

Allen County, Ohio

Marion Township

5405 Kiggins Rd.
Delphos, Ohio 45833
Ph. 419-692-8846

December 13, 2015

To All Marion Township Residents:

On March 15, 2016 you will have the opportunity to vote on a new .75 mill current operations levy.

This levy is needed due to cuts that have been made since 2008 by the State of Ohio to balance their budget on the backs of local governments. We have and will continue to lobby are state officials that this must stop and funding be restored. The cuts have cost Marion Twp. an average of \$101,154 per year which is approximately a 25% decrease of income since 2008. The fact is the State Ohio has caused this problem to take care of their problems.

If approved, this levy will allow the Township to continue to provide the services it has in the past by maintaining roads, plowing snow and mowing and maintaining right of ways.

If you're a resident in the City of Delphos you asked why you should vote for this levy. Well once you leave the City limits you are on Township roads and with the cuts that have been made our only alternative are not to maintain our roads and reduce snow plowing. So this levy benefits you as much as the unincorporated residence of the Township.

If approved the new levy will cost a homeowner approximately \$26.25 per year per \$100,000 of your appraised value of real estate.

If approved, this new Tax levy will generate approximate \$113,625 of annual funding to the Township.

We urge to vote YES for this levy on March 15, 2016.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of the Trustee or the Fiscal Officer.

Thanks you,

Jerry Gilden 419-303-8756
Joseph Youngpeter 419-905-9193
Howard Violet 419-303-6881
Robert C. Kimmet 419-234-7302

Marion Township Road Department

This is some information that I put together that residents of Marion Twp. May not be aware of:

Marion Township is responsible for the maintenance and care of roads, (paving, chip sealing, crack sealing, and plowing). Township road ditches are mowed three times a year. (Ohio revised code only requires 2). Drainage tile, catch basins and road signs are repaired and replaced on a regular basis as needed. The road superintendent is on call 24/7, 365 days a year and also serves as the zoning inspector. He is the only full time township employee and utilizes a part time worker only as needed for snow plowing, ditch mowing, and for road and drainage projects that require extra help. He does all equipment maintenance and repairs himself unless extraordinary.

The road department maintains, repairs, and/or replaces on an ongoing basis the following:

- 29 Road Culverts
- 45.31 miles of road (Township responsibility)
- 110 miles of right of way mowing (this is township and county roads within the township)
- 229 road signs
- 82 road names signs
- Hundreds of catch basins
- 2 large dump trucks
- 2 snow blades
- 2 tractors for mowing
- 1 backhoe
- 1 high pressure tile cleaner machine
- 1 dura patcher road repair maintenance machine
- 2 right of way mowers
- 3 cemeteries and a cemetery mower
- The miles of drainage tiles that run along all the township roads
- Snow Plowing
 - The township plow routes are divided into East, West and County
 - It takes 2 township plow drivers each three hours to complete the East and West sections
 - The County has a driver that covers their designated road

Pursuant to ORC 323.08, I, Rachael S. Gilroy, Treasurer of Allen County, Ohio, do hereby publish Notice of Rate of Taxation for the tax year 2015

