

The City of Rochester Hills

Hills Herald

News & Information

Special Edition ~ Summer 2010



An Important Message from Mayor Bryan K. Barnett

Local Road Funding: *What YOU need to know to make an informed decision*

The sights and sounds of summer are officially here! You see more people outside enjoying a bike ride or walk, you hear the distant laughter of friends and family at a barbecue, and you see the signs. Signs like “road closed,” “detour ahead,” and “traffic shift.” The road construction season is definitely upon us and I, like many of you, experience the traffic delays and frustration as you sit in a steamy

car trying to avoid Tienken, Hamlin and Livernois, and M-59.

The increase of federal stimulus funding has in fact moved several road construction projects ahead. However, the majority of these projects are on Oakland County roads and very few are happening on our local (neighborhood) roads.

It is estimated that 45 miles of local (neighborhood) street systems are in poor condition and are in need of reconstruction. In order to satisfy both the construction and maintenance needs of the local roads system, the city will require additional revenue, for which there is no current funding source. Local road funding is not a problem unique to Rochester Hills. In fact, currently 140 communities have a dedicated road millage.

As a community, we continue to be challenged with finding ways to do more with less. Based on declining taxable values, the city’s General Fund is estimated to have a \$3.5 million decline in property tax revenue through fiscal year 2013. It has become blatantly clear that additional funding is needed for ongoing routine maintenance such as plowing, salting, drain cleaning, etc.

The Breakdown:

- ✓ **A 0.3545 bond millage expires in 2010!**
- ✓ **Ballot proposal DOES NOT increase your current millage rate!**
- ✓ **Provides funding for your neighborhood streets!**

What this means: Without identifying an alternate funding source to fill the gap, shrinking revenues will ultimately lead to deferred road maintenance and repairs, resulting in higher future repair costs.

The Police & Roads Technical Advisory Committee has identified a potential means to provide partial funding for local roads. A previously-voted 0.3545 mill refunding bond millage (originally related to park land purchases) will expire this year. **The committee recommends replacing this expiring millage with a new millage in the same amount to be dedicated solely to Local Roads Maintenance.**

One Step Towards a Solution: On August 3, residents will be asked to approve a ballot proposal to specifically dedicate approximately \$1 million/year for Local Roads Maintenance at the same millage rate that voters previously approved for an expiring bond millage.

Something to Consider: Rochester Hills residents enjoy one of the lowest millage levels among similar-sized cities in Southwest Michigan. The proposed millage will NOT increase your current millage rate; however it will simply replace an expiring millage that will provide the city with the necessary revenue needed to continue the quality services and infrastructure that our community currently enjoys.

Make an Informed Decision: Be prepared to vote on August 3, 2010. Residents can find more information on the ballot proposal and view the complete Police & Roads Technical Advisory Committee report online at www.rochesterhills.org.

Sincerely,



A Rochester Hills road in need of repair

Local Road Funding Update

Police and Road Technical Review Committee

Local roads are a local responsibility. The last millage dedicated for local road maintenance expired in 1996. Since that time, local road maintenance costs have been a burden on the General Fund. Now the City of Rochester Hills is experiencing severe financial pressures - like many other municipalities across Michigan.

On August 3, 2010, Rochester Hills residents have the opportunity to support a dedicated millage that partially restores funding for local road maintenance. The need for local road maintenance now exceeds \$4 million annually and competes with other General Fund supported obligations (police services, parks, etc.) If approved, this millage is expected to generate approximately \$1 million in 2011. Gas tax revenues from the state contribute another \$1 million. In order to maintain the required level of service, the city must find the \$2 million difference in the General Fund. To see the city's adopted budget plan for both General Fund and the Local Road Fund please [click here](#) or visit our website at www.rochesterhills.org and click on the 2010 Budget link.

After more than one year of review, the Rochester Hills residents who serve on the Police and Road Technical Review Committee concluded that passage of this replacement millage is a necessary action to maintain the quality of local roads in Rochester Hills.

The ballot language you will see when you vote August 3 is as follows:

Shall the City of Rochester Hills replace the expiring, previously-voted bond debt millage of 0.3545 mills with a tax levy of up to 0.3545 mills (\$0.3545 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on the taxable value of all property assessed for taxes in the City for 10 years, beginning in 2011 and continuing through 2020, inclusive, to be used for maintenance, repair, rehabilitation and reconstruction of local roads and streets and to provide a source of matching funds to support special assessment and grant programs for local roads? This will provide an estimated \$1,131,564, if levied in full in the first year.



