

Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Millage

Bullet Points

Name of the Initiative: Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Program.

Ballot wording: PROPOSAL 1: PARKS, RECREATION, AND LAND PRESERVATION MILLAGE

This proposal is for a renewal and combination of two millages expiring in 2016 (rolled back under the Headlee Amendment): the 0.25 mills parks and recreation millage and the 0.40 mills parks and land preservation millage.

May Ada Township levy up to 0.65 mills (\$0.65 per \$1,000 of taxable value) to provide funds for purposes of parks, recreation, and land preservation, for a period of ten (10) years beginning in the year 2017 and continuing through the year 2026? These purposes include constructing, equipping, operating, acquiring and maintaining land, buildings and improvements for parks, preserves and recreational facilities; and financing for any of these purposes.

The Township estimates that this levy would raise \$612,277 in its first year.

YES NO

Uses/Purposes of the Funds:

- Operating and maintaining existing parks and land preserves.
- Major repairs, renovation and upgrades of existing facilities.
- Acquisition of land and development of new facilities.
- Support of the recreation programs

There are no increases in tax rates as a result of this millage proposal

This is simply a Combination and RENEWAL of the existing Parks and Recreation Millage (0.25 mills) and the Parks and Land Preservation Millage (0.40 mills). It is for exactly the same number of mills (0.65) as was the case in 2012, and prior to that.

The new millage (0.65 mills) will raise about \$612,277 in its first year

The annual operating cost of the Township parks, preserves, recreation programs and land preserve system is approximately \$450-\$500,000 per year.

Funds from the millage is also used to leverage grants and donations for parks improvements, land acquisitions and recreation and education programs

Ada Township owns and manages three parks: Ada Township Park, Leonard Field Park and Roselle Park; in additions to three primary preserves: the Grand River Natural Area, Carl Creek Crossings Preserve and the Carl Creek Wetland Preserve. In addition there are smaller preserves along the Grand River and a number of conservation easements. In addition, Kent County Parks manages Chief Hazy Cloud Park and Seidman Park in Ada Township and the MI DNR manages two boat landing and the state game area.

For the development going on in Ada Village, these fund will only be used to help with developing and managing the envisioned community green space between Headley and Fulton and the riverfront park along the Thornapple River.

To find out more information about the millage or the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Program contact the Parks & Recreation Department office at: 616-676-0520 or mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com; or the Planning Department at: 616-676-9191 ext. 31 or jferro@adatownshipmi.com.