Rates are expressed in Dollars and Cents on each \$1,000 of taxable value

*****2015 GROSS TAX RATES*****

2015 ALLEN COUNTY TAX RATES	JVS	SCHOOLS	COUNTY LEVIES	TWP	OTHER*	CITY / VILLAGE	2015 TOTAL
RICHLAND TOWNSHIP							
A01-BLUFFTON EX VSD	3.000	42.527	9.700	4.500	2.500		62.227
A02-BLUFFTON VILLAGE	3.000	42.527	9.700	2.500	2.500	2.500	62.727
A04-BEAVERDAM VILLAGE	3.000	42.527	9.700	2.500	2.500	2.500	62.727
A05-PANDORA-GILBOA SD	0	41.150	9.700	4.500	1.500		56.850
MONROE TOWNSHIP							
B06-BLUFFTON EX VSD	3.000	42.527	9.700	2.950	2.500		60.677
B08-COLUMBUS GROVE SD	3.000	32.500	9.700	2.950	1.500		49.650
B09-BATH LSD	3.000	38.641	9.700	2.950	1.500		55.791
B10-CAIRO VILLAGE	3.000	38.641	9.700	2.050	1.500	7.400	62.291
SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP							
C11-ELIDA LSD	3.000	41.296	9.700	6.200	1.500		61.696
MARION TOWNSHIP							
D13-DELPHOS CITY SD	0	47.400	9.700	5.700	2.100		64.900
D14-DELPHOS CORPORATION	0	47.400	9.700	0.200	2.100	6.750	66.150
D16-ELIDA LSD	3.000	41.296	9.700	5.700	1.500		61.196
SPENCER TOWNSHIP							
E17-DELPHOS CSD	0	47.400	9.700	4.550	2.100		63.750
E18-SPENCERVILLE LSD	3.000	32.570	9.700	4.550	1.500		51.320
E19-SPENCERVILLE VILLAGE	3.000	32.570	9.700	0.550	1.500	4.000	51.320
AMANDA TOWNSHIP							
F20-SHAWNEE LSD	3.000	34.907	9.700	2.800	1.500		51.907
F21-SPENCERVILLE LSD	3.000	32.570	9.700	2.800	1.500		49.570
F22-ELIDA LSD	3.000	41.296	9.700	2.800	1.500		58.296
AMERICAN TOWNSHIP							
G23-SHAWNEE LSD	3.000	34.907	9.700	10.800	1.500		69.907
G24-LIMA CSD	0	50.174	9.700	10.800	1.500		72.174
G25-ELIDA LSD	3.000	41.296	9.700	10.800	1.500		66.296
G26-ELIDA VILLAGE	3.000	41.296	9.700	9.300	1.500	1.900	66.696
BATH TOWNSHIP							
H27-BATH LSD	3.000	38.641	9.700	6.350	1.500		59.191
JACKSON TOWNSHIP							
I28-ALLEN EAST LSD	3.000	37.267	9.700	5.750	1.500		57.217
I29-LAFAYETTE VILLAGE	3.000	37.267	9.700	4.400	1.500	8.400	64.267
AUGLAIZE TOWNSHIP							
J30-ALLEN EAST LSD	3.000	37.267	9.700	7.500	1.500		68.967
J31-HARROD VILLAGE	3.000	37.267	9.700	5.500	1.500	7.050	64.017
J32-WAYNESFIELD-GOSHEN SD	2.000	43.300	9.700	7.500	1.500		64.500
PERRY TOWNSHIP							
K33-PERRY LSD	3.000	47.042	9.700	10.000	1.500		71.242
K34-ALLEN EAST LSD	3.000	37.267	9.700	10.000	1.500		61.467
SHAWNEE TOWNSHIP							
L35-SHAWNEE LSD	3.000	34.907	9.700	15.600	1.500		64.707
LIMA CORPORATION							
M37-ELIDA LSD	3.000	41.296	9.700		1.500	2.200	57.696
M38-LIMA CSD	0	50.174	9.700		1.500	3.900	65.274
M39-SHAWNEE LSD	3.000	34.907	9.700		1.500	1.800	50.907
M40-PERRY LSD	3.000	47.042	9.700		1.500	1.600	62.842
M41-BATH LSD	3.000	38.641	9.700		1.500	1.450	54.291

RES & AG Effective Tax Rate	IND / COM Effective Tax Rate
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45.873363	49.142348
46.373363	49.642348
46.373363	49.642348
37.403824	47.423994

44.771206	48.146287
39.304147	42.463207
52.265935	55.674270
56.446195	60.504020

52.526426	60.017811
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35.408347	51.493230
36.269336	52.342061
51.315242	58.512709

35.480709	51.481280
40.295510	46.434711
40.589084	46.089399

47.551058	51.036143
39.569757	44.705342
50.661851	56.771390

55.443790	59.144165
62.663507	64.991221
58.554573	64.879412

58.954573	65.279412
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54.789151	59.074270
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45.298375	50.537569
52.348375	57.587569

45.373351	50.524881
49.102746	53.850481
43.665342	47.355106

50.440475	57.779534
48.407324	55.175933

56.000966	62.919804
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50.324262	56.326537
56.133196	58.138346
46.813479	50.191290

44.506024	49.477672
51.136545	54.174270

THE TAX RATE OF 9.70 MILLS COLLECTED:

ALLEN COUNTY GENERAL FUND	2.400
ACBDD	3.750
TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH	1.500
CHILDREN SERVICES	1.250
SENIOR CITIZENS	0.800
TOTAL MILLAGE	9.700

The above "Effective Rate for 2015" is used to compute Real Estate Taxes for the tax year 2015, payable in 2016. The "Total Rate for 2015" is used to compute Personal Property Taxes to be filed and paid in 2016. Your Real Estate gross tax is computed by multiplying the tax value of your property by the effective rate for either Agriculture/Residential or Other, which is Commercial or Industrial. The total rate is a combination of rates set as a result of elections in your district for County, Schools, Townships and Corporations.

