

Election Update

Precinct	Registered voters	Ballots cast	Turnout %
1	2230	1836	82.33
2	1029	829	85.42
3	1243	1068	85.92
4	1238	1070	86.43
5	1421	1049	73.82
6	1326	1117	84.24
7	2150	1735	80.70
8	1885	1635	86.74
9	1459	1255	86.02

Washtenaw County's turnout for November's election was an impressive 69% but as you can see from the chart on the left, Scio Township's was extraordinary!

Possible election dates for 2009 are as follows:

- February 24
- May 5 (School Board)
- August 4 (Primary)
- November 3 (General)

However, these elections will only be held if necessary. Since there is nothing on February's ballot in Scio Township, we will not hold an election in February. Remember, if you haven't registered to vote, please do so. You only need to register once (unless you move) and you must be registered at least 30 days before the day of the election.

Precinct	Yes	No
1*	522	415
2	475	350
3	699	303
4	697	311
5	766	176
6	727	286
7	1100	479
8	1056	463
9	817	325
Totals	6859 (68.82%)	3108 (31.18%)

Registration cutoff dates for this year are:

April 6, July 6 and October 5.

To download and print our precinct map go to: www.twp.scio.mi.us <<http://www.twp.scio.mi.us/>> - and click on - Voting Locations.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

* - appeared on the ballot erroneously



Additionally, the Township approved Proposal F, which will provide funding for the Scio Township Fire Department, by an impressive majority: (see chart right)


DREAMING UP THE IDEAL RETIREMENT IS YOUR JOB. HELPING YOU GET THERE IS OURS.

To see why it makes sense to get ready for retirement now, call today.

Jim Doty
Financial Advisor
6113 Jackson Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734-623-2099

Larry G Skiles Jr
Financial Advisor
283 S Zeeb Rd Ste K
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734-994-0502

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC



Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Scio Township

Scio Township Hall
827 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Postmaster: leave with current resident

PRE SORTED STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 308
ANN ARBOR, MI

Pet 'N Play

Your Personal Pet Sitters

Pet Sitting, Dog Walking and More!



Now serving Ann Arbor and Dexter

3484 Robinwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 913-2027 • www.pet-n-play.com

Scio Township

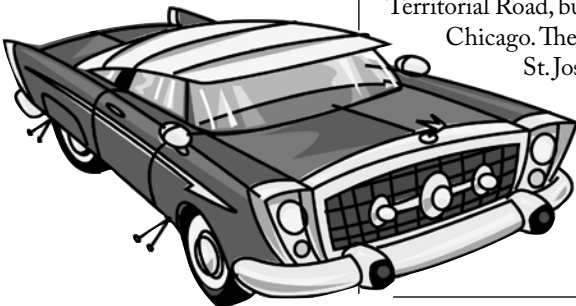
COMMUNITY REPORT

Fall 2008

In this issue:

From The Supervisor's Desk	1
Cruise '09	1
Housing Rehabilitation	2
Scio's Bus Service	3
Paying our taxes	3
Recycling Tips	4
Land Protection	4
Planning Commission Update	5
Delhi Bridge	5
Contacts	7
Election Update	8

Saturday, May 16
9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Free and open to the public



FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK – BY SPAULDING CLARK, SUPERVISOR

Meet the new Board of Trustees

On November 20th, six new Scio Township Board members took office. This is the second major turnover in elected officials that Scio Township has seen in the last four years. However, I do not expect that we will need a major transition period. I have returned as Supervisor after a four-year vacation; Nancy Hedberg joins as the new Clerk; Treasurer Donna Palmer remains; and we are joined by new Trustees Dick DeLong, Christine Green, Tom Hanson and Jack Knowles. Each Board member has had some experience of one form or another with Township operations, as well as bringing the experience gained in their business and private lives. Nancy has served on the Planning Commission (PC), Board of Review (BOR) and as a consultant to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA); Dick has served as Supervisor, as member of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), BOR and as a consultant to the DDA; Christine and Tom have served as members of the PC; and Jack has served as a member of the PC and the ZBA. I have served the Township in the past as a member of the

PC, ZBA, Township Board, DDA and as both Manager and Supervisor. This collective experience and familiarity with the Township will facilitate the operation of our Township government in the coming years, and I look forward to our collective service to the Township and its citizens. I can honestly say that given the personalities of the new Township Board, I look forward to four years of accomplishment in a congenial atmosphere.

