

A RESOLUTION PLACING A 0.5-MILL ROAD LEVY ON THE AUGUST 2, 2016  
BALLOT AND CERTIFYING THE BALLOT QUESTION FOR THIS  
PROPOSITION

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
May 4, 2016

WHEREAS, under Michigan law (Public Act 283 of 1909; MCLA 224.20), it is the duty of the Board of Commissioners (board) to raise a sufficient tax to keep any county roads or bridges already built in reasonable repair, and in condition reasonably safe and fit for public travel; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2014 and on September 16, 2015, pursuant to MCLA 224.20, the board levied an annual non-voter approved tax of 0.5 mills to keep public roads, streets, bridges and culverts already built in reasonable repair, and in condition reasonably safe and fit for public travel in the county's cities, villages and townships; and

WHEREAS, while those special levies yielded the improvement of over 120 miles of county roadways, their enactment must be approved by the board on an annual basis which inhibits longer-term planning; and

WHEREAS, in June, 2014, the Board of Commissioners approved Resolution #14-100 which created the "Roads Funding Committee" which was asked to explore immediate and long term road funding options; and

WHEREAS, in November, 2015, the Michigan Legislature enacted and the Governor signed, new road funding legislation which will not go into full effect until 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Roads Funding Committee has each reviewed a number of road funding options to fill the gap until such time as the new road funding legislation becomes fully effective; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2016 the Washtenaw County Road Commission formally requested that the Board of Commissioners place a 4-year, 0.5 mill road levy before the voters at the August 2016 primary election; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2016, the Road Funding Committee, rather than continue the process of an annual non-voter approved road levy enacted by the Board of Commissioners pursuant to MCLA 224.20, also recommended that a four-year 0.5 mill tax levy be presented to the electors of Washtenaw County at the August 2, 2016 primary election pursuant to MCLA 224.20b and that the Board of Commissioners approve the ballot language and certify it to the Washtenaw County Clerk; and

WHEREAS, poor roads can create unsafe conditions for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, hamper economic development, depress property values, and burden residents with unexpected vehicle repairs; and

WHEREAS, continued neglect of the county's road infrastructure increases the eventual cost of repair; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners agrees that the proper course of action is to request the voters of the county to levy 0.50 mills for maintenance, reconstruction, resurfacing, construction, or preservation of roads, streets, and paths, for four (4) years; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, State of Michigan, as follows:

1. There shall be submitted to the electors of the County of Washtenaw at the PRIMARY ELECTION to be held on August 2, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, the following proposition:

"Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed each year for all purposes on real and tangible personal property in Washtenaw County, Michigan be increased as provided in Section 6, Article IX of the Michigan Constitution and the Board of Commissioners of the County be authorized to levy a tax not to exceed one half of one mill (\$.50 per \$1,000 of state taxable valuation) for a period of four (4) years, beginning with the December 1, 2016 tax levy (which will generate estimate revenues of \$7,302,408 in the first year), to maintain, construct, resurface, reconstruct, or preserve roads, bike lanes, streets, and paths in Washtenaw County?"

2. The election shall be held in accordance with Chapter XXVII of the general election laws of the State of Michigan
3. The Washtenaw County Clerk is hereby instructed to carry out all appropriate statutory duties as set forth in this Resolution and the general election laws of the State of Michigan so that the question of adoption may be submitted to the voters on August 2, 2016.
4. The Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners certifies to the County Clerk the following question as the appropriate ballot wording to be submitted to the voters in Washtenaw County at the primary election to be held on August 2, 2016 for the above-referenced proposition:

PROPOSITION TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVYING OF .50 MILLS TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO MAINTAIN, RECONSTRUCT, RESURFACE, OR PRESERVE ROADS, BIKE LANES, STREETS, AND PATHS.

“Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed each year for all purposes on real and tangible personal property in Washtenaw County, Michigan be increased as provided in Section 6, Article IX of the Michigan Constitution and the Board of Commissioners of the County be authorized to levy a tax not to exceed one half of one mill (\$0.50 per \$1,000 of state taxable valuation) for a period of four (4) years, beginning with the December 1, 2016 tax levy (which will generate estimated revenues of \$7,302,408 in the first year), to maintain, construct, resurface, reconstruct, or preserve roads, bike lanes, streets, and paths in Washtenaw County?”

YES ( )

NO ( )

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this levy be exempt from capture by TIF Districts or TIFAs to the greatest extent allowed by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no less than 10% of the revenue in any year shall be used for non-motorized transportation throughout the county, and the non-motorized transportation funds shall be administered by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of the remaining revenue, after allocations toward non-motorized transportation, shall be allocated to cities and villages in proportion to the revenue raised from those municipalities and shall be used as directed by the respective governing bodies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining revenue, after non-motorized and city and village allocations, shall be used for projects throughout the county's townships based on use, need, and impact to the traveling public, as recommended by the Washtenaw County Road Commission upon consultation with the respective townships.