

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF CLAIMS

---

MACKINAC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY,  
a domestic nonprofit corporation,

No. 25-000082-MM

Plaintiff,

Hon. Brock A. Swartzle

v.

**CORRECTED  
COMPLAINT ADDING  
VERIFICATION**

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY,  
a state government entity

Defendant.

---

MACKINAC CENTER LEGAL FOUNDATION  
Patrick J. Wright (P54052)  
Derk A. Wilcox (P66177)  
Stephen A. Delie (P80209)  
140 West Main Street  
Midland, MI 48640  
(989) 631-0900  
[wright@mackinac.org](mailto:wright@mackinac.org)  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

---

**MCR 1.109(D) DECLARATION**

There is no pending or resolved civil action arising out of the transaction or occurrence  
alleged in this complaint.

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Omnibus Budget Bill, 2024 PA 121 (“FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget”).
2. The FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget was adopted in the State House with a vote of 56-54 on June 27, 2024.<sup>1</sup> It was adopted in the State Senate with a vote of 21-17 on June 27, 2024.<sup>2</sup>
3. The FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget was signed by the Governor on July 24, 2024.<sup>3</sup>
4. Our Constitution contains a provision which prohibits appropriation of money for “local or private purposes,” unless the provision receives two-thirds of the vote in both houses of the Legislature. Const 1963, art 4, § 30:

**§ 30 Appropriations; local or private purposes.**

Sec. 30. The assent of two-thirds of the members elected to and serving in each house of the legislature shall be required for the appropriation of public money or property for local or private purposes.

5. The FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget received less than two-thirds support in the House and the Senate. Two-thirds of the 110 House members would be 74, and two-thirds of the 38 Senate members would be 26. Thus, this FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget fell short of the necessary two-thirds in the House by 18 votes and fell short of the necessary two-thirds in the Senate by 5 votes.

---

<sup>1</sup> 2024 House Journal 1438 (No 59, June 27, 2024). This House Journal can be accessed online here: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/Journal/House/pdf/2024-HJ-06-27-059.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> 2024 Senate Journal 1272 (No 64, June 27, 2024). This Senate Journal can be accessed online here: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/Journal/Senate/pdf/2024-SJ-06-27-064.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> 2024 Senate Journal 1443 (No 65, July 30, 2024). This House Journal can be accessed online here: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/Journal/Senate/pdf/2024-SJ-07-30-065.pdf>.

6. Because this FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget did not garner two-thirds of the votes in both legislative chambers, no appropriation within that legislation can be for a local or private purpose.
7. However, the FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget appropriates money for private and local purposes.
8. Two specific provisions of the FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget which fund local sports stadiums are challenged here.
9. More specifically, Section 1050c(6), appropriates funds for a ballpark:
- (6) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for community enhancement grants, \$1,500,000.00 shall be awarded to support capital and security improvements to a ballpark located in a city with a population between 5,000 and 5,500 in a county with a population between 800,000 and 900,000 according to the most recent federal decennial census.
10. The ballpark receiving the appropriation in the preceding paragraph is Jimmy John's Field in Utica. Complaint Exhibit 1 at p 62.
11. This allocation for a ballpark in the preceding paragraph could only be Jimmy John's Field in Utica, in Macomb County. No other ballpark could qualify for this appropriation at the time the grant was made, as no other city in Michigan met the city and county population requirements in the appropriation.<sup>4</sup>
12. The Senate Fiscal Agency's analysis of 2024 PA 121 identified this grant as being made for the "Jimmy John's Field (Utica)." Complaint Exhibit 1 at p 62.

---

<sup>4</sup> Per the 2020 decennial census, Utica had a population of 5,245, and Macomb County had a population of 881,217. The U.S. Census data for Macomb County can be accessed here: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/macombcountymichigan,uticacitymichigan/POP010220>.

13. Upon information and belief, Jimmy John's Field is owned by GS Entertainment LLC, a private company which is not a party to this lawsuit.

14. Jimmy John's Field is the home to four teams that play in the United Shore Professional Baseball League (USPBL).<sup>5</sup> Admission is by ticket sale.<sup>6</sup>

15. Section 1050a(8) of the FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget appropriates funds for another baseball stadium:

(8) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for community enhancement grants, \$1,000,000.00 shall be awarded to a baseball stadium located in a city with a population between 112,000 and 113,000 according to the most recent federal decennial census to support infrastructure improvements.

16. The baseball stadium receiving the appropriation in the preceding paragraph is a municipally-owned stadium in the city of Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, where the Lansing Lugnuts play, as no other city in Michigan met the city and country population requirements in the appropriation.<sup>7</sup>

17. The Senate Fiscal Agency's analysis of 2024 PA 121 identified this grant as being made for the "Lansing Lugnuts." See Exhibit B, at page 61.

18. Although municipally-owned by the City of Lansing, the city has sold the stadium's naming rights to Jackson National Life Insurance Company through 2027 and it is referred to as Jackson Field.<sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://uspbl.com/teams/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://uspbl.com/single-game-ticket-sales-in-detroit-mi/>

<sup>7</sup> Per the 2020 decennial census, Lansing had a population of 112,644 and Ingham County had a population of 284,900. The U.S. Census data for the city and county can be accessed here: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/inghamcountymichigan,lansingcitymichigan/POP010220>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.wilx.com/2020/09/01/lansing-lugnuts-stadium-renamed-to-jackson-field/>

19. The Lansing Lugnuts are the affiliate of the Major League Baseball High-A affiliate of the Athletics (formerly Oakland A's).<sup>9</sup>
20. According to press accounts, the purpose of this grant is to pay for a turf upgrade mandated by MLB.<sup>10</sup>
21. Admission to Jackson Field events is by paid ticket.<sup>11</sup>
22. Jackson Field is operated by the City of Lansing's Lansing Entertainment & Public Facilities Authority (LEPFA).<sup>12</sup> Neither Lansing nor LEPFA are a party to this lawsuit.
23. The two subject grants are appropriations for local or private purposes.
24. The FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget states that "For any grant program or project funded in part 1 for a single recipient organization or unit of local government, the grant program or project is for a public purpose..." FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget at 2024 PA 121 at § 222(1), p 224. But while the courts may consider the Legislature's declarations of what is a public purpose, such a declaration is not binding on the courts—who are the ultimate arbiter of what is a public purpose under the Constitution.

