

**R-378-8-06****RESOLUTION OF INTENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
PARK MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MILLAGE**

Whereas, It is the intent that City Council present to the voters a ballot issue which would consolidate the existing Park Rehabilitation and Development and Park Repair and Restoration millages into a Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage;

Whereas, There is a need to establish policy guidelines for administration of millage funds consistent with the proposed ballot language;

Whereas, The City Council wants to inform the voters of the manner in which it intends to oversee the administration of the consolidated millage if the proposed millage is approved by the voters;

Whereas, The Park Advisory Commission, at its July 18, 2006 meeting unanimously supported this intent resolution; and

Whereas, A Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage Administration Policy has been developed that includes the following;

RESOLVED, That City Council adopt the following policy guidelines for the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage:

1. Adoption of the Funding Distribution Guidelines as stipulated in Attachment A;
2. Annual allocation for maintenance is to be between 60% and 80% and capital improvements is to be between 20% and 40% with a total annual allocation being 100%;
3. The Natural Area Preservation Program budget be established at a minimum of \$700,000 for first year of the millage budget and that it receive a minimum 3% annual increase for each of the subsequent five years of the millage to enhance the stewardship of increased acreage of natural park areas;
4. If future reductions are necessary in the City's general fund budget, during any of the six years of this millage, beginning with Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the general fund budget supporting the parks and recreation system for that year will be reduced by a percentage no greater than the average percentage reduction of the total City general fund budget;
5. If future increases occur in the City's general fund budget during any of the six years of this millage, beginning with Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the general fund budget supporting the parks and recreation system for that year will be increased at the same rate as the average percentage increase of the total City general fund budget;

6. City Council will verify these expenditures by examining the audit statement for each year.
7. The millage will not be subject to a municipal service charge;
8. The millage may be subject to appropriate information technology and fleet charges;
9. If the millage is not renewed after the six years, the Natural Area Preservation Program will receive the same percentage of any remaining fund balance from the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage as was in the approved budgeted in the sixth year of the millage; and

RESOLVED, That if the millage is adopted, the City Administrator is directed to develop an annual millage budget for review and recommendation by the Park Advisory Commission with final adoption by City Council consistent with this Resolution.

Submitted By: Community Services

Date: August 10, 2006

As Amended by City Council on October 3, 2006

**APPROVED  
BY ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL**

**August 21, 2006**

**CITY CLERK  
ANN ARBOR, MI**

**AMENDED ON OCTOBER 3, 2006**  
**SEE AMENDED RESOLUTION**

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4. If future reductions are necessary in the City's general fund budget, not including the budget for Safety Services, during any of the six years of this millage, beginning in the fiscal year of 2007-2008, the general fund budget supporting the parks and recreation system, after subtracting the revenue obtained from fees for Parks and Recreation, will be reduced no greater than the average percentage reduction, for each particular year, of the rest of the City general fund budget, not including the budget for Safety Services, for each of the applicable six years of this millage;
5. If future increases occur in the City's general fund budget, not including the budget for Safety Services, during any of the six years of this millage, beginning in the fiscal year of 2007-2008, the

- general fund budget supporting the parks and recreation system, after subtracting the revenue obtained from fees for Parks and Recreation, will be increased at the same rate as the average percentage increase, for each particular year, of the rest of the City general fund budget, not including the budget for Safety Services, for each of the applicable six years of this millage;
6. City Council will verify these expenditures by examining the audit statement for each year.
  7. The millage will not be subject to a municipal service charge;
  8. The millage may be subject to appropriate information technology and fleet charges;
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RESOLVED, That if the millage is adopted, the City Administrator is directed to develop an annual millage budget for review and recommendation by the Park Advisory Commission with final adoption by City Council consistent with this Resolution.

Submitted By: Community Services  
Date: August 10, 2006

As Amended by City Council on August 21, 2006

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Jayne Miller, Community Services Area Administrator

DATE: August 10, 2006

SUBJECT: Resolution of Intent on the Administration of Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage

Attached for your approval is an accompanying resolution for the park maintenance and capital improvements millage for the November 7, 2006 ballot. Approval of this resolution establishes the administration of the park maintenance and capital improvements millage if approved by the voters.

The City currently has two expiring park millages: 1) .4701 mills initially authorized for park rehabilitation and development scheduled to expire in 2006, and 2) .4725 mills initially authorized for park repair and restoration scheduled to expire in 2006.

In November 2000, Ann Arbor voters approved the Park Rehabilitation and Development Millage for .4701 mills for six years (reduced to .4528 mills by the required millage reduction as of July 1, 2006). This millage was to fund the City's park and recreation capital improvement programs, focusing on four areas: recreation facility rehabilitation and improvement; City-wide neighborhood park rehabilitation and improvements; active park improvements, including bicycle facilities, pathways and trail linkages; and natural parks and historic preservation.

In November 2002, the Park Repair and Restoration Millage was approved by Ann Arbor voters for four years at a rate of .4725 mills (reduced to .4616 mills by the required millage reduction as of July 1, 2006). This millage was to finance park repair and restoration for natural area preservation, forestry and horticulture in parks, and non-routine repair and restoration activities for the park system infrastructure.

