VAN BUREN COUNTY PROPOSALS
August 4, 2026 Primary Election

PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow Van Buren County to continue to levy 0.5332 mill, which was previously approved by the electors to fund drug enforcement and road patrol services, but will expire with the 2026 levy.

Shall Van Buren County levy 0.5332 mill ($0.5332 per thousand dollars of taxable value), for a period of four (4) years, 2027 to 2030, inclusive, for the exclusive purpose of providing funds for the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office for Drug Enforcement and Road Patrol? This is a renewal of previously authorized millage which will expire with the 2026 levy.

It is estimated that 0.5332 mill would raise approximately $2,380,982 when first levied in 2027.

AMBULANCE MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow Van Buren County to levy 0.9353 mill, which was previously approved by the electors to fund ambulance services, but which will expire with the 2026 levy.

Shall Van Buren County levy 0.9353 mill (0.9353 per thousand dollars of taxable value), for a period of four (4) years, 2027 - 2030, inclusive, for the exclusive purpose of providing funds for ambulance services for the County? This is a renewal of previously authorized millage which will expire with the 2026 levy, the previously authorized millage of 0.9370 mills will decrease by 0.0017 mills to equal a total of 0.9353 mills.

It is estimated that 0.9353 mill would raise approximately $4,184,390 when first levied in 2027.

VAN BUREN CONSERVATION DISTRICT MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow Van Buren County to continue to fund conservation programs at 0.0989 mill which represents the previously-approved 0.10 mill with the required Headlee Rollbacks factored in.

As a renewal of previously authorized millage which expired with the 2025 levy, the question presented in this ballot proposal is - Shall the expired previously voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Van Buren County, Michigan, of 0.1000 mill ($0.10 per $1,000 of Taxable Value), reduced to 0.0989 mills ($0.0989 per $1,000 taxable value) by the required millage rollbacks, be renewed at up to 0.0989 ($0.0989 per $1,000 taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035 inclusive, for the sole purpose of funding Van Buren Conservation District programs including assisting landowners in the protection, enhancement, and restoration of natural resources, assist agricultural producers in the protection of soil and water and implementation of best management practices on farmland, increase household hazardous waste and recycling collection opportunities, and continue water quality initiatives, within the boundaries of Van Buren County?

A portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Financing Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in Van Buren County, City of South Haven, Bangor City, Hartford City, Keeler Township, Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated $442,463.54 for Van Buren Conservation District services in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. The estimated cost to a household owning a $100,000 (SEV $50,000) home would be $4.945 per year.

City of Hartford

PROPOSAL FOR FIRE DISTRICT MILLAGE RENEWAL

It is proposed that the City of Hartford renew a tax of 1.4185 mills to support the Hartford Fire Department. This millage will be used for purchase and maintenance of fire apparatus and equipment, and it would cost taxpayers $1.42 for each $1,000 of taxable real and personal property. The charge would apply for two years, 2027 and 2028. Approximately $73,400 would be raised in the City of Hartford in the first year. This renewal would take effect only if voters in Hartford Township approve a similar renewal of the Township's fire millage. Should the proposed renewal be approved?

City of South Haven

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ENFORCEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the previously voted increase in the limitation on general ad valorem taxes within the City of South Haven, Michigan, to fund activities to enforce laws in the City of South Haven which prohibit or control the manufacture, sale, delivery and use of “controlled substances” as defined by applicable state laws, rules and regulations, as reduced by the required millage rollback, be renewed at 0.6508 mill ($0.6508 per $1,000 of taxable value) and increased by 0.0492 mill ($0.0492 per $1,000 of taxable value), for a total of 0.70 mill ($0.70 per $1,000 of taxable value), for a period of five (5) years, 2027 through 2031, inclusive, and shall the City of South Haven be authorized to levy this millage annually on all taxable property within the City of South Haven, thereby raising an estimated $467,150 in the first year of the levy?