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.mlb.com/news/featured/explore-jackson-field-home-of-the-lansing-lugnuts>

<sup>10</sup> Ellis, *Major League Baseball mandated new grass for Lansing's baseball stadium. State legislators ponied up.* Lansing State Journal, June 30, 2024. "The turf upgrade is a Major League Baseball requirement for the minor league Lansing Lugnuts to be able to play in 2025, Tristan Wright, LEPFA's director, told city council members during a May committee meeting." A copy of the article is attached as Complaint Exhibit 2.

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.ticketsales.com/jackson-field-tickets/venue?msclkid=705e3f4fb3641410dac358edc32913bb&utm\\_source=bing&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=TS%20Venues%201&utm\\_term=Jackson%20Field%20Lansing%20MI%20Tickets&utm\\_content=\(v9189\)%20-%20Jackson%20Field%20-%20Lansing%20-%20MI](https://www.ticketsales.com/jackson-field-tickets/venue?msclkid=705e3f4fb3641410dac358edc32913bb&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=TS%20Venues%201&utm_term=Jackson%20Field%20Lansing%20MI%20Tickets&utm_content=(v9189)%20-%20Jackson%20Field%20-%20Lansing%20-%20MI).

<sup>12</sup> <https://lepfa.com/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>.

25. The FY 2024-25 general omnibus budget at 2024 PA 121 at § 222(2)(c), p 224 instructs the Defendant to “Verify to the extent possible that a grant recipient will use funds for a public purpose.”

26. The two grants are illegal and unconstitutional expenditures of state funds.

### **PARTIES, STANDING, AND VENUE**

27. The Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs above as though restated herein.

28. The Plaintiff, Mackinac Center for Public Policy is a 501(c)(3) domestic nonprofit corporation organized for civic purposes headquartered in Midland, Michigan.

29. As a domestic nonprofit corporation organized for civic purposes, Plaintiff is a real party in interest pursuant to MCL 600.2041(3):

#### **600.2041 Real party in interest; actions on official or personal bonds; taxpayer's suit.**

Sec. 2041. Every action shall be prosecuted in the name of the real party in interest; but an executor, administrator, guardian, trustee of an express trust, a party with whom or in whose name a contract has been made for the benefit of another, or a party authorized by statute may sue in his own name without joining with him the party for whose benefit the action was brought, and further

...

(3) an action to prevent the illegal expenditure of state funds or to test the constitutionality of a statute relating thereto may be brought in the name of a domestic nonprofit corporation organized for civic, protective, or improvement purposes, or in the names of at least 5 residents of this state who own property assessed for direct taxation by the county wherein they reside.

30. Similarly, Plaintiff’s status as a domestic nonprofit civic corporation organized for civic, protective, or improvement purposes makes it a real party in interest under MCR 2.201(B)(4)(a):

(B) Real Party in Interest. An action must be prosecuted in the name of the real party in interest, subject to the following provisions:

...

(4) An action to prevent illegal expenditure of state funds or to test the constitutionality of a statute relating to such an expenditure may be brought:

(a) in the name of a domestic nonprofit corporation organized for civic, protective, or improvement purposes;

31. Plaintiff is filing this litigation seeking to prevent the illegal and unconstitutional expenditure of state funds.

32. MCL 600.2041(3) provides standing to Plaintiff as a non-profit seeking to prevent unconstitutional spending:

“MCL 600.2041(3) does more than imply an intent by the Legislature to confer standing on domestic nonprofit corporations that seek to challenge the constitutionality of a statute that allegedly provides for the illegal expenditure of state funds; it expressly declares that intent. Accordingly, plaintiffs have standing to pursue their constitutional claims.”

*Council of Org and Others for Educ About Parochaid v Michigan*, 326 Mich App 124, 137-38 (2018).

33. Defendant, the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (“LEO”) is a state government agency headquartered in Ingham County, Michigan. It is a principal department of the executive branch of state government created under Executive Order 2019-13, MCL 125.1998(1), and the authority of Const 1963, art 5, § 2.

34. Venue is proper pursuant to MCL 600.6419(1)(a).

35. Pursuant to MCL 600.6419(1)(a), the Court of Claims has jurisdiction over this claim.

**COUNT I—THE GRANT TO JIMMY JOHN’S FIELD IS  
UNCONSTITUTIONAL BECAUSE IT SERVES A PRIVATE  
AND A LOCAL PURPOSE**

36. The Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs above as though restated herein.

37. The grant in Sec 1050c(6) was made for a local purpose, as that grant can only refer to Jimmy John's field.
38. The grant in Sec 1050c(6) was not made for a general purpose that benefited the State as a whole.
39. An appropriation that primarily benefits a corporation or individual serves a private purpose.
40. Whether an appropriation serves a private or a public purpose is a judicial question.
41. Jimmy John's Field is owned by a private corporation and not a public body. Upon information and belief, Jimmy John's Field is owned by GS Entertainment LLC (which is not a party to this action).
42. Generally, under our Constitution, economic development is not considered a public use.

Const 1963, art 10, § 2:

"Public use" does not include the taking of private property for transfer to a private entity for the purpose of economic development or enhancement of tax revenues. Private property otherwise may be taken for reasons of public use as that term is understood on the effective date of the amendment to this constitution that added this paragraph.

43. The Legislature's determination that an expenditure serves a public purpose is not dispositive and the courts are not bound by such a determination. *In re Advisory Op. re Const. of PA 1975 No 301*, 400 Mich 270, 272 n 5 (1977):

The legislative determination that this program is necessary for the promotion of the public welfare does not mandate the conclusion that resulting internal improvements are public. All acts of the Legislature presumably promote the public welfare but that premise does not insulate them from judicial review for constitutionality. The entire concept and process of judicial review would be without foundation if the Legislature could, by its own declaration, determinatively conclude the meaning to be ascribed to the constitution. See *Marbury v Madison*, 5 US (1 Cranch) 137 (1803).

44. The grant for Jimmy John's Field is an unconstitutional expenditure for a private purpose since it did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote in both chambers of the Legislature.



