

Grass Lake Charter Township Road Improvement Bond Proposal

Ballot Issue Tuesday, November 3rd

What am I being asked to vote on for the road improvement project?

Approval to issue bonds along with a millage necessary to pay the bonds back over 21 years. The proposed project will bring all of the local roads* and village streets in Grass Lake back to an optimal condition at a cost of approximately \$26,291,689. In accordance with county policy, the Jackson County Department of Transportation (JCDOT) is able to cover 30% of the total cost for improving local roads in the township. The remaining 70% of funding for local roads and 100% of the funding for village streets would come from the proposed bond issue which is paid back by a special millage over 21 years.

What is the cost of this project to me?

The proposed millage necessary to pay for the bond issue (a tax based on the value of property) is 4.12 mills in the first year, and approximately 4.09 mills thereafter for a period of 21 years. With a millage rate of \$4.12 per \$1,000 of *taxable value* (not cash or market value), a typical home with a \$50,000 taxable value (\$100,000 market value) would pay \$206.00 per year, or \$17.17 per month. The formula below shows approximately what homeowners would pay, based on the taxable value of their home:

(Home taxable value) x 0.00412 (or 0.00409 for years 2 through 21) = total millage per year

When will the roads be fixed?

If voters approve the initiative, work on Grass Lake Charter Township and Village local roads would begin as soon as possible, with all projects completed during the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 construction seasons.

*Please visit <http://www.grasslakect.com/> for a list of roads

What would the millage accomplish?

All of your local roads (and every village street that was not improved in 2020) will be reconstructed or significantly improved, bringing them back to desirable and maintainable conditions. This major road work would take approximately three years to complete. The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), generated from gas taxes and vehicle registration fees, is the primary revenue source for maintaining and improving the county's road system. Even though MTF revenues have increased over the last five years, the 2015 legislation did not provide nearly enough to maintain and improve *local roads*. At the same time, roads continue to deteriorate, with more maintenance required year after year. Local road improvement projects are simply not possible without additional funding from townships or other local sources.

Jackson County's MTF dollars cannot be used for streets within the Village of Grass Lake. Like the county, the village's MTF revenues are not sufficient to improve or reconstruct all of the village's streets. This millage proposal forges a unique partnership between the county, township, and village to improve all local roads for the benefit of the Grass Lake community as a

What if the Millage does not pass?

JCDOT will do its best to patch potholes and continue to maintain the existing road system. However, there is no funding available to *improve* or *reconstruct* local roads.

For more information, please call:

Township Office: (517) 522-8464

Village Office: (517) 522-4550

JCDOT: (517) 788-4230



In partnership with:

