



ROAD MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT 2020-2029 FAQs – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why did I receive this Notice? The Notice of a Public Hearing for Public Road and Bridge Improvements Assessment District No. 1 is a notice of the Township Board's intent to continue or renew the 2010-2019 Road Assessment that has been assessed and appeared on your winter tax bill as a separate line item for the past 10 years.
2. Why not call it a renewal? The 2010-2019 Road Assessment was \$60/parcel billed annually to every improved or vacant buildable parcel in the township, with a few exceptions. The 2020-2029 district is managing multi-family differently and is recommending a \$120/parcel/year assessment.
3. What is the township's need? The RCKC has projected that the township needs to spend over \$1,000,000 annually to tackle the local road needs of the township. Even by spending \$1 million each year we will still have a \$5 million dollars in unmet needs to maintain our level of roads. The \$1 million does not include the repair of O Avenue, Treasure Island Drive or North Eagle Lake Drive.
4. The Road Committee recommendation of \$120/year/parcel was determined from evaluating the road projects that were completed within the last 10 years and evaluating expected future costs and future needs to continue to fund roads at the current level we are maintaining.
5. How much will the new assessment generate for our local roads? If passed, it will generate ~\$800,000. The Township Board has committed an additional \$150,000 to \$175,000 annually from the General Fund which brings the total available for local roads to ~\$950,000. Annual Road Maintenance collections determine the number of local road projects the Township can address.
6. The Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC), based on monies received from the State of Michigan, has been able to provide PAR (Local Road Participation) funds to the township which can be used for local roads. The RCKC Board determines the amount available for local road projects based upon a formula comprised of a township's population, local road mileage and urban mileage. Texas Township qualifies because we match all or at least some of the PAR funds made available each year. For the 2020 season RCKC made \$262,000 in PAR funds available to Texas Township. These PAR funds are **not** guaranteed.

7. What are the exceptions? Beatrice Drive, Corporate Woods Drive, International Drive and Financial Parkway are specially assessed whenever a road maintenance or road replacement project is performed on those roads. Only the parcels adjacent to these industrial and commercial roadways pay for these improvements.
8. What are Residential Units? Multi-family parcels, for rent or for sale, and manufactured home communities may be assessed per unit versus per parcel. The assessment amount, probably set lower than the per parcel amount, will be determined at the second Public Hearing that sets the assessment amount. Examples of parcels containing residential units are Wyngate Farms, Saddle Creek Apartments, Lotus Town Plat, Woodfield Village Condo, Woodfield Village No. 1, Country Ridge Apartments, Redwood Living and Saddlebrook Farms.
9. What bridges? The bridge over the AMTRAK rail line is the joint responsibility of Texas Township Kalamazoo County, State of Michigan, and sometimes federal authorities.
10. How are projects determined? Each Fall the Texas Township Road Committee and the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) meet to determine the local roads with the greatest needs. This determination is based on PASER Ratings, a nationally recognized rating regimen that helps determine the roads with the greatest need. The goal is to spend all the annual road monies each year.
11. What is a PASER rating? **PASER** is an acronym for Pavement Surface Evaluation and **Rating** system. It is a system for visually **rating** the surface condition of a pavement from a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being a pavement in a failed condition and 10 being a pavement in excellent condition.
12. The last paragraph in the Notice states “it will not be increased by more than 10% without notice”. What does this mean? Simply stated, if the 2020-2029 Road Maintenance Assessment is established at \$120/year/buildable or improved parcel, the Township Board cannot increase that amount greater than 10% without noticing and holding a public hearing.
13. What is the next step? Notice #1 is regarding establishing the District, identifying parcels included. Once the District is established, there will be another Notice of a Public Hearing to establish the amount of the assessment. The Public Hearing to set the amount of the assessment is scheduled for October 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. As previously stated, the Road Committee has recommended the Township Board approve an assessment of \$120/year/parcel.