**COUNT II—THE GRANT TO JACKSON FIELD  
IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL BECAUSE IT SERVES A LOCAL PURPOSE**

45. The Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs above as though restated herein.
46. 2024 PA 121, Sec 1050a(8) provided the following grant: “From the funds appropriated in part 1 for community enhancement grants, \$1,000,000.00 shall be awarded to a baseball stadium located in a city with a population between 112,000 and 113,000 according to the most recent federal decennial census to support infrastructure improvements.”
47. The description in Sec 1050a(8) is for a local purpose since it could only apply to Jackson Field.
48. This grant in Sec 1050a(8) did not pass with a two-thirds vote in both chambers of the legislature.
49. This grant in Sec 1050a(8) was not made for a general purpose that benefited the state as a whole.
50. Whether an appropriation serves a local purpose is a judicial question.
51. This grant for Jackson Field is an unconstitutional local purpose expenditure pursuant to Const 1963, art 4, § 30, since it did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote in both chambers of the Legislature.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

For the reasons stated here, the two subject grants are unconstitutional and are null and void. Plaintiff asks this Court to enjoin any expenditure of the appropriated funds. If any subject funds have already been disbursed, then Plaintiff requests that the funds be recalled and deposited into the state treasury. Plaintiff further asks this Court to issue a declaratory judgment that these two grants are null and void for the reasons set forth in the Complaint.

Alternatively, Plaintiff requests that this Court fashion an equitable remedy suitable to right this wrong and curtail future evasions of constitutional requirements. “[C]ourts possess broad equitable powers to right statutory and constitutional wrongs. Those powers are defined by pragmatic flexibility. ... With those principles in mind, this Court must fashion equitable relief that remedies the Legislature’s constitutional mischief while remaining mindful of [] reasonable reliance on the Legislature’s unconstitutional acts.” *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, \_\_\_\_ Mich \_\_\_, slip copy at 29-30 (2024), 2024 WL 3610042 (July 31, 2024) at \* 14.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Patrick J. Wright  
Patrick J. Wright (P54052)  
140 West Main Street  
Midland, MI 48640  
(989) 631-0900  
wright@mackinac.org  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*  
Mackinac Center for Public Policy

Dated: May 22, 2025

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF CLAIMS

---

MACKINAC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY,  
a domestic nonprofit corporation,

No. 25-000082-MM

Plaintiff,

Hon. Brock A. Swartzle

v.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY,  
a state government entity

Defendant.

---

MACKINAC CENTER LEGAL FOUNDATION  
Patrick J. Wright (P54052)  
Derk A. Wilcox (P66177)  
Stephen A. Delie (P80209)  
140 West Main Street  
Midland, MI 48640  
(989) 631-0900  
[wright@mackinac.org](mailto:wright@mackinac.org)  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

---


**VERIFICATION BY THE MACKINAC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

In my capacity as Vice President for Marketing and Communications, I declare under the penalties of perjury that this Complaint has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief, and that of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

Executed this 22nd Day of May, 2025.

STEPHEN DELIE  
Notary Public, State of Michigan  
County of Ingham

My Commission Expires 07-29-2025  
Acting in the County of Midland

  
Jarrett Skorup, Vice President  
Mackinac Center for Public Policy

Subscribed to and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 22nd day of May, 2025, by Jarrett Skorup, who is personally known to me or who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before me.

Signature   
Notary Public, State of Michigan  
County of Ingham  
My Commission Expires 07-29-2025  
Acting in the County of Midland

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF CLAIMS

---

MACKINAC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY,  
a domestic nonprofit corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY,  
a state government entity

Defendant.

No. 25-\_\_\_\_\_-MM

Hon. \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAINTIFF'S  
5/20/2025 INDEX OF  
EXHIBITS**

---

MACKINAC CENTER LEGAL FOUNDATION  
Patrick J. Wright (P54052)  
Derk A. Wilcox (P66177)  
Stephen A. Delie (P80209)  
140 West Main Street  
Midland, MI 48640  
(989) 631-0900  
[wright@mackinac.org](mailto:wright@mackinac.org)  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

---

**INDEX OF EXHIBITS**

<b><u>Exhibit</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
1	Senate Fiscal Agency Analysis of 2024 PA 121, FY 2024-2025 General Omnibus Appropriation Bill, 102 Sess at 57-66 (2024).
2	Lansing State Journal: Major League Baseball Mandate Article

Exhibit 1: Senate Fiscal Agency Analysis of  
2024 PA 121, FY 2024-2025 General  
Omnibus Appropriation Bill, 102 Sess at 57-  
66 (2024).

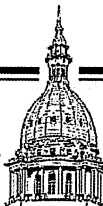


Senate Fiscal Agency

P.O. Box 30036

Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

BILL



ANALYSIS

Telephone: (517) 373-5383

Fax: (517) 373-1986

**Senate Bill 747 (CR-1):  
FY 2024-25 General Omnibus Appropriation Bill**

**Bill Page Nos.**

• Article 1 – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development .....	1 - 40
• Article 2 – Department of Corrections .....	41 - 95
• Article 3 – Department of Education.....	95 - 126
• Article 4 – Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy .....	126 - 167
• Article 5 – General Government* .....	167 - 319
• Article 6 – Department of Health and Human Services .....	319 - 546
• Article 7 – Department of Insurance and Financial Services .....	546 - 560
• Article 8 – Judiciary.....	560 – 581
• Article 9 – Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.....	581 - 739
• Article 10 – Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.....	739 – 787
• Article 11 – Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential .....	787 – 819
• Article 12 – Department of Military and Veterans Affairs .....	819 - 857
• Article 13 – Department of Natural Resources .....	857 – 893
• Article 14 – Department of State Police.....	893 - 941
• Article 15 – Department of Transportation.....	941 - 989
• Article 16 – Supplemental .....	989 - 1069

\* General Government includes FY 2024-25 appropriations for the following budget areas: Attorney General; Civil Rights; Executive; Labor and Economic Opportunity; Legislature; State; Technology, Management, and Budget; and Treasury.