Experienced staff in place as well

The Township continues to be served by an accomplished and dedicated staff. It's great to return and still see all of the familiar staff still in place. Several new staff members have been added as needed over the past four years, and the Township is also now served by an experienced full-time Township Manager, Darrell Fecho. As I said during the recent campaign, I do not feel that a full-time Supervisor is called for under the current circumstances, and I have

From The Supervisor's Desk continued on page 2

JACKSON ROAD CRUISE BY SCOTT HEDBERG, CHAIR OF THE EDC

Cruise '09 - Jackson Road

For the last twenty years the Scio Township Downtown Development Authority has been working on the improvement of the Jackson Road Corridor. Major investments have been made including land acquisitions, utility improvements, road and sidewalk construction, and landscaping along what will be a 7.5 mile loop. The \$75 million project has been paid for with \$42 million in local tax funds along with \$33 million in Federal and MDOT grants.

a map of Michigan, you can still trace the original road through much of southern Michigan.

Display your vehicle

2009 heralds the completion of Phase III of the construction of the Jackson Road Corridor, but not in time for the first annual Jackson Road Cruise. The Cruise will begin with the display of the registered cruise cars at various "hub" sites along the corridor. At 4:30 pm the cars will "Cruise" the Boulevard as they wend their way home. The Cruise is open to all those who wish to exhibit their vehicle be it foreign or domestic, classic or modern, custom or rod, hybrid or electric, motorcycle or cycle, tractor or truck. Registration fee is \$5. So mark your calendar and come join us to celebrate a bit of Michigan's history: Saturday, May 16th from 9:30 to 4:30 along Jackson Road.

A part of Michigan's history

Jackson Road in Scio Township was originally part of the Territorial Road, built by early settlers to link Detroit and Chicago. The route it follows was the Sauk Indian's St. Joseph Trail. The auto ushered in it's name change to "US 12" and improvements necessitated it's realignment to today's configuration with US12 being a major, sometimes divided, highway and Old US12, or Jackson Road, a more local thoroughfare. If you look on

This is sponsored by the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) of Scio and supported by the Western Washtenaw Business Association. For more information, contact ScottH@jrcruise.org or go to our website: www.JRCruise.org

As the new budget year begins in April 2009, we will be devoting our time to an analysis of the Township's future fiscal needs and how to best use the resources available to us.

accordingly reduced my time and my associated salary as Supervisor to part-time. This does not mean that I will abdicate my role as Supervisor, only that at this time I do not believe that you need to pay me full-time given the staff that we have.

The challenges ahead

Looking forward over the next four years, issues relating to police and fire services will remain with us. During the recent election, the Township residents voted favorably to pass a special millage for fire services. As a consequence, the Township will be able to shift funds previously allocated to fire services, and utilize them for police services. You may have read in the newspapers about the ever escalating costs of police services provided under contract with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department. We plan to add three more deputies in the coming year, replacing the two that were cut two years ago, and adding another with additional provision for filling any temporary absences. In this effort, the Township owes a large debt of gratitude to the members of the Scio Public Safety Committee who worked diligently over the past several years to review the Township's public safety needs, to recommend staffing levels commensurate with the Township's current and future needs, and then to recommend alternatives for the funding of the desired service levels. It was this hard work that led to the recommendation of the fire millage, and their efforts to support and promote the millage that led to its approval.

Working smarter

On the Township's financial front, while we remain stable and solvent, given the state of the national economy and the dismal prospects within our own state, we expect that the state will begin cutting revenue sharing payments to local governments while at the same time property tax revenues shrink. Thus, as the new budget year begins in April 2009, we will be devoting our time to an analysis of the Township's future fiscal needs and how to best use the resources

available to us. We would hope that in coming years we will not need to levy the full fire millage, as we continue to explore alternatives to the ways in which we currently provide all the different public services to the community. This is at the very least a time of fiscal constraint, and your Township officials know this.