***OTHER MILLAGE RATES CONSIST OF:**

LIBRARY (BLUFFTON EXEMPTED SCHOOL DISTRICT ONLY)	1.00
LIBRARY (DELPHOS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONLY)	0.60
PARK DISTRICT (ALL)	1.50

If a Treasurer has the authority to increase or decrease your real estate taxes or to adjust valuation or assessment.

Annual monies Marion Township has lost thru 2015
Comparisons from 2008 vs. 2014:

	2008 revenue	vs	2014 revenue	Monies lost annually 2008-2014	Monies lost annually thru 2015
Local Gov't	\$54,327		\$22,257	\$32,070	\$32,070
Tangible P. .P. - Gen'l	\$3,631		\$925	\$2,706	\$3,631
Interest	\$8,277		\$656	\$7,621	\$7,621
Estate Tax \$404,824 over 7 years ave.	\$57,832		0	\$57,832	\$57,832
Total Gen'l Fund	\$124,067		\$22,838	\$100,229	\$101,154
Road & Bridge	\$6,925		\$1,612	\$5,313	\$3,925
Tangible P.P. Police	\$4,617		\$1,075	\$3,542	\$4,617
Tangible P.P.Fire	\$13,851		\$3,225	\$10,626	\$13,851
Total all Funds	\$149,460		\$29,750	\$119,710	\$126,547

Difference in total fund on last two columns is \$6837 which ia due to Tangible P.P. tax which is total eliminated after 2015

.75 Mill will generate est. \$113,625 costing \$26.25 per \$100,000 Valuation Est. yearly tax

Ohio Local Roadway Infrastructure Lacks Funding

Do you like dodging potholes and detouring around closed bridges? No? Neither do I but it could soon become commonplace in Ohio on our local roads which are maintained by counties, townships and municipalities. Local governments maintain 83 percent, or 100,000 miles of the 119,250 centerline miles of roadways in Ohio. All trips begin and end on local roads. In Allen County large factories such as Ford, Procter and Gamble and the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center (Tank Plant) are all located on local roads. They send trucks loaded with their products across these roads.

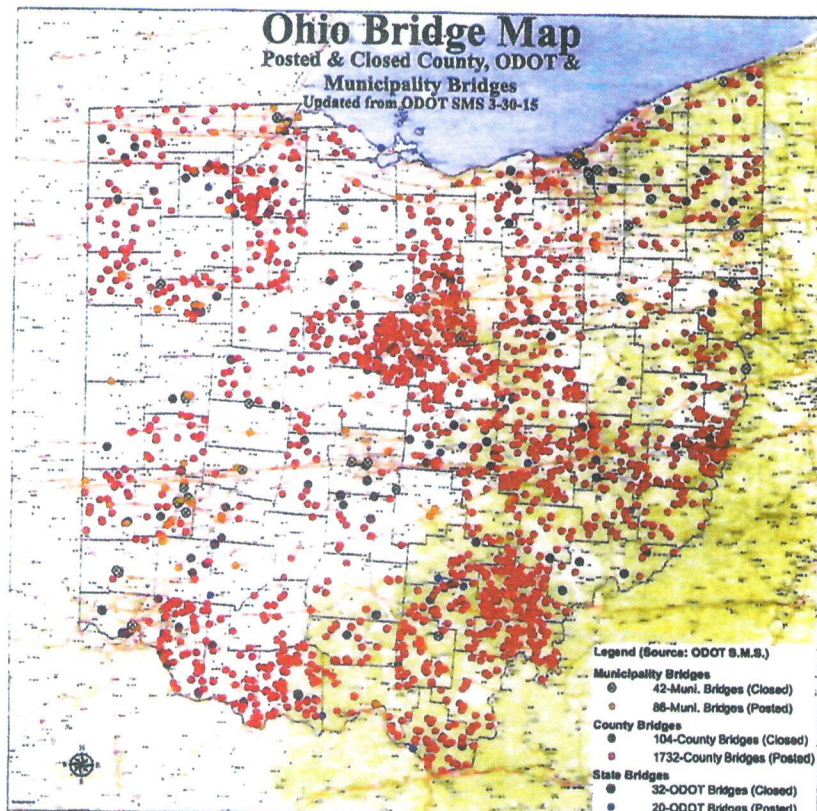
Likewise, local governments maintain 64 percent or 28,578 of the 44,429 bridges in Ohio with counties maintaining the lion's share with 26,089 bridges maintained on county and township roads. While ODOT received 98 percent of the \$1 billion realized by leveraging future tolls on the Ohio Turnpike, local governments have seen little additional sources of income. In fact, in Ohio, townships and municipalities have seen their revenue reduced or eliminated by state budget cuts on tax revenue derived from Local Government Funds, Commercial Activity Tax, Tangible Personal Property Tax and the Estate Tax. This has caused major cuts in road repairs and resurfacing by townships and municipalities.