LOCAL STREET CONDITIONS

The following local streets are listed as **POOR** condition:

Abington Ct
Acorn Glen
Annchester Ct
Antler Ct
Antoinette Dr
Aquinas Dr
Arbor Creek Dr
Archers Pt
Arlington Dr
Avonstoke Rd
Aynsley Dr
Baker St
Baypoint Dr
Beacon Hill Dr
Bedlington Dr
Bellshire Ln
Bevington Rd
Blue Grass Dr
Bourbon Ct
Brandon Ct
Brompton Rd
Butler Rd
Chalet Dr
Chalmers Dr
Christian Hills Rd
Coachwood Ln
Cobridge Dr
Coldiron Dr
Colony Dr Ct
Crossbow Ct
Dartmouth Dr
Dawson Dr
Doral Dr
Dunedin Ct

East Way
Elkhorn Dr
Englewood Dr
Farmbridge Ct
Farnborough Dr
Fielding Dr
Flanders Dr
Fordcroft Dr
Grayslake Dr
Grosse Pines Dr
Harlan Ct
Hartford Ct
Hazelton Rd
Highsplint Dr
Hillside Ln
Holiday Ct
Homestead Ct
Kennedy Dr
Kentucky Dr
Kings View Ave
Lake Ridge Rd
Langley Ct
Maryknoll Rd
Mayacoo
Merion Ct
New Love Lane
Oakhill Ct
Old Homestead Dr
Parsons Dr
Pine Street
Poco Ct
Primrose Dr
Product Ct
Prospect Dr

Raintree Dr
Rochester Industrial Ct
Rose Brier Dr
Royal Doulton Blvd
Sahalee Dr
Salem Ct
Salem Dr
Shellbourne Dr
Silverdale Dr
Slade Ct
Stonington Ct
Summit Ridge Ct
Sunbury Ct
Sussex Fair
Sycamore Dr
Tall Oaks Blvd
Thames Dr
Tienken Ct
Torrent Ct
Union Dr
Valley Stream Dr
Warrington Rd
Willow Leaf Ct
Windrift Ln
Wintergreen Blvd

There are an additional 200+ local streets that are listed in **FAIR** condition. If not addressed, these streets are expected to be downgraded to **POOR** in the near future.

Your Road Millage funds are used for maintenance, repair, rehabilitation and reconstruction of local roads and streets



Don't forget to

Vote

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. To see the list of voting precincts or learn other important election information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-656-4630, or visit the election page of our website at www.rochesterhills.org. Please note, you will be voting for both elected officials and some or all of the following ballot proposals:

- Oakland County Parks & Recreation millage renewal
- City of Rochester Hills Local Road millage,
- Older Person's Commission (OPC) millage renewal
- Bond proposal for Avondale School District
- Millage renewal for Oakland Community College (OCC)

You may view [voting precincts](#) and [sample ballots](#) by clicking here.

Absentee ballots are available at the Clerk's Office during regular business hours and Saturday, July 31, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you need an absent voter ballot, please contact the Clerk's Office at 248-656-4630 or stop by in person.

To view the official election notice, see the list of voting precincts, or learn other important election information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-656-4630, or visit the election page of our website at www.rochesterhills.org.

Clip and Save!

Allied Waste Services Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

Labor Day – Monday, September 6

- Services delayed by one day all week

Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 25

- Monday through Wednesday normal services
- Thursday services delayed to Friday
- Friday services delayed to Saturday

Christmas – Saturday, December 25

- No delay in service

New Years Day – Saturday, January 1

- No delay in service

Please clip and save for future reference. If you have additional questions regarding your Waste Collection Service, please contact Allied Waste at 248-858-8999.



Rochester College Campus

Avon Road between Livernois & Rochester Road

Rochester Hills, Michigan

Saturday & Sunday | September 25 & 26 2010

The greater Rochester community gathers to celebrate its rich and unique heritage at the 33rd Heritage Festival. The Rochester Area Heritage Festival is history brought to life!

This year the festival will celebrate its 33rd anniversary on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 25-26, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at a new location, Rochester College. The dates and location have been changed to encourage broader audience participation, especially by K-12 children, youth and college students.

The Rochester College campus will showcase a historic location of Avon Township, the college's farmstead adjacent to the Clinton River. The campus offers abundant space for a look back at some old-time activities, food and demonstrations, parking, and handicap access. Through story telling and displays, the festival will be both fun and educational.

Activities will include entertainment, music and children's activities, including the Friends of Dinosaur Hill Pioneer Homestead, a student art exhibit, sidewalk drawing contest, petting farm, wagon rides, arts and crafts sale and a duck race each day. New this year will be a heritage of health area, oral history project and events featuring the campus's water, hikes, and Native Americans.

