



## Village of Milford Charter Amendment #2 (Road Millage)

### VILLAGE OF MILFORD

#### CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSAL NO. 2

Should Section 8.5 of the Village of Milford Charter be amended to replace the current levy of 3.5 mills, as reduced by the required millage roll-backs, set to expire in 2022, and the current levy of 1 mill for the years 2023 through 2032, with a new levy of 2.9 mills (\$2.90 on each \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of 14 years, 2019 through 2032, and subject to authorized disbursements mandated by law, for the purpose of defraying the cost of major and local road maintenance, estimated to provide revenue of \$708,792 in the year 2019?

## Commonly Asked Questions... and the Answers

### What is being proposed?

If approved, the charter amendment would lower the tax rate from the current 3.2519 mills to 2.9 mills and extend this rate through 2032.

### Didn't voters approve a road millage in 2012?

Yes. Voters in the Village approved a 20-year road millage in 2012 with a tax rate of 3.5 mills for the first 10 years (2013-2022) and 1.0 mills for the second 10 years (2023-2032). The first 10 years were designed to complete extensive capital improvements, while the second 10 years are intended to provide solely for ongoing preventative maintenance.

### How much does the current millage raise for roads in the Village?

Due to the Headlee Amendment, the current road millage rate is 3.2519 mills, which raises approximately \$790,000 per year. When the rate "rolls down" to 1.0 mills in 2023, it would raise approximately \$240,000 annually, based upon the current taxable value in the village.

### What has been the impact of the 2012 road millage?

To date, the road millage has generated \$3.68 million in funds for road improvements in the Village. The Village has been able to use portions of these funds to secure federal funding of approximately \$1 million for projects involving repairs to the E. Huron St. bridge, Commerce Rd., and the scheduled repairs to S. Milford Rd. in 2019. Additionally, the Village has spent approximately \$950,000 in General funds dollars on road repairs and improvements since 2013. A list of projects completed using funds from the 2012 road millage can be found at [www.villageofmilford.org/roads](http://www.villageofmilford.org/roads).

**Why are voters being asked to amend the 2012 road millage?**

While the 2012 millage generated additional funds for road repairs and maintenance in the Village, it did not allow for completion of every project. Several sizeable projects, including the paving of Peters Rd., are not able to be completed under the current scenario.

**If this ballot proposal is approved, will Peters Rd. be paved?**

Yes. In 2018, Village Council authorized preliminary engineering work to take place to determine the cost of paving Peters Rd. Based upon these efforts, paving of the road is estimated to cost \$1.5 million, which could be accommodated by the ballot proposal without requiring other projects to be removed.

**If this ballot proposal is approved, will other streets in the Village see improvements?**

Yes. If approved, this ballot proposal is expected to raise the \$1.5 million needed to pave Peters Rd., plus an additional \$2.8 million for use on neighborhood streets and other major roads in the Village.

**How will road projects be prioritized?**

Since 2012, the Village has used an asset management approach to select capital improvement projects for roads. This approach utilizes the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system to objectively and scientifically evaluate pavement conditions. This data, combined with an analysis of where the Village Department of Public Services is spending the most time and funds for maintenance and repair, is used to select projects for further evaluation. The goal is to select projects that represent a cost-effective way to maintain the entire road network in the Village. Roads rated as “poor” using the PASER system are candidates for reconstruction or major rehabilitation, while roads rated as “fair” would receive preventative maintenance, and roads rated as “good” would be subject only to routine maintenance. As has been the case in the past, opportunities to leverage millage funds to obtain Federal funds (such as Commerce Rd. and S. Milford Rd.) will receive higher priority as the use of Federal dollars frees up local funds to be used elsewhere in the Village.

**Can these funds be used for anything other than roads?**

No.

**How would this proposal impact my property taxes?**

If approved, this proposal would initially reduce the property tax rate by approximately 10% (for the first 4 years) and then extend that rate through 2032.

**If my neighborhood street was recently reconstructed, will this benefit me?**

Yes. This millage also provides funds for the ongoing maintenance of streets in the Village. One of the key components of the asset management approach utilized by the Village is to protect past investments by maintaining good roads.

**What if the ballot proposal does not pass?**

If the proposal does not pass, there will only be a few more years where the Village is able to complete projects of any size, followed by 10 years where funds will only allow for maintenance and not improvements. Additionally, there are not sufficient funds generated under the current road millage to pave Peters Rd. without abandoning projects that were included with the 2012 ballot proposal approved by voters.

**How can I learn more about this proposal?**

The Village will host two public information sessions regarding the ballot proposal. These will take place on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 and Monday, October 29, 2018. Both sessions will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic Street. You may also contact the Village offices at 248.684.1515.

**The election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018.**

**Polls are open from 7am-8pm.**