



### **Issue 3 - Violet Township Road Levy - March 15, 2016 Primary Election**

Violet Township provides comprehensive local government services to a vibrant suburb in Fairfield County. Services include Road Maintenance and Engineering, Fire, Emergency and Rescue services, Zoning and Building departments, Fiscal Office, and Administration. Violet Township has a statutory responsibility of maintaining roadway infrastructure of 105 miles with an estimated value of \$81 million dollars.

#### ***Road maintenance - what does it mean-how does it affect our residents and community?***

It means sealing cracks, filling pot holes and repaving streets; in some cases, it involves the use of chip seal or other alternatives to conventional asphalt. Road maintenance also includes snow and ice removal, street sign maintenance, road culvert maintenance, and right of way mowing and maintenance.

In recent years, Violet Township, like many other local governments has suffered a significant loss in revenue from the following sources:

- Elimination of Tangible Personal Property Taxes (TPP), which ended in 2010, reduction of the State Local Government Fund (LGF), which was cut in 2012 and the elimination of the Estate Tax, which ended in 2013,
- These cuts from the state have reduced our annual revenue by *as much as \$729,603 per year!* Historically, these funds were used to supplement our roadway maintenance programs.
- These cuts in funding have directly affected our ability to supplement our road improvement program.

*Without these funds, our annual budget for roadway maintenance has decreased to approximately \$275,000 per year, funded primarily through our portion of gasoline taxes and license plate fees.*

The 105 miles of roadway that we have the responsibility to maintain, is the same as driving 2 lanes from Columbus to Cincinnati.

- Today's cost to resurface 1 mile of roadway is approximately \$85,000. The cost to resurface that same 1 mile of roadway 10 years ago was approximately \$38,000. That equates to nearly a 125% increase in only 10 years.
- Consistent feedback from our residents associates road conditions with property values.
- Safety of the traveling public on the township road system is paramount. Travel time reliability is also of utmost importance.
- Roadways are infrastructure that is utilized each and every day

The approval of this 5 year levy and subsequent renewals of this levy will provide us with an additional \$770,000 per year, and allow us to pave / maintain all VT roadways over a 15 year period

The Levy amount we are asking for is 1.5 mills - which is an increase of \$52.50 per \$100,000 of taxable valuation. That equates to *\$0.14 cents* per day or *\$1.00* per week.