



City of East Grand Rapids Streets & Sidewalks Condition Update & Millage Proposal

Condition Update

In 2013, the Grand Valley Metro Council rated East Grand Rapids streets an average of 5.1 out of 10 on the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating, or PASER, scale.

Funding levels are not keeping pace with the rising costs of asphalt, concrete, salt and construction expenses. At this rate, 95 percent of the City's streets are projected to be rated "poor" by 2025.

This decrease affects safety and aesthetics. Such low street ratings can lead to unsafe driving conditions, depressed home values and damage to infrastructure and other resources.

As ratings decrease, repair costs will rise and the City will be able to dedicate fewer resources to maintenance and upkeep for streets not already in poor condition.

Road Facts

- East Grand Rapids maintains 47.2 miles of road.
- Annually, East Grand Rapids already transfers \$1 million in property tax revenue to supplement road funding.

Sidewalk Facts

- East Grand Rapids maintains 80 miles of sidewalk.
- At the current funding levels, it will take 20 years to evaluate and repair needed sections of sidewalks.

PASER Ratings: 1-4 = poor condition, 5-7 = fair condition, 8-10 = good condition



Example of a street with a PASER Rating of 7



Example of a street with a PASER Rating of 2

Dedicated Street and Sidewalk Millage Proposal

- Road conditions and funding were studied by a Citizen Task Force convened by Mayor Seibold.
- The Citizen Task Force recommended a 10-year, 2.0 mill dedicated street and sidewalk millage beginning July 1, 2015. This additional property tax would generate \$1.2 million annually for street and sidewalk improvements.
- With this added funding, it is estimated that overall road conditions would improve to a rating of 6.0 by 2025.
- Without additional funding, it is estimated that overall road conditions would deteriorate to a rating of 2.3 by 2025.
- The City will continue to transfer \$1 million of property tax revenue to supplement State funding for street and sidewalk construction, maintenance and operational expenses, including patching and snow plowing.
- If approved, the owner of a \$300,000 home would pay an additional \$300 per year in property taxes.

State Sales Tax Increase Proposal on May 2015 ballot

- The State ballot proposal would provide approximately .77 mill of additional revenue, which is not enough to prevent further decline in the City's street and sidewalk conditions.
- The EGR ballot proposal will tie to the state proposal, allowing the City to collect 1.23 mill if the State proposal passes or 2 mills if the State proposal fails.
- If State and EGR proposals are approved, the owner of a \$300,000 home will pay an additional \$150 in property taxes.