



IPPSR PUBLIC POLICY FORUM SERIES FALL 2021 – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021

INFRASTRUCTURE IN MICHIGAN



ERIC FREDERICK, VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS,
CONNECTED NATION-MICHIGAN

Eric Frederick serves as Vice President for Community Affairs for Connected Nation. He is responsible for managing development and implementation of the Connected Community Engagement Program relationships in support of Connected Nation's mission. In addition, he provides primary management, oversight, and support for Connected Nation Michigan's state strategy as a context for advancing methodologies relevant to Connected.

He previously served as the Executive Director for Connected Nation Michigan. In this role, he developed relationships with statewide, national, and international groups that are partnering with Connected Nation to solve problems of connectivity and to bolster the value of internet connections. Eric also led a nationally recognized team that produced the nation's first certified connected community.



ERIC SCORSONE, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR LOCAL
GOVERNMENT, FINANCE AND POLICY, MSU EXTENSION,
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Eric Scorsone is the Director of the MSU Extension Center for Local Government Finance and Policy. Previously, he worked as senior Economist at the Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency in 2010 and returned to MSU in 2011. Prior to working at MSU, Scorsone developed award winning extension programs as an Assistant Extension Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Kentucky in the areas of rural health economics and economic development. He also served as an Economist for the Colorado Governor's Office of State

Planning and Budget and as a Senior Economist for the City of Aurora, Colorado.

He has also worked on international development projects in Thailand, Macedonia and Indonesia and has taught public performance management at the University of Bologna, Italy and University of Valencia, Spain. He has published in *State and Local Government Review*, *Growth and Change*, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Journal of Federal Studies*, *Public Money and Management*, and *International Review of Administrative Sciences*.



MARK POLSDOFER, POLICY ADVISOR, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mark Polsdofer is a policy advisor for the Michigan Department of Transportation. His work in public service is centered in transportation, county government and economic development. Previously, he has worked as a program specialist where his duties included overseeing consultant contracts, monitoring budgets, and overseeing the research program development process with universities and private consultants. He also serves on research advisory committees.

Poldofer is an elected member of the Ingham County Commission and board member and chairman of the Ingham County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. He was previously the DOT's legislative liaison, lobbying for the agency's budget priorities in the Michigan Legislature.