Looking to enhance local cooperation

We will continue to work with other communities in the area, and in particular with the Village of Dexter, to restore amicable relations and look for collective efforts to best provide public services. We are interconnected with many governmental entities in the County and collective efforts and wisdom can work to everyone's benefit. A modest example of that may occur with the park proposed by Dexter Village along Mill Creek, and a potential connection with a proposed park in Scio which we hope can be created along Mill Creek south of Shield Road. While that proposed park is a long way from being accomplished and the property has yet to be purchased, it does represent a brighter future for all of our citizens.

Continuing projects

We will continue to review the adequacy of our current sewer system to address the future needs in our sewer service area, and we also look forward to the completion of the final phase of Jackson Road Boulevard construction, and expect to see completion in the fall of 2009. And finally, look forward to information about a potential "dream cruise" that will occur next year in Scio Township.

New schedule adopted

On other more mundane matters, the Township Board has decided to adopt a monthly meeting schedule of 7:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, with the first meeting being primarily a work session, and the second meeting being primarily the action meeting. For more information on our meetings, check our website for agendas, minutes and meeting dates and times: www.twp.scio.mi.us/administration/trustees.

MANAGER'S REPORT BY DARRELL FECHO, MANAGER

Housing Rehabilitation Program Available in Scio

...eligible Scio homeowners to improve their homes by lowering energy use, correcting building code violations and making other repairs

Does your home need repairs?

Scio Township cooperates with neighboring communities for federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The Township participates as a member of the Washtenaw Urban County Program. Because of our membership, there are various programs available for eligible Scio homeowners to improve their homes by lowering energy use, correcting building code violations and making other repairs, some on an emergency basis. County staff monitors the work to make sure it is done correctly and within program guidelines.

You may be eligible for assistance

To qualify, your property taxes and mortgage payments must be current and your household income must be within the prescribed HUD limits, which vary with family size. If you are interested in finding out if you qualify for some level of assistance, please contact the Washtenaw Office of Community Development at (734) 622-9036. Mr. Ingram will be able to help you navigate through the process to determine if you are eligible for funding to help cover housing rehabilitation needs that may otherwise be outside your current financial means.

Scio's Bus Service Takes Off

Scio's FlexBus service had a jump start last summer from the high prices of gasoline. Yet even with a notable drop in gas prices this fall, ridership on the bus has continued to increase.

The last edition of Scio Info announced a new bus service along Jackson Boulevard. The service is provided by People's Express under the name Scio FlexBus. It has been sponsored by Scio's DDA (Downtown Development Authority) on a trial basis for one year. The DDA hopes that the service will be sufficiently popular by the end of 12 months to stimulate alternative funding for the service in future years.

Ridership has increased

Between July 28 and the end of November, ridership on the bus has increased significantly. The monthly rider count has gone from 645 in August to 1522 in November. Transportation experts say that it can take up to a year for a new bus service to reach capacity, as people only gradually become aware of the service and change habits to take advantage of it. Scio's FlexBus service had a jump start last summer from the high prices of gasoline. Yet even with a notable drop in gas prices this fall, ridership on the bus has continued to increase.

Hourly service

FlexBus service is available Monday through Friday on an hourly cycle from Scio Farms Estates on the west side to the AATA bus stop at Wagner Road on the east side. Eastbound service begins at 7:00 am at Scio Farms Estates and runs up to 7:00 pm. It is scheduled to meet the AATA bus on the half hour at the Wagner Road bus stop. Westbound

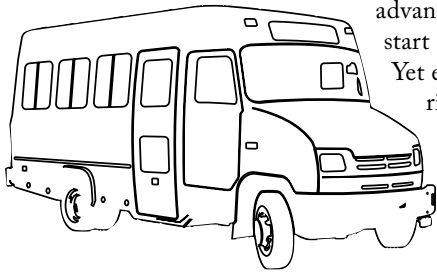
service starts at 7:30 am from the AATA bus stop, with the last run at 6:30 pm. The charge for one ride is \$0.50. Bus service is also provided during the week by the WAVE bus (Western-Washtenaw Area Value Express). The WAVE bus runs every two hours and is scheduled to reach the AATA bus stop on the hour (7:01 am, 9:01 am, 11:01 am, 1:01 pm, 4:01 pm and 6:01 pm). Within Scio, the WAVE ride is subsidized by the DDA and costs only \$0.50, just like the FlexBus charge.

