



CITY MILLAGES EXPLAINED

City of Southgate - Summer

CITY - City operating taxes are used for the general operation of city government. These services include, but are not limited to: Police and Fire, Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Services, and General Administrative. The maximum millage allowed by City Charter is 10.0000 mills. A vote of the electorate of the city is necessary to levy a higher rate.

RUBBISH – This millage is used to pay for pick up, hauling, and disposal of garbage, recycling, and yard waste. Authorized under Public Act 298 of 1917.

P/F PENSION – This millage is used to pay for Police and Fire Department Retirement benefits. This millage is authorized by Public Act 345 of 1937.

LIBRARY – This millage is used to pay for Library operations. Authorized under Public Act 164 of 1877.

STREETS – Special millage used to pay for road construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, repairing, and otherwise improving City streets. Authorized by local election on November 2, 2021

ACT 359 – A special tax levied under Public Act 359 of 1925 to be used for advertising, publicity, recreation or exploitation, to encourage the industrial, commercial, educational or recreational advantages of the city for the purpose of encouraging immigration to and increasing the trade, business and industries of the city.

ST SCH – State Education Tax (SET). The SET was a component of Proposal A of 1994 that changed the way in which elementary-secondary education is funded in Michigan. The state levies the SET statewide at a six-mill rate on all real and tangible personal property not otherwise exempt from the property tax. This millage is distributed to the county treasurer who then forwards it to the State of Michigan.

SCH OPER – This millage is a component of Proposal A of 1994. Under the proposal, a school district can levy 18 mills for school operating purposes. An exempt PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE (aka Homesteaded) property is *not* subject to the levy of school operating millage. For the majority of Southgate taxpayers, this line item will show “EXEMPT” instead of a dollar amount. Businesses, rental properties and people owning multiple properties will pay the school operating millage. This millage is distributed directly to the school district.

SCH DEBT – Special elections are held to enable schools to levy this millage for things such as school construction or renovation. This line item could be a combination of several elections the school district has had over the years.

COUNTY OPER – This millage represents all the operating millage established through Wayne County's charter which took effect in 1981.

PARKS/RECREATION – Special millage used to acquire, construct, furnish, equip and operate parks and recreation improvements. Authorized by local election on August 2, 2022

SCH SINKING FUND– A sinking fund millage is a limited property tax to fund major repairs and renovation to school buildings. The tax is levied each year and the revenue generated is used to address the most urgent building improvements identified by a school district. State law allows a district to levy a sinking fund millage of up to five mills for 20 years. Please contact the school district for more detailed information on their sinking fund millage.

S.W. MNT. – This is a special assessment applied to residents within the Southgate Wyandotte Regional Drain Drainage District. This special assessment pays for the operation and maintenance of the drain system.

City of Southgate - Winter

COUNTY – This millage is an “extra voted millage” that requires periodic approval by voters.

JAIL – In 2011 voters renewed a millage authorized in 2002 that allowed Wayne County to levy millage for Jail operations.

W.C. PARKS – This millage is used to improve and operate Hines Park, Elizabeth Park, Chandler Park, and Fort Wayne Park. This millage is authorized by election in 2020.

HCMA – Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority. This permanent millage is for the Metro Parks capital development and operations. Authorized by election in 1939.

ZOO AUTHORITY – This millage supports operations and services for the Detroit Zoo benefiting the residents of the tri-county area. Authorized by election in 2017.

WCCC – This permanent millage is for Wayne County Community College operations. Two elections occurred in 1998 and 2018 respectively that approved these levies.

RESA– OPER – Regional Educational Service Agency. This permanent millage is used to pay for RESA operations. For more information please see www.resa.net

RESA– SP ED – Regional Educational Services Agency. This permanent millage is used to pay for RESA special education services www.Resa.net/special-education

WCTA – Wayne County Transit Authority – This millage supports the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) public transportation system. Authorized by election in August 2018

DIA – This millage supports operations of the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). Authorized by election in 2020.

RESA – ENHANCEMENT – Regional Educational Services Agency. This millage is an additional millage to support RESA. Authorized by election in 2020.