Date Completed: 6-26-24

RECEIVED by MCOC 5/22/2025 4:12:05 PM



# FY 2024-25 LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY BUDGET

S.B. 747 (CR-1): CONFERENCE REPORT

Article 9

FULL-TIME EQUATED (FTE) CLASSIFIED POSITIONS/FUNDING SOURCE	FY 2023-24 YEAR-TO-DATE*	FY 2024-25 CONFERENCE REPORT	CHANGES FROM FY 2023-24 YEAR-TO-DATE	
			AMOUNT	PERCENT
FTE Positions .....	2,614.4	2,637.0	22.6	0.9
<b>GROSS .....</b>	<b>2,867,264,800</b>	<b>2,430,969,500</b>	<b>(436,295,300)</b>	<b>(15.3)</b>
Less:				
Interdepartmental Grants Received .....	0	0	0	0.0
<b>ADJUSTED GROSS .....</b>	<b>2,867,264,800</b>	<b>2,430,969,500</b>	<b>(436,295,300)</b>	<b>(15.3)</b>
Less:				
Federal Funds .....	1,183,654,200	1,191,165,800	7,511,600	0.6
Local and Private .....	23,239,200	23,284,600	45,400	0.2
<b>TOTAL STATE SPENDING .....</b>	<b>1,660,371,400</b>	<b>1,216,519,100</b>	<b>(443,852,300)</b>	<b>(26.8)</b>
Less:				
Other State Restricted Funds .....	358,863,400	413,774,700	54,911,300	15.3
<b>GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE .....</b>	<b>1,301,508,000</b>	<b>802,744,400</b>	<b>(498,763,600)</b>	<b>(38.4)</b>
<b>PAYMENTS TO LOCALS .....</b>	<b>72,724,900</b>	<b>75,654,900</b>	<b>2,930,000</b>	<b>4.0</b>

\*As of February 7, 2024.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2023-24 Year-to-Date:
<p><b>1. Deleted Sections.</b> The Conference Deleted several sections, which includes: 214 (Department Metric), 218 (State Administration Board Transfers), 222 (Severance Pay Report), 223 (In-Person Work), 225 (Savings Identified in Audit), 403 (Community Development Block Grants), 701 (Tri-Share Child Care Program), 706 (Going Pro Report Expenditures), 715 (Michigan Reconnect Grant Program) and all FY 2023-24 One-Time Sections.</p> <p><b>2. New Sections.</b> The Conference included several new sections, which include: 308 (Restriction on Casino Investment), 404 (2.0 MSHDA FTEs designation), 715 (Office of Rural Prosperity), 716 (Community and Worker Economic Transition Office), 717 (VITA), 905 (PASREP), and One-Time Sections Sec. 1000-1054.</p> <p><b>3. Major Modification.</b> The Conference made major modification to the follow sections: 223 (Grant Transparency Requirements), 401 (MSHDA Report), 451 (State Land Bank Authority), 503 (Pure Michigan, General Fund Dollars), 504 (Pure Michigan, Local Promotion Fund), 507 (MEDC Activity Report), 509 (Limits on Land Purchases), 523 (Arts and Cultural Grant Program), 518 (Partnership Initiative), 525 (Business Attraction and Community Revitalization Work Project Report), 526 9Job Creation Expenditure Report), 533 (Revitalization and Placemaking Report), 706 (Going Pro Report), 707 (Going Pro Administration), 804 (UIA IN-Person Work), 906 (Centers for Independent Living), 951 (Commission Report), and 953 (Office of Global Michigan Report).</p>



FY 2024-25 LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY BUDGET  
S.B. 747 (CR-1): CONFERENCE REPORT

FY 2023-24 Year-to-Date Appropriation		\$2,867,264,800	\$1,301,508,000		
	CHANGE FROM FY 2023-24 Y-T-D		FY 2024-25 RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATION		
	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	
<b><u>Baseline Adjustments</u></b>					
1. <b>Bureau of Services for Blind Persons.</b> The Conference included increased Federal authorization to recognize increased Federal revenue.	3,435,100	0	29,736,700	6,315,700	
2. <b>Office of Rural Prosperity Transfer.</b> The Conference transferred the Office of Rural Prosperity, which included 1.0 FTE and \$697,400, from MDARD in accordance with Executive Order 2023-6.	697,400	697,400	697,400	697,400	
3. <b>State Historic Preservation Office.</b> The Conference increased additional Fees and Charges received by the State Historic Preservation Office.	300,000	0	500,000	0	
4. <b>Michigan Arts and Cultural Grants.</b> The Conference increased private funding \$50,000 for additional private fund received by the Council.	50,000	0	11,129,200	9,879,200	
5. <b>Removal of FY 2023-24 One-Time Appropriations.</b> The Conference removed FY 2023-24 One-Time Appropriations.	(1,043,330,000)	(1,018,330,000)	0	0	
6. <b>MiLEAP Transfer.</b> The Conference transferred 12.0 FTEs and \$68.7 million to MiLEAP in accordance with Executive Order 2023-6.	(68,674,200)	(68,674,200)	0	0	
7. <b>Technical Adjustments.</b> The Conference reduced Federal and restricted revenue throughout the budget to align with anticipated revenue.	(6,479,500)	0	N/A	N/A	
8. <b>Economic Adjustments.</b> Includes \$11,034,300 Gross and \$1,556,200 GF/GP for total economic adjustments.	11,034,300	1,556,200	N/A	N/A	
<b><u>New Programs/Program Increases</u></b>					
9. <b>Vocational Rehabilitation.</b> The Conference included \$5.9 million Gross, \$4.6 million Federal, and \$1.3 million GF/GP to appropriate available Federal matching dollars to Michigan Rehabilitation Services.	5,852,600	1,250,000	145,412,200	23,064,500	
10. <b>Office of Global Michigan.</b> The Conference included an additional \$4.0 million ongoing for the Office of Global Michigan.	4,000,000	4,000,000	43,949,800	5,530,700	
11. <b>Community and Worker Economic Transition Office.</b> The Conference created a new office with 10.0 FTEs and \$2.5 million.	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	



FY 2024-25 LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY BUDGET  
S.B. 747 (CR-1): CONFERENCE REPORT

