

Important Information About the 2018 Ruth Hughes Library Millage Election

The library's current millage, which funds the majority of operations, expires at the end of 2018.
The current millage rate is .9966 mill, reduced by the Headlee Amendment from the 1.000 mills approved by voters in 2012.
As of audited fiscal year 2016, the millage accounted for 82% of the library's operating budget.

What is the proposal?

The library is asking voters to approve a millage of 1.1 mills subject to applicable Headlee rollbacks, for a period of ten years beginning with the 2019 levy.

It is estimated this millage will collect approximately \$384,000 in its first year.

Of this 1.1 mills, **.9966 mill** is a **renewal** of the previously authorized millage, and **.1034** is a **new additional millage**.

What is the money used for?

The millage levy funds most of the library's operations, including the cost of materials like books and dvds; programs such as storytimes and special events; the interlibrary loan service; equipment like computers, copiers, and fax machines; building maintenance and repairs; and personnel expenses.

How much will this cost?

The increase of .1034 mill adds \$5.00 annually per each \$100,000 of home market value (\$50,000 taxable value) over the current millage rate.

To figure out your portion, take **1/2** the market value of your property, which is your 'taxable value,' and multiply by the millage rate of 1.1, then divide that figure by 1,000.

**For example, the total annual cost of 1.1 mills for a home with a market value of \$100,000 and a taxable value of \$50,000 is \$55.00 per year:
 $1.1 \times \$50,000 / 1,000 = \55.00 .
That comes to about \$4.59 per month.**

Why is the library asking for additional funding?

Like most libraries across the state, the Ruth Hughes Library has faced major losses in funding due to the recession.

In 2008, the value of the library's millage levy was \$387,559; by 2016, it had shrunk by 15% to \$328,521, a decrease of over \$59,000.

Although property values are now rising, Headlee rollbacks keep the library's millage income closer to its new, lower recession levels, even as costs for things such as materials, interlibrary loan delivery, technology, and facility maintenance increase.

The library used its fund balance and made a series of budget cuts to cope with these losses for several years, but now faces additional challenges, including rapidly decreasing penal fine revenue. The library's 2016 penal fine revenue declined by almost \$20,000 from 2008.

Here is the millage proposal that will be on the August 7, 2018 ballot for voters in Attica Township, Imlay Township, and Imlay City:

Shall the Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library, County of Lapeer, be authorized to levy an amount not to exceed 1.1 mills (\$1.10 for each \$1,000 of taxable value), of which .9966 mill is a renewal of the millage rate that expires in 2018 and .1034 mill is new additional millage, against all taxable property within the Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library district for a period of ten (10) years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for all district library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library will collect in the first year of levy (2019) if the millage is approved and levied by the Library is approximately \$384,000.

Yes

No