Route is flexible

Scio's FlexBus picks up riders anywhere along its Jackson Boulevard route. Its route also includes stops at Meijer's parking lot, and at Lakestone Apartments and the Co-housing units near Parkland Plaza on its eastbound trip. On the westbound trip the FlexBus route crosses I-94 to circle around the Town Hall on North Zeeb. The WAVE bus picks up riders at Scio Farms Estates and Meijer's on its eastbound trip and at the AATA bus stop and the Taco Bell on its westbound trip.

Call ahead for special service

Both bus services also offer "Flex It" services, where riders can call for special pick-ups within three-quarters of a mile of the regular route. The charge for special pick-ups within Scio Township is \$1.00. To reach the FlexBus for special pick-up, call 734/678-3935; to reach the WAVE bus for special pick-up, call 934/475-9494.



FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK – BY DONNA PALMER, TREASURER

Paying our taxes

I would like to express my appreciation for the friendliness that is extended to all of us in Township Hall when you come in to take care of your taxes. Paying our taxes is not a pleasant task, but for us it's an opportunity to connect a face with a name and get to know many of our residents.

Mailing policy has changed

My next point of discussion is difficult for me. Each year we have many tax bills returned due to an incorrect address. In most cases this is because the resident has moved and has not informed us of their new address. In the past, we have tried to re-mail these tax bills to the correct address only to have some of them return yet again. This effort costs us additional staff time and postage (~\$100 this season alone.) Because of the increasing costs and the budgetary constraints we face, we are changing this policy and will no longer re-mail the tax bills. We mail the summer tax bills in the last week of June and the winter bills in the last week of November. If you have not received

yours by the 15th of July or December, please call our office (665-2123). Any tax bill "unpaid" on March 1 must

be turned over to the Washtenaw County Treasurer. The responsibility for collecting then moves to that office and additional fees and interest occur.

Keep us informed of address changes

The tax statute states that we must mail the bills first class, but we are not required to re-mail them. The statute also states that it is the property owner's responsibility to keep us updated with any changes in their contact information. Please remember to keep us informed of any changes in your contact information so that this new policy will not cause you any inconvenience. Here are a few points to consider.

Going on vacation?

Let us know; we can mail to your temporary address.

Change in ownership?

File all of the proper documents.

Moved but still own the property?

Give us the correct mailing address.

Working together we can greatly reduce the number of misaddressed tax bills. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.





**Reduce!
Reuse!
Recycle!**

Some Recycling Tips

Have you ever wondered who volunteers at the monthly Scio Recycle Saturday? Typically it is ‘manned’ by your own elected Township officials (past and present) and sometimes Girl Scouts from a local troop. Recently, the weather has not been ideal on Recycle Days and it has been hard on the volunteers, so be sure to say a word of thanks when you come to drop off your recyclables.

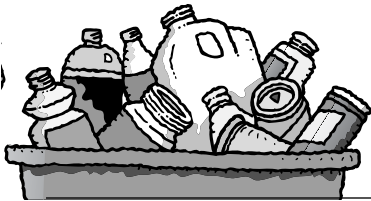
Most people who come through on Recycle Days are just beginning their Saturday errands, so here are a few tips to help speed you along:

1. Keep a brown paper bag handy to accumulate your junk mail, flattened cereal boxes, or recycled office paper and envelopes. At the end of the month you’ll have a bag (or like at my house, two or three) that can easily be tossed into ‘Mixed Paper’ bin—the whole kit and caboodle, all at once. Easy! Use the same idea for your newspapers.
2. Do you come home from the grocery store, hardware store, or salon carrying a plastic bag? Take the first one you get at the beginning of the month, hang it on a hook and use it (the “mother” bag) to gather all the others you bring home that month. It is often windy on Recycle Days and sometimes these plastic bags get caught in a gust of wind and are blown all over the parking lot. An easy way to control the problem is to tie a knot or two in each bag as you toss it in the ‘mother’ bag. On Recycle Saturday, simply tie the handles together on the mother bag and

you’re ready to toss it into the “Plastic Bag” bag! An easy solution to help control and recycle these nuisances.