	CHANGE FROM FY 2023-24 Y-T-D		FY 2024-25 RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATION	
	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP
<b>12. Worker's Disability Compensation Agency Fee Increase.</b> The Conference included an additional \$1.5 million in Fee revenue to appropriate a proposed fee increases for the Agency.	1,500,000	0	9,982,500	3,578,600
<b>13. Arts and Cultural Grants.</b> The Conference included an additional \$1,250,000 for Arts and Cultural Grants.	1,250,000	1,250,000	12,379,200	11,129,200
<b>14. Pure Michigan.</b> The Conference included an additional \$1.0 million for Pure Michigan	1,000,000	1,000,000	26,000,000	16,000,000
<b>15. Voluntary Income Tax Assistance Grants.</b> The Conference included support to voluntary income tax assistance programs.	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>16. Prosperity Bureau.</b> The Conference included 4.0 FTE positions and \$600,000 ongoing to support the Prosperity Bureau.	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
<b>17. Radiation Safety Fees.</b> The Conference included 4.6 FTEs and \$582,000 in Fee revenue to appropriate anticipated additional restricted revenue.	582,000	0	37,474,600	0
<b>18. Personal Assistance Services Reimbursement for Employment Program (PASREP).</b> The Conference included an additional \$400,000 in Michigan Rehabilitation Services for the Centers for Independent Living to manage the PASREP.	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
<b>19. Housing and Rental Assistance.</b> The Conference included an additional 15.0 FTEs to support the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.	0	0	51,448,200	48,674,900
<b><u>Eliminations/Reductions - NONE</u></b>				
<b><u>One-Time Appropriations</u></b>				
<b>20. Individual Grants.</b> The Conference included \$379,162,000 in One-Time funding to provide grants to individual recipients out line in the one-time document.	379,162,000	379,162,000	379,162,000	379,162,000
<b>21. Housing Affordability.</b> The Conference included a number of One-Time housing affordability programs.	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
<b>22. Michigan Innovation Fund.</b> The Conference proposed a transfer of \$60.0 million from the Venture Michigan Fund to a new innovation fund to support startup business activities. This would require a statue change.	60,000,000	0	60,000,000	0



FY 2024-25 LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY BUDGET  
S.B. 747 (CR-1): CONFERENCE REPORT

	CHANGE FROM FY 2023-24 Y-T-D		FY 2024-25 RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATION	
	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP
<b>23. Grant Programs.</b> The Conference included \$34,825,000 in One-Time funding for various grant programs, which includes: Community Museum Grants (\$18.0 million), Minority Owned Business Grants (\$10.0), Community Development Financial Institutions (\$5.0 million), Symphony Orchestra Grants (\$6.0 million), Office of Rural Prosperity Grants (\$2.5 million), Short-Term Loan Grants (\$2.5 million), and Housing Readiness Incentive Grants (\$2,325,000).	46,325,000	46,325,000	46,325,000	46,325,000
<b>24. Talent and Growth Program.</b> The Conference included \$45.5 million in One-Time for the Talent and Growth Program.	45,500,000	45,500,000	45,500,000	45,500,000
<b>25. Pure Michigan.</b> The Conference included \$14.0 million in One-Time funding in addition to ongoing funding for Pure Michigan.	14,000,000	0	40,000,000	16,000,000
<b>26. Centers for Independent Living.</b> The Conference included \$1.0 million in One-Time funding in addition to ongoing funding for the Centers for Independent Living	1,000,000	1,000,000	20,718,600	20,718,600
<b>27. Office of Global Michigan.</b> The Conference included \$1.0 million in One-Time funding in addition to ongoing funding for the Office of Global Michigan	1,000,000	1,000,000	44,949,800	5,530,700
<b>28. Prosperity Bureau.</b> The Conference included \$500,000 in One-Time funding in addition to ongoing funding for the Prosperity Bureau	500,000	500,000	1,100,000	1,100,000
<b>29. Language Access.</b> The Conference included One-Time Corporation Fees to coordinate language access initiatives throughout state agencies. Funding is also included in the DTMB budget.	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
<b>Other</b>				
<b>30. State Trade Export Program.</b> The Conference rolled the State Trade Export Program line item into the Job Creation Services line item.	0	0	N/A	N/A
Total Changes.....	(\$436,295,300)	(\$498,763,600)		
<b>FY 2024-25 CONFERENCE REPORT .....</b>	<b>\$2,430,969,500</b>	<b>\$802,744,400</b>		
<b>Amount Over/(Under) GF/GP Target .....</b>		<b>\$0</b>		

Date Completed: 6-26-24

This Analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberation.  
Bill Analysis @ <https://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa>

Fiscal Analyst: Cory Savino

One Time Appropriation		647,987,000
Sec #	Line Item Name (Grant Item)	Amount
	1001 <b>Agricultural tourism hub redevelopment</b>	2,000,000
	1002 <b>Auto show public safety</b>	225,000
	1003 <b>Brownstown municipal infrastructure</b>	1,500,000
	1004 <b>Centers for social enterprise development</b>	1,000,000
	<b>Centers for independent living</b>	1,000,000
	1005 <b>Chinatown</b>	1,000,000
	1006 <b>Community developing (Danika)</b>	100,000
	1007 <b>CDFI</b>	5,000,000
1050a	<b>Community enhancement grants</b>	
	1 "Small Talk" Program	1,500,000
	2 Building 21 Teen Center	320,000
	3 LMTS Community Center	500,000
	4 First Presbyterian Church of Lansing	500,000
	5 Lansing Schools Infrastructure	2,500,000
	6 Holt Schools Feasibility Study	150,000
	7 Potter Park Zoo Infrastructure	10,000,000
	8 Lansing Lugnuts	1,000,000
	9 Plaza Roosevelt Park Improvements	5,000,000
	10 Grand Rapids Civic Theater sidewalk reconstruction	527,000
	11 Veterans Park Improvements	500,000
	12 NAYA	500,000
	13 GRABB	500,000
	14 Downtown Boxing	2,000,000
	15 Hazel Park Library	200,000
	16 Berston Fieldhouse	3,000,000
	17 Sylvester Broome EV	250,000
	18 Communities First (Marian Hall)	1,500,000
	19 St. Luke Community Center	3,000,000
	20 Taylor Historical Society	100,000
	21 City of Ecorse Park	200,000
	22 City of Algonac Community Infrastructure	1,000,000
	23 Mount Clemens Downtown Redevelopment	5,000,000
	24 Ecumenical Senior Center	1,000,000
	25 Eastside Soup Kitchen (Saginaw)	1,000,000
1050b		
	1 Northfield township park development	2,000,000
	2 MI Minority Supplier Developer	2,000,000
	3 Detroit Rescue Mission	1,500,000
	4 100k ideas	1,500,000
	5 MSU Apple App Development Academy	1,000,000
	6 YMCA state alliance	3,500,000
	7 Communities in Schools	1,000,000
	8 Council of Women in Technology	250,000
	9 Downriver Community Conference	6,500,000
	10 Family Learning Institute	150,000
	11 Inkster Community Center	900,000
	12 Canton township	1,000,000