Admission is free. The Rochester Area Heritage Festival has something for all ages. For more information visit the Web at www.rochesterheritagefest.org.

Experience our heritage - past, present, and future!

NOTICE OF ELECTION - AUGUST 3, 2010

IN

CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS

To the Qualified Electors:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Election will be held in:

**The City of Rochester Hills
County of Oakland, State of Michigan**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010

THE POLLS will be open 7 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock p.m.

AT THE POLLING PLACES LISTED BELOW:

Precinct # 1	Faith Church, 160 W. Hamlin Rd.
Precinct # 2	Bellbrook, 873 W. Avon Rd.
Precinct # 3	Meadows Upper Elementary School, 1435 W. Auburn Rd.
Precinct # 4	North Hill Elementary School, 1385 Mahaffy
Precinct # 5	Rochester Hills Building, 1551 E. Auburn Rd.
Precinct # 6	Avon Clubhouse, 2600 W. Auburn Rd.
Precinct # 7	West Middle School, 500 Old Perch Rd.
Precinct # 8	VanHoosen Middle School, 1339 N. Adams Rd.
Precinct # 9	Rochester High School, 180 S. Livernois
Precinct #10	Brewster Elementary School, 1535 Brewster Rd.
Precinct #11	Reuther Middle School, 1430 E. Auburn Rd.
Precinct #12	Hamlin Elementary School, 270 W. Hamlin Rd.
Precinct #13	Deerfield Elementary School, 3600 Crooks Rd.
Precinct #14	West Middle School, 500 Old Perch Rd.
Precinct #15	St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R
Precinct #16	Brooklands School (old school), 480 E. Auburn Rd.
Precinct #17	Meadow Brook Elementary School, 2350 Munster
Precinct #18	Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.
Precinct #19	Long Meadow Elementary School, 450 Allston
Precinct #20	Brooklands Elementary School, 490 E. Auburn Rd.
Precinct #21	Hart Middle School, 6500 Sheldon Rd.
Precinct #22	St. Luke's Church, 3980 Walton Blvd.
Precinct #23	Danish Village, 2566 Walton Blvd.
Precinct #24	Rochester Hills Offices, 1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
Precinct #25	Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.
Precinct #26	VanHoosen Middle School, 1339 N. Adams
Precinct #27	St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R
Precinct #28	Hampton Elementary School, 530 Hampton Circle
Precinct #29	Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.

ALL POLLING PLACES ARE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE
BRAILLE AND AUDIO VERSIONS OF VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING PARTISAN OFFICES:

STATE	Governor
CONGRESSIONAL	United States Representative in Congress
LEGISLATIVE	State Senator and State Representative
COUNTY	County Commissioner

AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING:

DELEGATES TO COUNTY CONVENTION OF THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES;
IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING NON-PARTISAN OFFICE AND PROPOSALS WILL BE VOTED ON:

JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT

PROPOSALS:

County	Oakland County Parks & Recreation Millage Renewal
City	Local Road Proposal & Older Persons' Commission (OPC) Operating Millage Renewal
Local School District	Avondale Bond Proposal
Community College	Oakland Community College Millage Renewal Proposal

I, Andrew E. Meisner, County Treasurer of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that according to the records in my office, as of July 7, 2010, the total of all voted increases in the tax rate limitation above the 18 mills established by Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 affecting taxable property in the City of Rochester Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, is as follows:

<u>LOCAL UNIT</u>	<u>VOTED INCREASE</u>	<u>YEAR INCREASE EFFECTIVE</u>
City of Rochester Hills	None	
Rochester Community School District	19.9767	2005 – 2014 Incl.
Avondale School District	None	
County School District of Oakland County	2.25	Unlimited
County of Oakland	.25	2002 to 2011 Incl.
Oakland Community College	1.00 .80	Unlimited 2002 to 2011 Incl.

Dated: July 7, 2010
ANDREW E. MEISNER, TREASURER
OAKLAND COUNTY

Full text of the Proposals may be obtained from
Rochester Hills Clerk's Office or by [clicking here](#)
248-656-4630

Absentee ballots are available at the City Clerk's Office, 1000 Rochester Hills Drive, Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309. The Clerk's Office is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

IN ADDITION, THE CLERK'S OFFICE WILL BE OPEN ON SATURDAY, July 31, 2010 FROM 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The last day to obtain absentee ballots by mail is Saturday, July 31, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Questions concerning the General Election should be directed to the Clerk's Office at 248-656-4630.

Dated this 13th day of
July 2010.

Jane Leslie, City Clerk
City of Rochester Hills
248-656-4630
1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309

Festival of the Hills 2010



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