

The complexities of urban municipalities differ in many ways from their suburban and rural counterparts. Drawing from two decades of local government experience, Ms. Angela Bennett will discuss the unique strengths and challenges of Michigan's urban centers. Her presentation will focus on revenue sources and trends, economic development, service provision, collective bargaining, legacy costs, and financial reserves.

Local Government Challenges in Michigan: An Urban Governance Perspective

Ms. Angela Bennett
Financial Analyst, Michigan Supreme Court
Formerly, Finance Director, City of Lansing

Ms. Angela Bennett is currently a financial analyst at the Michigan Supreme Court, a position she has taken after over twenty years of experience in urban municipal finance. She has served as Comptroller for the City of Kalamazoo and as Budget Manager, Deputy Finance Director, and Finance Director for the City of Lansing.



Angela has extensive experience in budgeting, financial forecasting, governmental accounting and financial reporting, collective bargaining, pension and defined contribution system administration, and debt issuance and administration. Her municipal finance experience spanned the recession of 2001 and the Great Recession, both of which hit hard the many local governments in Michigan. She has played a central role in initiatives of over \$80 million in budget restructuring, over \$200 million reduction in long-term pension and retiree healthcare liabilities, and building of solid financial reserves despite formidable obstacles.

Angela is a two-time WMU alumnus. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Public Administration and a minor in business and a Master of Public Administration degree with concentrations in public finance and human resources.

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