	13 City of Jackson DDA	4,500,000
	14 Residents in Action non-profit	1,000,000
	15 Durand Union Station, Inc	1,000,000
	16 City of Warren Parks	1,000,000
	17 Arts & Scraps	150,000
	18 Tatiana Grant	250,000
	19 GABA	1,000,000
	20 West Michigan Teacher Collaborative	2,000,000
	21 Anchor Bay School (Early Childhood Center)	750,000
	22 GR Public Museum	1,000,000
	23 Muskegon Public Access Point	1,000,000
	24 Indoor Sports Facility (Shelby Township)	2,500,000
1050c		
	1 Mackinac Island Land Acquisition	3,200,000
	2 West Michigan Sport Complex	3,000,000
	3 Van Andel Institute	1,000,000
	4 Hillsdale Hospital	3,500,000
	5 Rochester Community House	2,000,000
	6 Jimmy John's Field (Utica)	1,500,000
	7 Troy Fire Ladder Truck	1,900,000
	8 Mt Pleasant Road Sealing	2,000,000
	9 Mascon County Road Repairs	1,000,000
	10 The New Foster Care	1,900,000
	11 Gogebic labor and delivery hospital	1,200,000
	12 Fish Pass	1,000,000
	13 Sault Ste. Marie (Chippewa Indians)	750,000
	14 Sault Ste. Marie Snowmobile Track Renovations	250,000
	15 Election Centers (East Lansing, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Lansing)	4,000,000
	16 Jim Crow Museum	4,000,000
	17 Hospitality Industry Training Program	2,000,000
	18 MSU Child Development Lab	2,000,000
	19 Sherwood Pool Renovations - Saginaw	1,900,000
	20 St. Mark's Community Outreach Center	1,500,000
	21 Zekelman Holocaust Center	1,500,000
	22 Marquette Regional History Center mortgage payoff	1,000,000
	23 Detroit Blight Busters neighborhood block grants	1,000,000
	24 Flint blight elimination	1,000,000
	25 Beyond Basic	1,000,000
1050d		
	1 Fisher Building	1,000,000
	2 College Career & Beyond	1,000,000
	3 7 Mile House Detroit	1,000,000
	4 WDET Detroit Public Radio	1,000,000
	5 WISE (Women's Innovative Social Enterprise Partnership)	1,000,000
	6 St. Vincent and Sarah Fischer Center in Detroit	700,000
	7 PartnerShift Network Workforce Success Initiative (WSI)	600,000
	8 Berrien County Workforce Innovation Center	500,000
	9 Blandford Nature Center	500,000
	10 Chaldean American Social Service Advocates	500,000



11	Greater Pontiac Community Coalition	500,000
12	Prince Hall Most Worshipful Grand Lodge	500,000
13	Great Lakes Center for the Arts	500,000
14	Bridgeport gun range	425,000
15	Voces Latinx Community Hall	300,000
16	Faith Foundation Resources in Flint	300,000
17	Women and Men Working for Change	250,000
18	Violet T. Lewis senior home	250,000
19	South Haven Region Business Hub	160,000
20	Mosaic Career Pathways Institute	150,000
21	Caring Connection - Benton Harbor	100,000
22	LA SED Detroit	100,000
23	Malcolm X House historic renovation in Inkster	80,000
24	Royal Oak Twp recreation activates for youths and seniors	50,000
25	New Level Sports Youth Village Early Childhood Development Center	50,000
26	Kingdom Builders Worldwide Facility Improvements	50,000
27	Washington Heights United Methodist Church & Community, Apprenticeship	50,000
28	Pinkney Youth Community Development Center	40,000
29	Krause Memorial Library Expansion	1,000,000
30	Gladstone Senior Center	500,000
31	Stephenson Area Public Schools	400,000
1050e	Ethanol Rebates for Retailers	3,000,000
1008	<b>Community museum grants</b>	
1	Motown Museum	5,000,000
2	Muskegon Museum of History and Science	2,000,000
3	Chaldean Museum	1,000,000
4	Michigan Flight Museum	1,000,000
5	Competitive Museum Grants	9,000,000
1010	<b>Developing kids</b>	1,000,000
1011	<b>Downtown development (Redford)</b>	150,000
1012	<b>Focus: HOPE</b>	1,000,000
1013	<b>Forest products workforce training and development program</b>	750,000
1014	<b>Foster care aging-out services (Kirsten's Touch)</b>	100,000
1015	<b>Health and healing center</b>	1,500,000
1051	<b>Healthcare grants</b>	
1	Eaton Rapids Hospital infrastructure modernization	5,000,000
2	Michigan Medicine	5,000,000
3	Cristo Rey (Lansing)	1,000,000
4	Pine Rest (Pediatric Center)	12,500,000
5	Cherry Health	1,650,000
6	City of Grand Rapids (Mental Health Crisis co-response)	250,000
7	BAMF Detroit	5,000,000
8	CEDAM VITA grants	3,300,000
9	Oakland Health network	1,000,000
10	East Warren Development Corp	2,000,000
11	Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center	2,200,000
12	Mundy township (Senior center)	2,000,000
13	LatinX Community Center	2,000,000
14	SRSly Dexter	125,000

