

## How Would the Funding Be Spent?

If approved, the new millage would be placed on the July 2015 tax bill. Street and sidewalk improvements could begin as early as Summer 2015. The construction schedule would include:

### Annual Street and Sidewalk Work

- Crack Sealing
- Patching
- Traffic Signal Upgrades
- Sidewalk Repairs

### Summer 2015:

- Coronado (San Jose to Pinecrest)
- Anderson (Pinecrest to Hall)
- Eastlawn (Anderson to Hall)

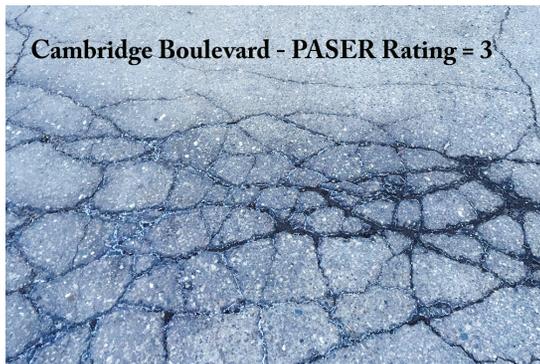
### Fall 2015

- Santa Barbara (Argentina to San Lu Rae)
- Cambridge (Alexander to Franklin)
- Cambridge Blvd. (Lake to Wealthy)

### Spring 2016

- Gladstone (Wealthy to Robinson)
- Sherman (Cambridge to end)
- Briarwood (Wealthy to Robinson)
- Conlon storm sewer

\* This construction schedule is subject to change.



## Official Ballot Language

### CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS DEDICATED MILLAGE FOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION OF STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

The City of East Grand Rapids Charter authorizes the City to levy up to 20 mills for general municipal purposes. Due to required millage rollbacks the City currently levies 13.3119 mills. Shall a partial "Headlee Override" be adopted so the current limitation on the amount of City taxes that may be levied against all taxable property in the City of East Grand Rapids be increased by up to 2.0 mills (\$2.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value of all real and personal property in the City) for a period of not to exceed ten (10) years beginning July 1, 2015, to be used exclusively for the improvement, repair, maintenance and construction of public roads, streets, sidewalks, storm drains and right-of-ways within the City of East Grand Rapids; provided however, that if the State of Michigan tax proposal (Proposal #1 on this ballot) passes, the City will be authorized to levy only 1.23 mill (\$1.23 per \$1,000 of taxable value of all real and personal property in the City) for said purpose and duration?

If approved and levied in its entirety, the 2.0 mill increase would raise the sum of approximately \$1,170,000.00 in 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_\_\_ No

#### Calculate Your Cost

To determine the additional property taxes you would pay, find your 2015 Taxable Value (online at [www.eastgr.org](http://www.eastgr.org) under Property Information).

\_\_\_\_\_ x .00123 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
2015 Taxable Value                      Additional property taxes if the State sales tax increase AND the EGR millage proposal both pass.

or  
\_\_\_\_\_ x .002 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
2015 Taxable Value                      Additional property taxes if the State proposal fails but the EGR proposal is approved.

### Public Informational Meetings City Commission Chambers 750 Lakeside Drive SE

Thursday, April 16 - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21 - 7 p.m.

#### MORE INFORMATION

[www.eastgr.org/streets](http://www.eastgr.org/streets) or (616) 949-2110



## News You Can Use

from the City of East Grand Rapids

## Dedicated Street and Sidewalk Millage On May 5 Ballot

East Grand Rapids is seeking a 10-year dedicated millage to maintain and improve its 47 miles of streets and 80 miles of sidewalks.

### The Problem

- Since 1997, the City's millage rate has gone down while costs for maintaining our streets and sidewalks have gone up. As a result, the City can resurface only one-third of the streets it did 17 years ago.



- In 2013, our streets were rated an average of 5.1 out of 10 on the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating, or PASER, scale (1-4 = poor, 5-7 = fair, 8-10 = good).

### The Proposed Solution

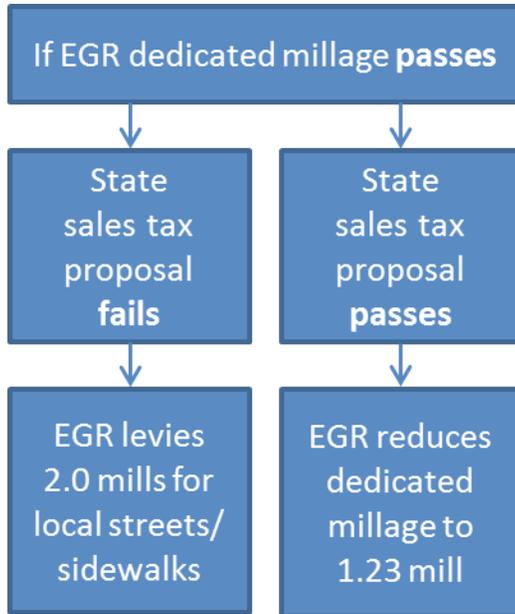
- The proposed 2.0-mill street and sidewalk millage would generate \$1.17 million annually – with all funds staying in the City to improve our streets and sidewalks.
- The EGR ballot proposal ties to the state's sales tax proposal, allowing the City to collect only 1.23 mill if the state proposal passes or 2.0 mills if the state proposal fails.

