

Sturgis Street Millage Renewal Information

VOTE

May 3, 2022

Sturges-Young
Auditorium

Quick Facts:

- **FUNDS MATTER:** The current millage has resulted in an overall improvement in our City streets, including more than twice as much street length being considered “Very Good” or “Excellent”.
- **WORK TO BE DONE:** More than one-third of our streets are still rated “Failed”, “Poor”, or “Very Poor”.
- **MAINTAIN PROGRESS:** Without a continued millage, funds for street improvements will be reduced. This means the overall street condition will again become worse over time.
- **IMPACT:** Renewal of the millage would have almost no additional impact on your tax bill. At most a couple of cents per year. The millage would raise \$7.5 million for street and sidewalk work over the next 10 years. An additional \$2.0 million would also come from the State over that same time due to the millage.
- **CITY’S PLANS:** The City would continue to use the millage, with additional funds, to complete street and sidewalk improvement projects selected on a number of factors.

What's the Millage Done?

Voters approved the Dedicated Street and Sidewalk Millage in 2013. As part of the millage the funds could only be used for street and sidewalk reconstruction, repair, and improvement projects.

Over the 10 years of the millage, the funding has allowed the City to complete a number of different repair and improvement treatments on City Streets, as well as use the funding to leverage grants to help make the dollars go farther. This includes:

53 miles of crack sealing

Crack sealing is a low-cost treatment for streets in good condition to help them last longer.

17 miles of resurface & rehab

Resurfacing and rehabilitation are mid-tier solutions used on streets in fair condition.

0.7 miles of reconstruction

Reconstruction is the most costly and extensive treatment, typically used on streets in poor or worse condition.

Streets with Segments Resurfaced, Rehabilitated, or Reconstructed:

W. Congress | Galyn | Merribe | Kent | Rishel | Wilson | Liberty Quail | Dove | Greenlawn | Meadowlane | Merryview | Wren | Franklin Sherwood Forest Trail | Robinhood Trail | Oakwood | Rose Circle Mechanic | W. South | S. Monroe | Myrtle | Michigan | Cherry Magnolia | Jacob | N. Clay | McKee | Marian | Marian Trail Friar Tuck | Robin Hood | N. Lakeview | Griffith | N. Prospect Cottage | Walker | Forest | White | Broadus RR Xing | E. Congress W. Lafayette | E. Lafayette | Ivanhoe | E. Hatch | S. Lakeview S. Clay | N. Franks | Carlton Constitution | Virginia Independence | Rolling Ridge | S. Maple | S. Orange S. Park | N. Orange | Devonshire | Lauri Lane | Tulip

What's Left to Do?

Progress has been made to improve our streets, but there is still a need for further improvement projects and ongoing maintenance.

1 2 3	4 5 6 7	8 9 10
2013 44.7%	2013 44.6%	2013 10.6%
2022 36.7%	2022 41.2%	2022 22.1%
Percentage of Sturgis Streets in Condition		
Failed, Very Poor or Poor	Fair or Good	Very Good or Excellent

Communities rate the condition of their streets on a scale of 1 (failed) to 10 (excellent) based on a set of standards. Efforts over the last 10 years have increased our average condition from a 4 (borderline fair) to a 5.

Still, 1/3rd of our streets are rated as failed, poor, or very poor and even those scoring well now are constantly degrading with time. By continuing to fund routine maintenance like crack sealing as well as undertake larger projects, we can keep moving the overall condition of streets in a positive direction and prevent them from going backwards.

Not renewing the millage would remove over \$945,000.00 per year from the budget for streets; this accounts for \$745,000.00 from the millage itself, plus an approximate \$200,000.00 provided annually by the State due to changes in tax laws that is tied to the millage. This would dramatically reduce the City's ability to improve or maintain the overall condition of streets over time.

So What Could be Next?

If the millage renewal were to pass, the City would continue to use the funding to complete street projects over the next ten years. There are projects currently planned for the next two years (2023-2024), with an expanded list of projects in mind for the entire ten-year period of the requested renewal.

While the projects scheduled for 2023-2024 are likely to occur in that timeframe if the renewal passes, other projects and when they would occur would be based on a number of factors. A sample of planned and potential projects includes:

St. Joseph St. ('23)

From N. Centerville to Nottawa

E. Hatch ('24)

From Prospect to Lakeview

N. Franks Ave. Extension ('24)

From Doyle to E Lafayette

Main St. ('24)

From Clay to George St.

Potential Projects

- S. Lakeview - US-12 to Mechanic
- S. Orange - Wenzel to W. South
- Wenzel - M-66 to S. Nottawa
- W. West - North St. to N. Centerville
- Prairie - W. Congress to Magnolia
- N. Prospect - E. Main to E. Lafayette
- Resurfacing Projects
- Crack Sealing Programs

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Tax Impact

A vote to renew the Street and Sidewalk Millage will have almost no additional impact on your tax bill. The proposed renewal is for the same 3 mills originally authorized by voters in 2013. Due to state law adjustments over the 10 year life of the millage, the street millage collected 2.9895 mills in 2021; with the renewal, the City would again be able to collect the full 3 mills. On a \$100,000.00 home this represents a change of just over \$0.01 per year.

Ballot Language

Street and Sidewalk Improvement Renewal Millage

Should the City of Sturgis levy a renewal three (3) mill property tax for a period of ten (10) years commencing in calendar year 2023 to be used exclusively for street and sidewalk reconstruction, repair, and improvement projects within the City as approved by the Sturgis City Commission? It is estimated that this renewal proposal would produce revenue of \$746,316.68 during the first calendar year.

_____ Yes _____ No

A YES vote means that the City of Sturgis will continue to have dedicated funding through a tax collection to improve streets in the City over the next 10 years.

A NO vote means that the City of Sturgis will lose over \$745,000 in street repair funding each year. This will result in fewer street improvements and would be expected to result in declining street condition.

For more detailed information and street maps, visit:

sturgismi.gov/streets