



PROPOSED MARQUETTE TOWNSHIP ROAD MILLAGE – FACT SHEET



On Tuesday, August 4, 2014, the Marquette Township Board unanimously approved a Township Local Roads Rehabilitation Millage question to be included on the November 4th State General Election ballot for Marquette Township residents to consider. The proposed millage would amount to a 1.5 mill tax levy (after expiration of the current .85 mill tax levy) for a period of fifteen (15) years. If the millage is passed, ***ALL local roads in the Township are proposed to be repaired within the first three years of the millage period (2015-2017).***

- Through community surveys, planning work sessions and comments received at Township Board meetings, Township residents have consistently stated that the poor surface condition of the local road system is a top priority to address within the community.
- The Charter Township of Marquette does not own or maintain roads located within our boundary. The roads within Marquette Township are owned and controlled by the Marquette County Road Commission (MCRC).
- Sufficient funding is not being generated to support the MCRC maintaining or repairing the Marquette County infrastructure system. Currently, costs to maintain the road system significantly exceeds the available revenues, and the need continues to increase.
- The expiring .85 mil, road millage was approved by the residents to rebuild Werner St., with any remaining balance of the funding being applied to rehabilitate Brookton Rd. This current road millage will expire December 31, 2014.
- Effective January 1, 2015 there will be no local property tax monies going to roads, and state transportation funding has increased only once since 1984. The last increase was in 1997. Legislative inaction makes a state funding increase uncertain in the foreseeable future.
- For 2015, Marquette Township is proposing a millage of 1.5 mils per year for fifteen years to improve and maintain local streets and roads. The millage will provide approximately \$500,000.00 annually. The cost to taxpayers is \$150.00 per \$100,000.00 of taxable value. In as much as the current .85 mil expires on December 31, 2014, and the proposed 1.5 mils would become effective on January 1, 2015, ***the net effect upon residential taxes will be a .65 mil increase over current, or \$65.00 per \$100,000.00 of taxable value.***
- Currently, less than 20% of roads in Marquette Township are rated as “good”. If approved, the funds generated by the 2015 millage would improve that rating to 80% “good” within the next 3 years.
- The Marquette Township Asset Management plan will guide spending of the millage funds. Asset Management, according to Public Act 199 of 2007, means: an “ongoing process of maintaining, upgrading and operating physical assets cost-effectively, based on a continuous physical inventory and condition assessment.” The implementation of an asset management decision process allows Marquette Township to make informed decisions for the transportation network with the most accurate information. The process enables stewardship, transparent decision processes and measurable performance.
- The overall plan is focused on improvements that will benefit all Township residents and will also include street lighting, walkability/bikability and stormwater runoff concerns; funded from other resources and not funded by the proposed millage.
- The Marquette Township Board, Road Committee, and staff have prioritized projects based on P.A.S.E.R. (road surface condition) ratings, safety, traffic volumes, road function, school bus routing, emergency routing and non-motorized transportation opportunities.

- Roads not considered for repair by this millage are all of County Road 550. Co. Rd. 550 is currently undergoing extensive rehabilitation, in preparation for Eagle Mine trucking. County Road 492, from the Township's west border to Commerce Drive is currently scheduled for completion in 2016 by the MCRC. Wright Street, from the city limits to the Target intersection is not being considered as part of this millage effort. Finally, Ontario Street, from Werner to Wright Streets is currently scheduled for reconstruction in 2017 by the MCRC and is therefore not being considered as part of this Township rehabilitation program.
- A detailed project list and project map has been created and is available for review on the Marquette Township website (marquettetownship.org) or at the Township Hall. The current list of projects calls for work on 15 miles of the 34 miles of local township roads in 2015. 2016 will see reconstruction and rehabilitation on another 15 miles of local Township roads, with the remaining 4 miles being completed in 2017.

Road Millage Workshops

To be transparent and informative, residents of the Township are invited to a series of work sessions prior to the election on Tuesday, November 4th. Township staff and Road Committee members will be available to answer questions and provide additional information, as needed. The meeting dates and times are also located on the enclosed September calendar and are also denoted below. At your convenience, please take the time to come to the Marquette Township Hall at 1000 Commerce Drive to have your questions answered, to find the cost to you, to find out the road repair schedule, and to become informed about the proposed project.

September Road Millage Workshops:

Monday, September 8 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, September 10 th	6-7 PM
Monday, September 15 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, September 17 th	6-7 PM
Monday, September 22 nd	12-1 PM
Wednesday, September 24 th	6-7 PM
Monday, September 29 th	12-1 PM

October Road Millage Workshops:

Wednesday, October 1 st	6-7 PM
Monday, October 6 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, October 8 th	6-7 PM
Monday, October 13 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, October 15 th	6-7 PM
Monday, October 20 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, October 22 nd	6-7 PM
Monday, October 27 th	12-1 PM
Wednesday, October 29 th	6-7 PM

We look forward to meeting with you in order to answer your questions and provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision regarding the proposed Marquette Township Local Roads Rehabilitation Millage.

Thank you.