



## "Your County Road System Public Education Series"

## "THE FACTS" ABOUT THE ROAD MILLAGE PROPOSAL NOVEMBER 2010

When Grand Traverse County's voting public enters the polls on November 2, 2010, each voter will read the following ballot language. To educate and inform voters in advance, the following information is offered.

**The Actual Ballot Language:** Shall the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the County of Grand Traverse be increased by one (1.0) Mill (\$1.00 for \$1,000.00 of taxable value) for a period of four (4) years, 2011 to 2014, inclusive, as additional new millage, for the purpose of providing funds, as apportioned pursuant to Public Act 133 of 1968 [MCL 224.20b], to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission, City of Traverse City, Village of Kingsley, and Village of Fife Lake in order to repair, maintain and improve existing roads in the townships, and in the foregoing city and villages, in Grand Traverse County. It is estimated that one (1.0) mil will raise approximately \$4,478,000 when the millage is first levied in 2011.

**What Does this Mean?** This means that for the next four years, the owner of a home with a taxable value of \$75,000 (worth \$150,000) will pay \$75 each year for improvements to roads within Grand Traverse County.

### **What if the proposal passes?**

**How Will the Road Commission Use This Money?** Each year, 25% of the revenues generated by the millage will improve primary roads. Primary roads provide routes to destinations and generally carry high volumes of traffic. Examples are South Airport Road, County Road 633, North Long Lake Road, Peninsula Drive, Bates Road, Angel Road, Elk Lake Road. The remaining 75% will be used to improve "local" roads. "Local roads" generally carry lower volumes of traffic and are typically in subdivisions. Private roads will not be eligible for any of the millage money.

**What Does this Mean?** Roads can be improved by repaving, chipsealing, paving shoulders, adding gravel, etc.

**Who Picks the Roads That Get Fixed?** In an indirect fashion, the township residents do through the officials they have elected to office. Each township will prepare a list of roads and assign each project a priority rating. The Road Commission has provided each township with a list of its roads and a rating of the road's physical condition to help in preparing the list.

**Who Gets the Money?** Government agencies eligible to receive transportation funds will get a portion of the millage money.

**What Does this Mean?** This means the Road Commission, City of Traverse City, Village of Kingsley and Village of Fife Lake will get their share based on revenue generated. The 13 townships in Grand Traverse County will receive their share through the Road Commission, who will distribute it as fairly as possible. The goal of the millage is to improve the overall motorized transportation network throughout Grand Traverse County. Each of us travel roads other than the ones we live on in order to get to work, shop, conduct business, do our banking, get children to school, see a movie, watch a sporting event, and take back roads to leave town, visit friends, etc.

### **What if the proposal doesn't pass?**

With Michigan's road agencies receiving only one increase in 26 years, ideally, our elected state officials will address deficiencies in Michigan's road funding. If not, services will continue to be cut to live within our budget. Road conditions will continue to decline. Residents will experience delays in snow removal, road repairs and increased car repair costs.

For more information, please contact us.

Links to both local and state officials are available on our website.

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maintain a safe and efficient  
road system."