1016	<b>High impact tutoring pilot program</b>	500,000
1017	<b>Hispanic community center</b>	750,000
1018	<b>Holistic workforce development</b>	1,000,000
1052	<b>Housing grants</b>	
1	Lansing Rescue Mission	1,000,000
2	AYA Youth Collective	450,000
3	Michigan Advocacy Program	1,000,000
4	Emergency Shelter grants (Washtenaw)	1,000,000
5	Home Builders booklets	400,000
1019	<b>Housing Programs</b>	
1	Ingham County Housing Trust	15,000,000
2	Grand Traverse ISD Housing Development	5,000,000
3	Portage Mixed Income Housing Development	5,000,000
4	Dundee Village Housing Development	4,000,000
5	(Lansing)	3,300,000
6	(Lansing)	3,000,000
7	(Warren)	3,000,000
8	(Muskegon)	3,000,000
9	(Detroit)	3,000,000
10	Dewitt Manufactured Housing Complex	2,000,000
11	Delta Township Affordable Housing Development Project	2,000,000
12	Amplify Grand Rapids	1,500,000
13	Well House (Grand Rapids)	360,000
14	Faith-Based Affordable Housing Grant	2,500,000
15	Housing Industry Competitive Grants	5,000,000
16	MSHDA Downpayment Assistance	8,940,000
1020	<b>Housing readiness incentive grant program</b>	2,325,000
1021	<b>Housing stock and homeowner affordability</b>	33,400,000
1053a	<b>Infrastructure grants</b>	
1	Sea wall project (GP Shores)	1,000,000
2	City of New Baltimore (Break wall project )	2,000,000
3	City of Ypsilanti (Community infrastructure projects)	3,000,000
4	Bay City (Bridge cost reimbursement)	1,600,000
5	Clawson (Water infrastructure)	1,000,000
6	Oak Park (Water and road infrastructure)	2,000,000
7	Garden City (Sidewalk improvements)	2,500,000
8	Brooklyn (School routes)	450,000
9	CATA (Facility improvements)	5,000,000
10	Invest Detroit (Senior Housing)	2,000,000
11	Taylor / Wayne Co (Community infrastructure)	5,000,000
12	Kalamazoo Co (Tornado relief)	2,000,000
13	Lathrup Village (Community infrastructure)	2,000,000
14	Warrendale Business Association (Corridor improvements)	2,500,000
15	MI Assn of Municipal Clerks	1,035,000
16	BWL Steam Conversion Project	5,000,000
17	Eaton County Bank Intercounty Drain Project	5,000,000
18	Frankenmuth Youth Sports Complex	10,000,000
19	Detroit Zoo Infrastructure	7,000,000
20	Bonstelle Theatre Detroit	5,000,000

	21 Wyoming Non-motorized Trail	3,000,000
	22 Washtenaw Huron Waterloo Pathways Border-To-Border trail	3,000,000
	23 Canton Township Summit Renovation	2,500,000
	24 City of Hamtramck Public Works	2,000,000
	25 Hamtramck Negro League Field/Veterans Park	2,000,000
1053b		
	1 Dimondale Water Hookup to BWL	2,000,000
	2 Mount Clemens Riverfront Revitalization	2,000,000
	3 Wyandotte Downriver Arts Center Historic Rehab	2,000,000
	4 Saginaw Memorial Cup	1,600,000
	5 Mount Clemens Septic Station Project	1,500,000
	6 Oak Hill Cemetery - Battle Creek	1,200,000
	7 Ironwood Ski Jump - Pine Mountain Ski Jump at Veterans Park	1,000,000
	8 Oak Valley Park in Pittsfield Twp	1,000,000
	9 Oak Park Community/Recreation Center	1,000,000
	10 Judson Center Royal Oak campus renovations	1,000,000
	11 Dickinson County road replacement: County 573 Rd	1,000,000
	12 Detroit Parks Coalition infrastructure & accessibility	1,000,000
	13 City of Detroit Public Parks and Greenway Infrastructure	1,000,000
	14 Wayne Port Authority	1,000,000
	15 Grand Rapids Ford Airport Control Tower Local Match	2,000,000
	16 West Bloomfield Twp Greer Road bridge replacement	800,000
	17 Waterford Twp Senior Center	500,000
	18 Wayne County school infrastructure	500,000
	19 Public Wi-Fi in Greektown area Detroit	300,000
	20 Innovate Albion elevator installation	250,000
	21 Buena Vista Twp township admin offices	1,000,000
	22 Bridgman City Hall Rehab	150,000
	23 City of Benton Harbor DDA - State Street Theatre Study	30,000
	24 Sumpter Twp park	25,000
	25 Hamburg Twp Museum	20,000
	26 Scio Twp Road Improvements	1,000,000
1022	<b>Jewish family services</b>	1,200,000
1023	<b>Junior achievement</b>	1,000,000
	<b>Language access</b>	500,000
1024	<b>Life leader</b>	750,000
1025	<b>Math and reading academies</b>	1,000,000
1026	<b>Michigan innovation fund</b>	60,000,000
1027	<b>Michigan women forward</b>	1,500,000
1028	<b>Michigan works! skills scholarship</b>	1,000,000
1029	<b>Michigan's high-tech talent development</b>	2,000,000
1030	<b>Michigan minority owned business</b>	10,000,000
1031	<b>Nutritional support program (Meals on wheel of western Michigan)</b>	2,000,000
	<b>Office of global Michigan</b>	1,000,000
1032	<b>Office of rural prosperity</b>	2,500,000
1033	<b>Police athletic league</b>	250,000
1034	<b>Post-incarceration employment</b>	1,000,000
	<b>Prosperity bureau</b>	500,000
1035	<b>Psygenics</b>	250,000



