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# Michigan halts gift card giveaway after overwhelming response

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Potholes along West Michigan Avenue in downtown Kalamazoo, Michigan on Monday, March 6, 2023. (Joel Bissell | MLive.com) Joel Bissell | MLive.com



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Michigan wanted to hear from its residents about future road funding opportunities that go beyond the gas tax.

They got their wish.

Officials launched an online survey Tuesday, Jan. 30, and offered a \$10 gift card to respondents in return for their input. By Thursday, Feb. 1, the Department of Transportation (MDOT) announced it had received thousands of responses and had run out of gift cards.



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“Due to the overwhelming interest in this study, we have exceeded our targeted number of responses,” reads the state’s update. “As outlined in the terms and conditions, gift cards are no longer being offered. You will not receive a gift card if you complete the survey.”

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A spokesperson for the state said they had received 22,900 total responses. They have between 12,000 and 16,000 gift cards to give out after checking responses for duplicates and other non-qualifying responses.

Participants can still fill out the survey and offer their thoughts on keeping the existing gas tax or replacing it with another option like a mileage-based charge. [It's available, here.](#)

There are no current plans to replace the gas tax, however consultants have told the state it is underfunding its road system by about [\\$3.9 billion annually](#). To reach its goal of 90% of roads in good or fair condition, the state may need to consider additional infrastructure revenue.

Residents who answered the questionnaire before supplies ran out should expect to receive their gift card via email within the next two weeks.

Survey questions are available in English, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese. Participants who require assistance (visual, hearing, written, etc.) should contact Orlando Curry at 517-241-7462 or [curryo@michigan.gov](mailto:curryo@michigan.gov).

Residents can also note if they're interested in participating in a pilot demonstration in the fall to help the state understand how road usage charges might work in Michigan. If selected for the pilot, you may be eligible for a gift card "ranging from \$75 to \$500," according to MDOT.

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