To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage may be captured by the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority of the City of South Haven, the Downtown Development Authority of the City of South Haven, and the City of South Haven Local Development Finance Authority.

Antwerp Township

ANTWERP TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall Antwerp Township, Van Buren County Michigan impose a renewal of up to .50 mill ($.50 per $1,000 in taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within Antwerp Township, Van Buren County Michigan, for a 4-year period of 2026 through 2029 inclusive for the purpose of appropriating funds for activities and/or services for older persons, meaning individuals over the age of sixty (60) years, pursuant to Public Act 39 of 1976. The Township of Antwerp would contract to provide services. The .50 mill will raise an estimated $296,775 in the first calendar year of the levy.

Bangor Township

BANGOR TOWNSHIP ROAD MILLAGE RENEWAL

This proposal is a renewal or continuation of the previous millage authorized by voters for road maintenance and construction.

Shall the previously voted millage of 4 mils ($4.00 per $1,000 of taxable value), in the tax limitation, imposed under Article IX Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the Township of Bangor, as reduced by the required millage rollback which last resulted in a levy of 3.9624 mils ($3.9624 per $1,000 of taxable value) on all real and personal property in Bangor Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, which expires in 2026, be renewed at the original voted 4 mils ($4.00 per $1,000 of taxable value) for the four (4) year period of 2027 through 2030 inclusive for the purpose of appropriating funds for road maintenance and construction within the unincorporated portions of the Township of Bangor; and shall the township levy such renewal in millage, thereby raising in the first year of levy an estimated $400,974?

Bloomingdale Township

BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP NEW LEVY OF THE ROAD MILLAGE

Shall Bloomingdale Township impose a millage of 2.9 mils ($2.90 per $1,000 taxable value on real and personal property), subject to the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, section 6, of the Michigan Constitution, for a period of four years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive, for the purpose of road maintenance, improvements, repair, and construction? It is estimated the revenue collected by Bloomingdale Township as a result of this proposal will be $404,469.45 in the first year the millage is levied based on the most recent taxable value.

Covert Township

SERVICES FOR OLDER PERSONS MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

Shall the expired previous voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Covert Township, of 1.0 mills ($1.00 per
$1,000 of taxable value) be renewed at up to 1.0 mills ($1.00 per $1,000 of taxable value) and levied for four (4) years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for general senior services and activities for persons sixty (60) years or older, and/or to contract with a provider or providers of such services, raising an estimated $783,500 in the first year the millage is levied?

Hartford Township

HARTFORD TOWNSHIP FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall the previously voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Hartford Township, that is currently set to expire on December 31, 2026, of 0.7019 mills ($0.7019 per $1,000 of taxable value), reduced to .7006 mills ($.7006 per $1,000 of taxable value) by the required millage rollbacks, be renewed at up to 0.6382 mills ($0.6382 per $1,000 of taxable value) and levied for two years, 2027 through 2028, inclusive, for the purchase and maintenance of fire apparatus and equipment for use by the Hartford Fire Department, raising an estimated $73,368.00 in the first year the millage is levied. This renewal will only take effect if voters in the City of Harford approve a similar renewal of the City’s Fire millage. Should the proposed renewal be approved.

Lawrence Township

SENIOR SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the previously voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Lawrence Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, of 0.5000 mills ($0.50 per $1,000 of taxable value), reduced to 0.4963 mills ($0.4963 per $1,000 of taxable value) by the required Headlee Amendment rollbacks, be renewed at and increased up to the original voted 0.5000 mills ($0.50 per $1,000 of taxable value) for 6 years, 2026 through 2031 inclusive, for the purpose of providing senior services within Lawrence Township?

It is estimated that the revenue the Township will collect in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately $88,305.47.

ROAD MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the previously voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Lawrence Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, of 2.0000 mills ($2.00 per $1,000 of taxable value), reduced to 1.9854 mills ($1.9854 per $1,000 of taxable value) by the required Headlee Amendment rollbacks, be renewed at and increased up to the original voted 2.0000 mills ($2.00 per $1,000 of taxable value) for 6 years, 2026 through 2031 inclusive, for the purpose of repairing, improving, and maintaining township roads?

