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Date: September 15, 2020
To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager Kurt Bovensiep, Public Works Director

Subject: Oakland County Parks and Recreation Millage

On August $6^{\text {th }}$, 2020 the Oakland County Board of Commissioners approved a November $3^{\text {rd }}$ ballot proposal to renew and increase the current Oakland County Parks and Recreation millage. The current millage is set to expire in 2021. The ballot proposal would raise the millage from .2349 mills to .35 mills. This equates to a cost of about \$35/year for a homeowner or business owner with a market value of $\$ 200,000$ (taxable value of $\$ 100,000$ ).

Approving the Oakland County Parks and Recreation millage would allow Oakland County to proceed with the following:

- Complete deferred maintenance and construction projects to enhance existing park facilities and provide new recreational opportunities to meet current and future needs
- Purchase maintenance equipment
- Protect natural resources and promote conservation of open space
- Offer free annual vehicle permits to Oakland County residents who are seniors (62+), active military, veterans, and residents with permanent disabilities
- Assist local communities with funding for recreation projects and programs such as programming, park design and development, invasive species management, and trail development

Oakland County Parks and Recreation is currently working on details regarding grants and other forms of assistance that would be available to local communities if the millage is passed in November. Trail assistance would likely be in the form of grants for both design/engineering and trail development with a focus on regional trail development and connections.

Additional information is expected to available from Oakland County before the November election with more in-depth specifications coming in 2021, pending millage approval and approval from various Oakland County boards and commissions.

