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News Brief - SUMMER 2024 -

SUMMER PROPERTY TAX BILL

Grand Rapids Township collects summer property taxes to fund the local school districts, Kent Intermediate School District, Grand Rapids Community College, Kent County and the State of Michigan. Please refer to the tax statement for millage rate and dollar allocation that is allocated to each taxing authority. Summer taxes represent about 70% of the annual property tax. To avoid interest and penalty the payment must be received by September 14, 2024. Postmarks are not accepted as on-time payments.

2024 AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 6 when the *in-person* Primary election will be held from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm at your assigned precinct. *Absentee ballot* applications have been sent so please return those ASAP should you wish to vote absentee. *Early voting* at the Township Hall begins on Saturday July 27 at 8:30 am and ends on Sunday August 4 at 4:30 pm. Please visit the following link for additional election information: <http://www.michigan.gov/vote>.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The 2024 road projects that are cost shared with the Kent County Road Commission include the Mason Lake, White Hills and Bridgestone neighborhoods in addition to Knapp Valley St. adjacent to Knapp Forest Elementary School.

The Knapp Ct. trail connector has been completed and the reconstruction of the trail segment from Michigan St. to Bradford St. along Crahen Ave is close to being finished.

Next construction season in conjunction with the Kent County Road Commission's Crahen road bridge deck replacement over the railroad tracks, GRT is planning to add a trail bridge on the east side of the bridge to connect our north and south trail network. The plan is to place a one-piece bridge over the railroad track and construct the approaches by the end of the 2025 construction season.

Final design work for the \$4 million Crahen Valley Park Trail project that will connect Leonard St. to Knapp Ct. is almost done. We are hopeful for competitive bids so the 2-year construction project can begin next year.

The new Forest Hills Administration Building is now open. It is located adjacent to the Fine Arts Center on the Michael J. Washburn campus.

FUN FACTS

The taxable value of the Township increased by \$29 million (about 2%) and with the GRT millage rate of 1.5 mils, tax collections for GRT will increase by \$43,500. The taxable value for the Township is \$1.450 billion dollars which is expected to generate \$2,176,500 in 2025 property tax revenue.

Over 95% of the \$47 million of total property tax receipts that you pay to GRT is allocated for the local school districts, Kent County, the Kent District Library, GR Community College, the State Education tax and Kent County Intermediate School District. GRT retains less than 5%.

The American Rescue Funds that GRT received allowed for a number of capital projects to be completed ahead of schedule and will allow us to achieve many of the goals of the 2022-2028 Capital Improvement Plan.

The 6% reduction of our millage rate to 1.5 mils will continue for 2025. This month we begin the budget process for 2025 and it will be balanced with a fund balance reserve to insulate us from any economic uncertainty.

Grand Rapids Township remains committed to our primary responsibilities: provide essential services of Police, Fire and EMS; perform our constitutional duties of election administration, assessment of property and property tax collection; ensure that we promote appropriate land use regulations; support regional economic development; and provide for parks, open space and recreational trails.

Should you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
P: (616) 361-7391
F: (616) 361-6620
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Grand Rapids MI 49525

Best Regards,
Michael J. DeVries
Supervisor

QUICK NOTES...

Street Light not working?
Pot Hole in the street?
Drainage Issues?
Report them online from
the GRT "Report a
Problem" link at:
www.grandrapidstwp.org