



# MICHIGAN SENATE

## Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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Date Submitted: 03/30/2026

**1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:**

Senator Ruth Johnson

**2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):**

N/A

**3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:**

Romeo Downtown Development Authority

**4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:**

141 S. Main Street, Romeo, MI 48065; Downtown Romeo

**5. The recipient's employer identification number:**

383253004

**6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:**

\$250,000.00

**7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?**

This request is to support the Romeo Downtown Development Authority (DDA)'s Downtown Romeo Wayfinding Project. This project will enhance navigation, accessibility, and visitor experience throughout our historic downtown district, including:

- Gateway signage at entrances to the village
- Pedestrian wayfinding and parking guidance
- Informational kiosks directing visitors to local businesses, public amenities, and regional trail connections

Visitor traffic is a critical driver of our economy: over 1 million visitors attend major events annually, including the Romeo Peach Festival and Vintage Fest, and approximately 70% of downtown commerce comes from visitor traffic. This project will support small businesses, strengthen tourism, and maintain the vitality of our downtown for both residents and visitors.

Project Budget: • Total Estimated Cost: \$400,000 • LDSI Funding Requested:

\$250,000 • Local/DDA Match: \$100,000 • Other Grants / Funding: \$50,000 The DDA and Village are ready to begin preliminary design and site preparation immediately, with LDSI funds applied toward fabrication and installation upon award. They have strong community support from local businesses, the Village Council, and festival organizers.

- 8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:**

N/A

**Amount**

N/A

- 9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:**

May 2027

- 10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?**

No

*Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)*

*The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.*

- 1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?**

No

- 2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?**

No

- 3. Does the organization have a board of directors?**

No

- 4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:**

N/A

*Certification By Sponsoring Legislator*

*"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."*

*"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."*

*"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."*

*Senator Ruth Johnson*