For county engineers across Ohio, revenue is derived mainly from motor fuel taxes on gas and diesel fuel, from license plate fees and from permissive tax fees. This revenue has declined dramatically in the last 10 years.

While license fees revenue had been a steady source of income in the past, it declined from 2005 to 2009 and did not recover in recent years. Similarly, revenue from gas and diesel fuel tax declined from 2008 through 2012 and is just now beginning to rebound. However, Ohio's 88 counties received \$7 million less from gas tax revenue in 2014 than they did in 2008. Automobiles and trucks are now more fuel efficient, and therefore less fuel is being purchased.

Because of this decline in these major sources of income, less road and bridge work is being done by counties, townships and municipalities. The cost of paving roads and buying materials for bridges has risen dramatically in the past 10 years. In 2002 it cost \$24,000 to pave a mile but by 2013, that cost had skyrocketed to \$62,000 per mile, a 158 percent increase in cost. The cost of concrete and steel for construction of bridges across Ohio also saw major cost increases. For example, the cost of a cubic yard of concrete for bridges was \$59 in 2003 but now costs \$93.75, a 60 percent increase.

So how can local governments overcome decreases in revenue and increases in construction costs? Increases in license plate fees helps counties with large populations but rural counties receive little additional funding. The vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax appears to be years away because of privacy concerns by motorists. The only true user fee is the motor fuel tax on gasoline and diesel fuel purchased in Ohio. The Ohio Contractors



Association stated in an article in their May/June 2012 magazine that "Returning state gas tax rates to their 1990 levels would require immediate gas and diesel tax rate increases averaging about 5 cents per gallon..." Now, three years later, an increase of 6 cents per gallon is needed. Without an increase in the fuel tax, the number of bridges that are closed or posted with weight limits will continue to grow, and roads will begin falling in disrepair. Ohio has not seen a state gas tax increase since 2003 and Ohio's combined rate (federal and state tax) is lower than all other adjacent states except Kentucky! A 6-cent increase in the current gas and diesel tax is the only feasible option to generate revenue to meet current road and bridge maintenance needs of counties, townships and municipalities. ■

**Bridge numbers were updated for the 2015 inspection cycle from the ODOT Structure Management System*



Timothy J. Piper, P.E., P.S., has worked at the Allen County Engineer's office since 1975. He has designed more than 50 bridges and was in charge of the county and township road program for 25 years. In 2005, he was appointed Allen County Engineer and has served in the capacity for the last 10 years.

In 2013, Piper served as the President of the County Engineers Association of Ohio, Inc. He retired from Allen County July 31.

Viewpoint

Prior to 2005, if you would have told anyone associated with local government funding, and specifically township funding, that we would be in the boat we are today, they would have called you nuts. But, beginning with the passage of House Bill 66 in 2005, a gigantic tax shift occurred over the next 10 years that put us where we are today. Townships and other local government entities are struggling against a 50 percent cut in Local Government Funds, the total elimination of the Estate Tax, and the phase out of the Tangible Personal Property Tax. If you say that really fast it doesn't sound like much, but in reality it squeezed billions of dollars from these local governments over the past 10 years, and redistributed it to allow the State of Ohio to balance its budget and enjoy the \$2 billion Rainy Day Fund it brags about today.

I have been a trustee for 17 years and this tax shift angers me and I know it would all Ohioans, if they only understood how it silently took place. As citizens of the community, we all see services declining and as taxpayers, we are all being asked to pay more in real estate tax to cover the loss

legislated upon us in Columbus.

Townships are as diverse in size and population as the cities and villages are in Ohio. West Chester Township in Butler County touts a population of 60,958, while Jefferson Township in Guernsey County is home to 86 township residents. Bath Township in Allen County, where I serve as trustee, has a population of 9,725, ranking us at number 125 out of the 1,308 townships in Ohio.

Bath Township has been "blessed" over the last half century by being home to several large manufacturers. Ford Motor Co., Proctor & Gamble, Dana Corp., and others all have large manufacturing facilities in Bath Township and, prior to the tax restructuring that I have previously mentioned, supported Bath Township's growth and services with personal property tax payments. In fact, at one time, Bath Township received more revenue from personal property tax settlements than we did in real estate! With that said, it is all a moot point with Ohio's tax restructuring that leaves townships, like Bath, to fend for themselves to find ways to replace this significant loss of a longstanding tax base.

Roy Hollenbacher has served as trustee in Bath Township/Allen County for 17 years. He has also served on his County Township Association Board, and has been an OTA Director since 2010.