It is estimated that the revenue the Township will collect in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately $353,221.89.

Paw Paw Township

EXTRA-VOTED OPERATING MILLAGE

Shall Paw Paw Township impose an increase of up to .2203 mills ($.2203 per $1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitations imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for twenty (20) years, 2026 through 2045 (inclusive), to support the general operations of the Township, which .2203 mills increase will raise an estimated $73,448.80 in the first year the millage is levied?

SENIOR SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall the previously voted millage of .50 mil in tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes and Public Act 39 of 1976, within the Township of Paw Paw be renewed at 0.4889 mill ($0.4889 per $1,000 of taxable value) for the 4 year period of 2026 through 2029 inclusive (2026, 2027,2028,2029) for the purpose of providing activities and general senior services pursuant to Public Act 39 of 1976 for individuals 60 years of age or older? A portion of the revenue collection may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Financing Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in Van Buen County, Village of Paw Paw. It is estimated that the revenue generated on this proposal will be $163,619.16 in the first year of the levy.

South Haven Township

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HAVEN ROAD MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the tax limitation on all taxable property within the Charter Township of South Haven, Van Buren County, Michigan, be increased and the Township be authorized to renew a level of a millage in an amount not to exceed 1.45 mills ($ 1.45 on each $1,000 of taxable value) for four (4) years, 2026 to 2029 inclusive, to provide funds for constructing, preserving, improving, mowing, repairing, and maintaining roads and ditches in the Township? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect in the first year if the millage is approved and levied in the 2026 calendar year is approximately $373,461.

Bangor Public Schools

BANGOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Bangor Public Schools, Van Buren County, Michigan, be increased by 3 mills ($3.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 9 years, 2026 to 2034, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately $76,988 (this millage is to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore that reduction)?

Bloomingdale Public Schools

BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16 OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance. The total operating millage levied by the school district will not exceed 18 mills in any year.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Bloomingdale Public School District No. 16, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, be increased by 3 mills ($3.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 5 years, 2026 to 2030, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 0.5489 mill of the 3 mills is levied in 2026 is approximately

$69,864 (this millage is to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the “Headlee” amendment to the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore that reduction)?

Covert Public Schools

COVERT PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT NO. 18 OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance. The remaining .9788 mill is only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that reduction.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Covert Public Schools District No. 18, Van Buren and Berrien Counties, Michigan, be increased by 18.9788 mills ($18.9788 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 6 years, 2027 to 2032, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2027 is approximately $8,800,000 (this is a renewal of millage that expired with the 2026 tax levy)?

Decatur Public Schools

DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance. The remaining 0.6930 mill is only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that reduction.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Decatur Public Schools, Van Buren and Cass Counties, Michigan, be renewed by 18.6930 mills ($18.6930 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 4 years, 2027 to 2030, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2027 is approximately $1,376,736 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2026 tax levy)?

Lawton Community Schools

LAWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will replace expiring millage and allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Lawton Community Schools, Van Buren and Kalamazoo Counties, Michigan, be increased by 18.5 mills ($18.50 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 4 years, 2027 to 2030, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2027 is approximately $1,590,000 (this millage replaces millage that will expire with the 2026 tax levy)?

Paw Paw District Library

LIBRARY MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

Shall the Paw Paw District Library, County of Van Buren, be authorized to levy a millage annually in an amount not to exceed .9571 mill ($0.9571 per $1,000 of taxable value), which is a renewal of the millage rate that expires in 2026, against all taxable property within the Paw Paw District Library district for a period of twenty (20) years, 2027 through 2046, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for all district library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Paw Paw District Library will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the Paw Paw District Library in the first year (2027) is approximately $636,000. By law, a portion of the revenue from the millage may be subject to capture by the County of Van Buren Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.