## How Does East Grand Rapids Proposal Tie to State Sales Tax Proposal?

East Grand Rapids is tying its ballot proposal to the state, which is also seeking to raise money for roads through a ballot initiative.

If both proposals pass, the City will collect 1.23 mill, which translates to \$184 per year for a \$300,000 home (average home value in East Grand Rapids).

If the state proposal fails but the EGR passes, the City will collect 2.0 mills, which translates to \$300 per year.



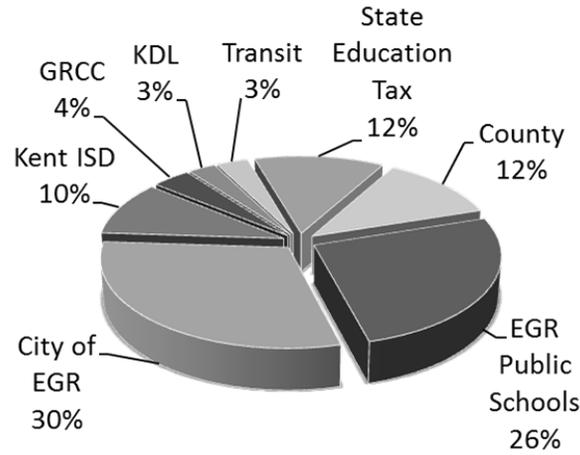
## Why Now?

Preliminary analysis shows the projected additional revenue from the state will not be sufficient to maintain and improve our City's streets.

## Why Aren't the Taxes I Pay Enough?

Currently, the City of East Grand Rapids keeps only 30 percent of the property taxes you pay each year for City operations.

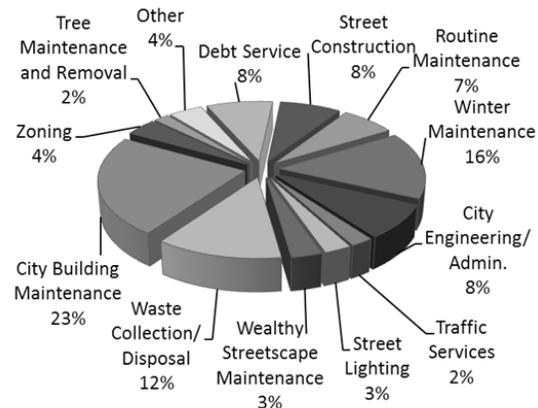
### Tax Bill Breakdown



The City spends \$1.7 million annually for street and sidewalk construction and maintenance and operational expenses, including patching and snowplowing.

If approved, the new millage would be directed entirely to East Grand Rapids streets and sidewalks.

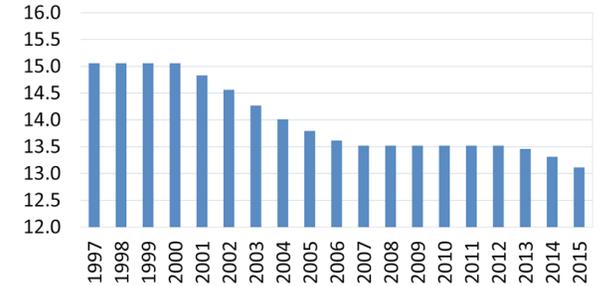
### Public Works Annual Budget



## What If the Millage Is Not Approved?

State and federal road funding is not keeping pace with the increased costs of maintaining our streets to safe and acceptable levels. The City continues to do more with less; however, the lack of road funding is starting to show as street ratings decrease.

### City Millage Rates



Without increased maintenance, East Grand Rapids' streets will continue to deteriorate. By 2025, only 5 percent of City streets would be rated "good" or "fair," or an overall PASER rating of 2.3. Once a road has nothing salvageable, it must be rebuilt – which is far more costly than performing routine maintenance and repairs.

Poor road conditions can lead to unsafe driving conditions, damage to infrastructure and resources, and decreased home values.

### Percentage of Roads in Good/Fair Condition (PASER Ratings 10-5)

