November 2020 Park, Recreation, Trails & Conservation Ballot Proposals

Statewide
Proposal 20-1
A proposed constitutional amendment to allow money from oil and gas mining on state-owned lands to continue to be collected in state funds for land protection and creation and maintenance of parks, nature areas, and public recreation facilities; and to describe how money in those state funds can be spent. This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Allow the State Parks Endowment Fund to continue receiving money from sales of oil and gas from state-owned lands to improve, maintain and purchase land for State parks, and for Fund administration, until its balance reaches $800,000,000.
- Require subsequent oil and gas revenue from state-owned lands to go into the Natural Resources Trust Fund.
- Require at least 20% of Endowment Fund annual spending go toward State park improvement.
- Require at least 25% of Trust Fund annual spending go toward parks and public recreation areas and at least 25% toward land conservation.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Allegan
Fennville Public Schools
MILLAGE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO OPERATE A SYSTEM OF PUBLIC RECREATION AND PLAYGROUNDS
Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Fennville Public Schools, Allegan County, Michigan, be increased by and the Board of Education be authorized to levy not to exceed .5 mill ($0.50 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 4 years, 2020 to 2023, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for operating a system of public recreation and playgrounds; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect for such recreation program if the millage is approved and levied in 2020 is approximately $203,207?

Berrien
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
PROPOSAL FOR A MILLAGE RENEWAL TO FUND PARK IMPROVEMENTS
Shall the previously-voted millage to fund park improvements in the City of New Buffalo, as reduced by the required millage rollback, be renewed at 0.4599 mills ($0.4599 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of 5 years (2021 through 2025 inclusive) and shall the city be authorized to levy this millage on all taxable property in the city raising an estimated $112,512 in the first year of the levy? (To the extent required by law, a portion of the tax levy will be captured by the Downtown Development Authority of the City of New Buffalo)
Crawford
Crawford County
GRAYLING RECREATION AUTHORITY MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the limitation upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed on real and tangible personal property for all purposes in any one year under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased in the County of Crawford by 0.4845 ($0.4845 per $1,000.00 of taxable value of all such property) for a period of eight (8) years, 2021 through 2028 inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining recreational facilities and activities in Crawford County. Shall the County of Crawford be authorized to levy such millage for said purpose?

The amount of revenue the County will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the County in the first year is estimated to be $281,946.00. The proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage, the revenue from which will be disbursed to the Grayling Recreational Authority and, to the extent required by law, a portion of such millage revenue will be captured by and disbursed to the Crawford County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Sawmill Lofts Neighborhood Enterprise Zone No. 1.

Grand Traverse
Garfield Township
CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY AND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow a new millage for the City of Traverse City and Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority to protect the water quality of rivers, creeks, lakes, and bays, protect wildlife habitat, protect natural woodlands and forests, preserve environmentally sensitive lands, and provide opportunities for children and families to enjoy the outdoors by continuing its operations at the Historic Barns Park, Hickory Meadows, and the West Bay Waterfront along with continued historic preservation of the Historic Barns Park for the next 20 years as well as acquiring a new property adjoining Hickory Hills to expand the public park area near Hickory Meadows. State law requires an annual independent audit of the Recreational Authority.

For the purpose of providing funds for the continued acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, and improvement of public parks by the City of Traverse City and Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority (the “Authority”) at an increased millage level, shall the tax limitation on general ad valorem taxes within the territory of the Authority that may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the Charter Township of Garfield and the City of Traverse City, Michigan, be increased and shall the Authority be authorized to levy, up to 0.30 mills ($0.30 per $1,000 of Taxable Value) as a new, additional millage for a period of 20 years, 2020 through 2039 inclusive? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated $644,000 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. As required by law, a small portion of this millage must be distributed to other governmental units within Grand Traverse County that are entitled to receive a portion of this millage, which are the City of Traverse City Downtown Development Authority, Grand Traverse County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and Grand Traverse County Land Bank Authority.

Shall the proposal be adopted?
Ingham
City of Williamston
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON PROPOSAL FOR SENIOR CENTER MILLAGE

Shall the Constitutional tax limitation imposed on the City of Williamston be increased by up to .25 mills ($0.25 per $1000 of taxable value) and levied for four (4) years, 2020 – 2023, inclusive, to support the Williamston Area Senior Center. If approved and levied in full, this millage is estimated to raise 25,687.00 in the first year of its levy. As required by State law, a portion of the millage may be disbursed to the Williamston Downtown Development Authority, and the TIFA II-A and TIFA II-B Authorities.

