We continue to hear that the legislators are hoping for a budget to be in final form by the end of June (state law), but in actuality, they continue to reference the first week in July. They are also hoping that budget targets will be announced as early as next week. While many in the legislature will be in attendance at the Mackinaw Island Policy Conference next week, there is still a lot of work to be done to build consensus on the budget. On the heels of news that state revenues were increasing, the House of Representatives, Senate, and Governor Whitmer each moved on separate proposals for a tax cut for Michiganders. Currently, there is no consensus on what is the best road forward which is part of the reticence to spend.

As budget targets near, MLA continues to advocate for the version of the budget proposed by the Senate to include an additional $500,000 for State Aid to Libraries. We are also advocating for the Governor’s version of the budget ($50M) to make libraries eligible in the boilerplate language for the Out of School programming grants.