Ford Boulevard in Ypsilanti Township was resurfaced in 2019 thanks to millage dollars.
In November 2016, voters of Washtenaw County overwhelmingly approved a four-year, 0.5 mill property tax to improve roads and non-motorized facilities across Washtenaw County.

Voters approved a very specific plan, where local agencies committed to improving a specific list of roads each year. In addition, 20% of the funds collected would be used to build or improve non-motorized facilities in the county.

Millage dollars are distributed to the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC), the seven cities and villages within the county and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC).

Three years in, these local dollars continue to make a significant impact on the road system in Washtenaw County.

In addition, the millage dollars have supported 22 non-motorized projects through Border-to-Border Projects and the Connecting Communities Grant Program and has allowed WCPARC to leverage more than $11 million in private donations and non-motorized grants.

Joy Road in Webster and Scio Townships was pulverized and resurfaced in 2019. The before and after photos show the dramatic improvement made thanks to millage funds.
Follow the Money

All revenue generated by the millage stays in Washtenaw County and is distributed in the following ways:

- The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) receives approximately $3.3 million per year to fund road work in the county’s 20 townships.

- Cities and villages collectively receive approximately $2.5 million per year, with specific allocations based on the amount raised within a municipality’s borders.

- The Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC) receives approximately $1.5 million per year to support the expansion of the county’s non-motorized path network.
In 2019, the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) completed 17 road projects in 16 townships across the county. In total, 37 miles of county road improvements were made in 2019 using money generated by the millage.

In addition to the road work completed by WCRC, the City of Ann Arbor completed three major road projects and numerous non-motorized improvements. The other cities and villages within Washtenaw County used millage dollars for preventative maintenance and non-motorized improvements.
The Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC) receives approximately $1.5 million from the millage each year. This money is divided annually between investments in the Border-to-Border (B2B) trail system and funding for the Connecting Communities Grant Program.

The B2B is a non-motorized pathway that connects cities, parks, and many destinations throughout Washtenaw County. Within the county, 35 miles are complete and 19 more miles are planned. Millage funds for the B2B go directly to construction and so far have been used to leverage more than $11 million in grant funding and private donations. In 2019, construction was initiated on B2B projects in Lyndon, Lima, Scio and Ypsilanti Townships, and the City of Ann Arbor.

The Connecting Communities Grant Program provides supplemental funding to assist municipalities with the development of locally important non-motorized projects. Millage funds are used to help with a variety of project expenses, with an emphasis on construction and engineering costs. So far, millage dollars have supported 17 Connecting Communities projects, including the completed construction of path segments along Textile Road in Pittsfield Township and the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Trail in Ann Arbor Township.
Completed and Proposed Projects

The road projects shown on this map consist of a variety of improvements including preventative maintenance such as chip seal or ditching; road resurfacing, both limestone and asphalt; and total road reconstruction. The non-motorized projects shown on this map have received funding in the noted year. This funding may be applied to different aspects of non-motorized path building, including feasibility and engineering studies and construction.

Map Key

Road Projects
- Green: 2017
- Red: 2018
- Yellow: 2019
- Blue: 2020

Non-Motorized Projects
- Green: 2017
- Red: 2018
- Yellow: 2019
- Blue: 2020

Point Road Project

Point Non-Motorized Project

Completed projects are marked with an X
Preparation for 2021 and Beyond…
Road funding continues to be a challenge across every county in Michigan. While pavement conditions are improving across Washtenaw County there is still much more road work to do.

Since the four-year millage is set to expire in 2020, the Washtenaw County Board of County Commissioners’ (BOC) Roads Funding Subcommittee has recommended placing a restoration and renewal of the four-year millage on a 2020 ballot. This recommendation will be reviewed by the BOC in 2020. Staff from WCRC and WCPARC have prepared a draft plan of projects that would be completed if voters approve the millage. Stay tuned for more information!

Learn More
Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC)
Learn more about upcoming and completed road work by visiting wcroads.org. Subscribe to receive road work alerts, newsletters and the weekly road work schedule via email.

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC)
Learn more about the B2B and connecting communities program by visiting washtenaw.org/parks.

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WCRC applied a chip seal (seal coat) to Sylvan Road in Sylvan Township with millage funds. Chip seal helps to preserve pavement in good or fair condition.