The recommended ballot proposal is a Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage. The millage proposes 1.25 mills and anticipates \$5,691,760 in revenue in FY07-08. Subsequent annual revenue will be adjusted based on the Headlee rollback and property value adjustments. The proposal is a single, six-year millage with the following annual fund allocation: between 60% and 80% for maintenance and between 20% and 40% for capital improvements with a total allocation being 100%. Park maintenance activities that could be funded from this millage will include forestry and horticulture, natural area preservation, park operations, park equipment repairs, park security, and recreation facilities. Park capital improvement projects will include active parks; forestry and horticulture; historic preservation; neighborhood parks and urban

plazas; pathways, trails, boardwalks, greenways and the Huron River watershed; recreation facilities; and park equipment acquisitions.

Many issues were considered before making this recommendation. Over the past several years, a number of park areas have been developed to meet the community demands for more active park areas. During this same time period, general fund resources available for park maintenance activities have been reduced, consistent with other general fund reductions throughout the City. The combination of these forces has resulted in elongated maintenance cycles across the system, which do not meet national or community standards.

The recommendation being made is designed to address these deficiencies, allow for improved maintenance cycles, and provide adequate resources for capital improvements for assets across the 2045 acres of parkland. By shifting the resources from a 50/50 split between maintenance and capital to close to a 70/30 split, the resources will be more appropriately allocated to meet the needs of the parks system for maintenance and capital improvement projects. In addition, the 1.25 mill proposal will also provide the essential resources to improve the maintenance activities in the parks while providing adequate funds for park capital improvement projects.

The millage proposal is being partnered with this accompanying resolution to provide additional protections for the parks and recreation system. If the millage proposal is approved by the voters and general fund budgets continue to be reduced, the accompanying resolution requests that future general fund budgets for the parks and recreation system be reduced no greater than the average percentage reduction of the rest of the City general fund budget for each of the six years of this millage. Similarly, if the millage proposal is approved by the voters and general fund budgets increase, the accompanying resolution requests that future general fund budgets for the parks and recreation system increase at the same average percentage rate as the rest of the City general fund budget for each of the six years of this millage. Additionally, it requests that the annual millage budget be prepared by the City Administrator for review and recommendation by the Park Advisory Commission with final adoption by City Council. Finally, it also recommends that the millage not be subject to a municipal service charge and that the millage may be subject to appropriate information technology and fleet charges.

The Park Advisory Commission, at its July 18, 2006 meeting unanimously supported this intent resolution.

Attachment: Proposed Resolution  
Attachment A - Funding Distribution Guidelines

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Submitted By: Community Services  
Date: August 10, 2006

**SEE AMENDED RESOLUTION**



Attachment A  
August 10, 2006

**PARKS MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS  
FUNDING DISTRIBUTION GUIDELINES**

ACTIVITY	General Fund	Millage
<b>General Administration &amp; Park Planning</b>		
General parks & recreation administration	✓	
Park system planning		✓
<b>Park Operations &amp; Forestry</b>		
<b>Athletic Fields</b>		
Maintenance	✓	✓
Repairs & capital improvements, excluding mowing		✓
<b>Cemetery</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	
<b>Game Courts</b>		
Maintenance	✓	✓
Repairs & capital improvements		✓
<b>Park Maintenance Equipment (mowers, snow plows, snow blowers, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital improvement investments		✓
<b>Park Mechanical Systems (furnaces, air conditioners, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacement		✓
<b>Flowers/Shrubs &amp; Horticulture</b>		
Park areas	✓	✓
Non - Park areas	✓	
<b>Litter &amp; Refuse</b>		
Collection & removal from park areas	✓	
<b>Park Amenities (benches, buildings, fountains, gates, grills, picnic tables, restrooms, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacement & capital improvements		✓
Facility operational utility costs	✓	
<b>Mowing</b>		
Park and non-park areas	✓	
<b>Park Security</b>		
Security staffing		✓
Vandalism repair & maintenance		✓
<b>Forestry (Tree Maintenance, Pruning, Tree &amp; Stump Removals, Storm Damage, Plantings, Disease Management, Hazard Work, etc)</b>		
Park & natural areas maintenance	✓	✓
Non-Park areas	✓	
Park area replanting for Emerald Ash Borer recovery		✓
Tree nursery maintenance	✓	

ACTIVITY	General Fund	Millage
<b>Playground Safety</b>		
Inspections, maintenance, repairs, replacement & capital improvements		✓
<b>Sidewalk, Pathway, Trail, Boardwalk, Greenway</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital improvements		✓
Snow & ice control maintenance	✓	
<b>Park Parking Lots</b>		
Maintenance	✓	✓
Repairs & capital improvements		✓
Snow & ice control maintenance	✓	
<b>Natural Area Preservation</b>		
Stewardship & restoration		✓
Assessment/Monitoring & project review of City-owned natural areas, conservation easements, and ecological monitoring projects		✓
Environmental education coordination		✓
Outreach & volunteer coordination		✓
Prairie Restoration Activities		✓
Restoration of aquatic ecosystem		✓
<b>Recreation Facilities</b>		
<b>Recreation Equipment (canoes, bikes, ice skates, kayaks, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital investments		✓
<b>Facility Maintenance Equipment (zambonis, ice edgers, mowers, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital Investments		✓
<b>Mechanical Systems (furnaces, air conditioners, compressors, pool filtration systems, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital improvements		✓
<b>Recreation Facility Structures (buildings, structures, plumbing systems, etc)</b>		
Maintenance & repairs	✓	✓
Replacements & capital improvements		✓
Operational utility costs	✓	
<b>General Park Capital Projects</b>		
Improvements for park shelters, park structures, active parks, neighborhood parks & urban plazas, preservation of historic park amenities, & cemeteries		✓