<b>1054 Public safety grants</b>	
1 Ingham JJ Facility	12,500,000
2 Hamtramck (Firetruck)	800,000
3 City of Eastpointe (38th district court)	7,000,000
4 Westland (Fire department infrastructure)	3,500,000
5 Livonia (Fire equipment)	1,000,000
6 City of Dearborn (Health and security infrastructure)	6,000,000
7 Jewish Federation (Security)	4,000,000
8 Macomb Community College Public Safety Institute	2,000,000
9 Northville Twp Fire Truck	1,500,000
10 Romulus Public Safety Building	1,000,000
11 Kalamazoo Twp police & fire infrastructure	1,000,000
12 Oshtemo Twp Fire Station	1,000,000
13 Sterling Heights Police Command Vehicle	750,000
14 Eaton County Fire Training Center	700,000
15 Madison Heights Police Dept HVAC	500,000
16 Utica Ambulance replacement	450,000
17 Utica Fire & EMT radios	300,000
18 Bloomfield Twp first responders & fire	300,000
19 Grand Ledge Emergency Disaster relief	250,000
20 Casco Twp (Allegan County) Firehouse Garage	200,000
21 Utica Police Equipment	200,000
22 AmeriCorps Urban Safety Program/Detroit Youth Service Corps	100,000
23 Scio Twp Fire Truck	750,000
<b>Pure Michigan</b>	14,000,000
<b>1036 Reignite</b>	250,000
<b>1037 Right of counsel</b>	1,500,000
<b>1038 School psychologist programming</b>	1,000,000
<b>1039 SER metro</b>	750,000
<b>1040 Short term loan grants</b>	2,500,000
<b>1041 Small business development</b>	3,000,000
<b>1042 Starfish</b>	2,000,000
<b>1043 Symphony orchestra grants</b>	5,250,000
1 Detroit symphony orchestra	750,000
<b>1044 Talent and growth</b>	45,500,000
<b>1045 Walkabouts multisensory movement-based learning</b>	500,000
<b>1046 Wayne metro</b>	2,500,000
<b>1047 Winter sports development (Luge)</b>	1,500,000
<b>1048 Women of tomorrow</b>	200,000
<b>1009 Workforce development grants (AFL-CIO WDI)</b>	4,000,000
<b>1049 Young adult well being and success (Discovery you)</b>	1,000,000
<b>1050 Youth career development program (Starr commonwealth)</b>	450,000

## Exhibit 2: Lansing State Journal: Major League Baseball Mandate Article

# Lansing State Journal

---

LOCAL

## Major League Baseball mandated new grass for Lansing's baseball stadium. State legislators ponied up



**Mike Ellis**

Lansing State Journal

Published 7:30 p.m. ET June 30, 2024 | Updated 8:08 p.m. ET June 30, 2024

LANSING — The grass needs to be greener at Jackson Field, and the new state budget has a special allocation that is likely going help make that happen.

The turf upgrade is a Major League Baseball requirement for the minor league Lansing Lugnuts to be able to play in 2025, Tristan Wright, LEPFA's director, told city council members during a May committee meeting.

Major League Baseball officials directed requests for comment about Jackson Field's turf to the local team. Jesse Goldberg-Strassler, a Lugnuts spokesperson, said the turf was last replaced around the end of 2016.

Wright declined comment for this story, and LEPFA did not respond to a request for more information about the state appropriation.

The \$82.5 billion spending plan passed this week by the Legislature is awaiting Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's signature. It includes about \$400 million in pork, or earmarks for special projects, including about \$80 million for the three-county Lansing region. The \$1 million for "Lansing Lugnuts Infrastructure Improvements" is among those earmarks.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said the city-owned field where the minor league Lugnuts play is a treasure.

"This funding from the state will help cover costs, keep our baseball stadium in compliance with MLB regulations and maintain a safe and attractive-looking field," he said in a statement.

Jackson Field is the centerpiece of the city's Stadium District, surrounded by restaurants and upscale apartments, just a few blocks from the Michigan Capitol. Last year, nearly 333,000 people visited Jackson Field to watch the Lugnuts play, according to city officials.

Opened in 1996, the baseball stadium is operated by the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority.

The city paid LEPFA a \$606,000 subsidy in 2023 for Jackson Field, which was greater than the stadium's expenses of \$473,455 that year, according to financial information from LEPFA.

**MORE:** From the Archives: Photos of the Lansing Lugnuts through the years

The stadium underwent a \$13.5 million renovation in 2015. That project, paid with city-issued bonds, included updated restrooms, team locker rooms, batting cages, fan seats, suites, picnic areas and playground equipment, concessions areas, stadium lighting, scoreboard, digital ribbon boards wrapping the suite deck, audio systems and signs.

RECEIVED by MCCOC 5/22/2025 4:12:05 PM

The team drew 332,971 fans in 2023. That's about 10% more than 2019 and 2% higher than 2022.

Councilmember Ryan Kost said an evening game can have fireworks, entertainment and is one of the best values for a night out with family or friends.

Same-day lawn admission is \$12 for adults, bleacher seats are \$15 and clubhouse seats are \$46, according to the box office website.

With the city's 2023 subsidy for Jackson Field being more than Jackson Field's operating expenses, that extra money is typically used for pricy long-term maintenance issues such as the turf and a necessary HVAC replacement for units that are nearly 30 years old, Kost said.

The stadium is needed, as an economic driver and community asset, but LEPFA needs to do more to bring more people into the stadium, Kost said.

The stadium hosts a number of non-baseball events, including Crosstown Showdown, Capital Clash, Beerfest at the Ballpark, the Michigan Legislative Softball Game, the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, the Olive Burger Festival, the Playmakers Fitness Foundation Michigan Mile and some concerts.

Kost said the stadium, when it was opened and he was young, held a wider variety of events. He said it could be used throughout the year for more community events, such as coordinating an ice hockey exhibition to coincide with the winter-kickoff Kringle Holiday Market in downtown or hosting more summer movie nights.

City council members have criticized LEPFA for using taxpayer money to stabilize the operations of Groesbeck Golf Course and the Lansing Center, a convention center, as well as the stadium. In May, to highlight their value rather than advocate for their sale, Councilmember Peter Spadafore tentatively proposed selling the three properties.

Jackson Field is the third name for the stadium.

It opened as Oldsmobile Park, a 15-year and \$1.5 million deal with General Motors, and then became the Cooley Law School Stadium for 11 years, starting in 2010, in a \$1.48 million deal. It was renamed Jackson Field in 2020, a seven-year deal with Jackson National Life Insurance.

LEPFA has made recent repairs at the stadium, according to officials. Those include:

Fall 2021: 27-year-old outfield lighting upgraded with LED lights that can be controlled in sections rather than as a whole, at a cost of \$650,000.

2021-2022: Locker room renovations to accommodate women in sports, no dollar figure provided.

Fall 2023: Extra batting tunnel added, outfield padding and anti-slip padding to dugout areas, \$1,200,000.

The Lugnuts home locker room area and weight room were expanded, no dollar figure provided.

Contact Mike Ellis at [mellis@lsj.com](mailto:mellis@lsj.com) or 517-267-0415