Michigan Program, which provided a one-time investment of \$3.5 billion in bonds to fund improvements.
- In 2021, the federal government passed the bi-partisan Infrastructure

Location	Poor	Mediocre	Fair	Good
Ann Arbor	28%	22%	9%	42%
Detroit	53%	17%	6%	25%
Flint	53%	14%	7%	26%
Grand Rapids	38%	17%	6%	39%
Kalamazoo-Battle Cree	28%	21%	9%	43%
Lansing	40%	16%	9%	35%
Muskegon	34%	14%	6%	46%
Saginaw-Bay City-Midland	39%	22%	7%	32%
Traverse City	11%	10%	20%	59%
MICHIGAN STATEWIDE	21%	19%	11%	48%

Rocky Moretti / TRIP

Location	VOC	Safety	Congestion	TOTAL
Ann Arbor	\$751	\$377	\$466	\$1,594
Detroit	\$1,148	\$447	\$1,410	\$3,005
Flint	\$1,136	\$682	\$332	\$2,150
Grand Rapids	\$898	\$492	\$907	\$2,297
Kalamazoo - Battle Creek	\$749	\$698	\$425	\$1,872
Lansing	\$940	\$501	\$420	\$1,861
Muskegon	\$810	\$612	\$354	\$1,776
Saginaw-Bay City-Midland	\$943	\$549	\$352	\$1,844
Traverse City	\$388	\$538	\$861	\$1,787
MICHIGAN STATEWIDE	\$5.9 Billion	\$5.4 Billion	\$5.7 Billion	\$17 Billion

Rocky Moretti / TRIP

A table breaking down the \$17 billion in annual costs to motorists while on the road.