Leroy Township
LEROY TOWNSHIP PROPOSAL FOR SENIOR CENTER MILLAGE

Shall the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Leroy Township be increased by .25 mil (.25¢ per $1000 of taxable value) and levied for four (4) years, 2020 – 2023 inclusive, to support the Williamston Area Senior Center, raising an estimated $31,391 in 2020, in a manner authorized by law.

Meridian Township
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LAND PRESERVATION MILLAGE RENEWAL AND REDUCTION

Shall the previous voted increase of 0.33 mill ($0.33 on each $1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation that may be assessed against all property in the Charter Township of Meridian, which is reduced to 0.3273 mill by the required millage rollbacks and expires after 2019, be reduced to 0.1 mill ($0.10 on each $1,000 of taxable value) and renewed for 10 years, 2020 through 2029 inclusive, for the purchase of land and/or conservation easements and improvements of natural habitat and management of land throughout the Township, raising an estimated $186,858 in 2020, the first year the millage is levied?

Wheatfield Township
WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP PROPOSAL FOR SENIOR CENTER MILLAGE

Shall the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Wheatfield Township be increased by .25 mil ($0.25 per $1000 of taxable value) and levied for four (4) years, 2020 – 2023 inclusive, to support the Williamston Area Senior Center, raising an estimated $20,299 in 2020, in a manner authorized by law.

Iron
Iron County
SENIOR CENTERS MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall the previously voted increase in the Tax Rate Limitation for the County of Iron general ad valorem taxes be renewed at .27 mills ($0.27 per thousand dollars of Taxable Value) for a period of four (4) years, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, inclusive, the taxes so raised to be used exclusively for and no other purpose than operations of all Senior Centers in Iron County. The taxes raised, after allowance for expenses and audit costs, shall have $10,000 distributed to each Senior Center in Iron County and the balance.
distributed to the Senior Centers based upon number of persons age 60 or older as determined in the last decennial census in each township, village and city within the County of Iron. This levy would raise an estimated $145,063 for the first year. (This being a renewal of the .27 mills for operations which expires with the 2020 levy).

Kalkaska

KALKASKA COUNTY KALISEUM OPERATIONAL MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

For the sole purpose of renewing funding for the operation and maintenance of the Kaliseum at the same millage level previously approved by the voters in 2008, 2012, and 2016, shall the Constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Kalkaska, Michigan, be renewed, and shall the County be authorized to levy, up to 0.250 mill ($0.25 per $1,000 of Taxable Value) for a period of four (4) years, 2021 through 2024, inclusive?

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated $210,517.50 funding the operation and maintenance of the Kaliseum in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. In accordance with State law, a small portion of the millage may also be disbursed to the Downtown Development Authority of the Village of Kalkaska.

Leelanau

City of Traverse City and Charter Township of Garfield

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY AND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow a new millage for the City of Traverse City and Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority to protect the water quality of rivers, creeks, lakes, and bays, protect wildlife habitat, protect natural woodlands and forests, preserve environmentally sensitive lands, and provide opportunities for children and families to enjoy the outdoors by continuing its operations at the Historic Barns Park, Hickory Meadows, and the West Bay Waterfront along with continued historic preservation of the Historic Barns Park for the next 20 years as well as acquiring a new property adjoining Hickory Hills to expand the public park area near Hickory Meadows. State law requires an annual independent audit of the Recreational Authority.

For the purpose of providing funds for the continued acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, and improvement of public parks by the City of Traverse City and Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority (the “Authority”) at an increased millage level, shall the tax limitation on general ad valorem taxes within the territory of the Authority that may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the Charter Township of Garfield and the City of Traverse City, Michigan, be increased and shall the Authority be authorized to levy, up to 0.30 mills ($0.30 per $1,000 of Taxable Value) as a new, additional millage for a period of 20 years, 2020 through 2039 inclusive? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated $644,000 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. As required by law, a small portion of this millage must be distributed to other governmental units within Grand Traverse County that are entitled to receive a portion of this millage, which are the City of Traverse City Downtown Development Authority, Grand Traverse County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and Grand Traverse County Land Bank Authority.
Shall the proposal be adopted?

**Oakland**

Oakland County

**MILLAGE REPLACEMENT AND INCREASE TO IMPROVE, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN PARKS, OPEN SPACE AREAS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

The Oakland County Parks System includes 7000 acres and 80 miles of trails preserving and protecting the environment. There are 13 Oakland County Parks and recreational activities throughout the County including campgrounds, dog parks, golf courses, water parks, and mobile recreation units.

To continue to provide revenue to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, shall the current millage, which has been reduced by required rollback, be replaced and increased to .35 mills for 10 years from 2020 to 2029? The .35 mills is equal to 35 cents per $1,000.00 of taxable value. The millage, if approved and levied, will generate approximately $22,026,860.00 in 2020. The purpose of the millage is to improve, operate, and maintain parks, open space and water areas, trails, and recreation facilities; to allow for free day-use park admission for seniors (62 and over), military, veterans, and residents with permanent disabilities; to expand trails; to enhance local recreation programs; and to increase environmental conservation and recreation activities. Revenue from this millage will be disbursed only to the County of Oakland to be used solely for the purpose of funding the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission with external audits and oversight by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

**City of Birmingham**

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOND PROPOSAL**

Shall the City of Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan, borrow the principal sum of not to exceed Eleven Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($11,250,000), and issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds in one or more series, payable over a period not to exceed twenty-one (21) years from the date of issuance, to be used by the City for the purpose of paying all or part of the cost of acquiring, constructing, furnishing, equipping and renovating parks and recreation improvements, including parks, playgrounds and trail system improvements and renovations to the Birmingham Sports Ice Arena, including all appurtenances and attachments? The estimated millage to be levied in 2021 is 0.0485 mills ($0.05 per $1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage rate required to retire the bonds is 0.2064 mills ($0.21 per $1,000 of taxable value).

**City of Wixom**

**RENEWAL OF AN ADDITIONAL OPERATING MILLAGE FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATING PURPOSES INCLUDING POLICE AND FIRE, PUBLIC WORKS, AND PARKS & RECREATION**

Shall the previously approved additional operating millage in Section 9.2 of the Wixom City Charter of up to 3.5 mills (which is equal to $3.50 per $1,000 of taxable value) be renewed for an additional four (4) years, commencing July 1, 2021, and effective through and including July 1, 2024, to provide funds for municipal operating purposes including police and fire, public works, and parks & recreation?
**Saginaw**

**Richland Township**

**PARK IMPROVEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

“Shall the constitutional tax limitation on the amount of taxes upon all taxable property within Richland Township, Saginaw County, be increased by a new additional millage of 0.25 mill ($0.25 cents per $1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, from December 2020 through December 2029, inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining, purchasing equipment and property and improving parks and recreational programs, sites, and facilities within the Township? If this proposal is approved and levied, it is estimated the Township will collect from this levy in the first year (2020) an estimated $39,530.80”.

**Sanilac**

**Worth Township**

**PARK AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

Shall Worth Township, Sanilac County, Michigan, levy a new .5 millage ($.50 per $1,000.00 of taxable value) against all taxable real property within Worth Township for park and recreational uses permitted by law, including but not limited to maintaining, improving, purchasing, constructing, or acquiring property, for parks and recreations, facilities, trails, pathways, lake access, boating and all recreational programs and purposes within Worth Township?

The millage shall be levied for a period of 5 tax years commencing with the levy on the December 2020 tax bill and for the tax years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

The estimated amount of revenue that would be collected by the Township would be approximately $82,000.00 in the first year.

The funds may be used in cooperation with other local units of government as allowed by law.

Should this proposal be adopted?

**Washtenaw**

**Washtenaw County**

**PROPOSITION TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION OF A 0.25-MILL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING NATURAL AREAS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THEM, PAYING THE COSTS OF OPERATING A LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM AND PAYING THE COSTS OF MAINTAINING THE LAND PURCHASED**

“Shall the limitation on taxes which may be imposed each year for all purposes on real and tangible property in Washtenaw County be increased as provided in Section 6, Article 9 of the Michigan Constitution and the Board of Commissioners be authorized to levy a tax not to exceed one fourth of a mill ($0.25 per $1,000 of state equalized valuation) on the taxable value of such property for a period of ten years beginning with the levy made on December 1, 2021 (which will generate estimated revenues of $4,407,196 in the first year) for the purpose of purchasing natural areas in order to preserve them, paying the costs of operating a land preservation program and paying the costs of maintaining the land purchased? Of the 0.25 mill, 0.2341 represents a renewal of that portion of a 0.25 mill authorization previously approved by electors as reduced by operation of the Headlee Amendment, and 0.0159
represents new millage in the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee Amendment.”

Wayne
Grosse Ile Township

MILLAGE RENEWAL FOR RECREATION PROGRAM

Shall the expired previously voted increase in the total tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Grosse Ile Township, .50 mills ($0.50 per $1,000 of taxable value), reduced to .4954 mills ($0.4954 per $1,000 of taxable value) by the required millage rollbacks, be renewed at .4954 mills ($0.4954 per $1,000 of taxable value) and levied for a period of five (5) years from 2021 through 2025 inclusive, to provide funds for the operation of a Township recreation program, raising an estimated $317,000 in the first calendar year the millage is levied.