3. Don’t forget your corrugated cardboard; there is usually a separate container for it. But please remember to flatten it so that we can pack the container to the gills. When it’s not been broken down, your volunteers are forced to cope with it.
4. Remember that we can take # 1, #2, and #4 plastics. If it is not labeled with one of those numbers, we suggest that you just dispose of it with the household trash.
5. Yes, we can take Styrofoam. But if you have lots of little pieces, it helps to gather those in one of those earlier mentioned pesky plastic bags.
6. Shredded office paper? Gather it in a bag (plastic or paper) and it can be easily tossed into the appropriate container.
7. Now my own confession...I used to be fastidious about separating glass, plastic, and tin. No need - it all ends up in the same container, so don’t worry about separating it. (Though it is nice if it is clean when we are handling it.)

The enthusiasm of our community members who come to Recycle Saturday is very impressive! We often fill two containers to the brim and the corrugated cardboard container as well. Keep up the good work! Remember to come to Scio’s Recycle Saturday, which is held on the third Saturday of every month, rain or shine. Look for our sign in front of Township Hall.



LPC UPDATE BY BARRY LONIK, LAND PROTECTION CONSULTANT

Scio Farm Property Protected

There are now six sizable properties in three townships in a six-mile stretch of road that are permanently protected with conservation easements or public ownership

It was no trick last Halloween when Scio Township’s biggest land protection project to date was completed. On that day local landowners, John Davenport and his cousin Charlotte Lattof, signed a conservation easement to protect 173 acres of their farm property on the Township’s west side. The property is bounded by Parker Rd. (the Township boundary) on the west and Marshall Rd. on the south. It features over 150 acres of tillable land, along with a mature woodlot, farm buildings and two stretches of Mill Creek, which is a State of Michigan natural river.

Purchase made possible by cooperation

The project was made possible through an \$851,300 grant from the Farm and Ranchlands Protection Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Scio Township’s Proposal J millage contributed \$1,332,166. Mr. Davenport and Ms. Lattoff also made a substantial donation of the appraised value of the development rights, with all parties forming a true partnership in the process. This property is another addition to the scenic Parker Rd. corridor. There are now six sizable properties in three townships in a six-mile stretch of road that are permanently protected with conservation

easements or public ownership, and more in the works. The magnificent open spaces and farmland along Parker are guaranteed to be there for future generations.

Protected land will assist local farmer

In addition to the scenic qualities, the Davenport-Lattof property is also integral to the Breuninger family dairy farm, located immediately to the south. The Breuninger’s depend on the newly protected land to grow crops to feed their herd. The buildings and grounds are also used to house animals not currently being milked. Mr. Davenport has stated that the Breuninger’s will be able to lease his land as long as they wish.

Purchase benefits the Township

As is usually the case with agricultural conservation easements, there is no public access on the Davenport-Lattof property. Nevertheless, protecting its scenic, natural and agricultural resources are of tremendous benefit to the Scio Township community. The Scio Township Board of Trustees and Land Preservation Commission are enormously grateful to John and Charlotte for their commitment to keeping their land open and productive forever.

Master Plan Update Is Completed

The new Master Plan should be in place and operational by first quarter 2009

The update of the Master Plan is complete and responses from neighboring Townships and other township stakeholders have been received by the deadline of December 18th. If all interim conditions are met on schedule, the new Master Plan should be in place and operational by first quarter 2009.

Process review

As mentioned in the last Scio Info, the final draft of the updated Master Plan was released for distribution October 15th. At the same time it was posted to the website and thus made generally available to the public for review and comment. Additionally, all entities were notified as required by law and sent a copy for their review. We received comments from a number of groups including Washtenaw County Planning, Village of Dexter, WATTS, and feedback at the other meetings. A master list of these comments will be assembled and presented at the 2nd meeting in January, with recommendations for consideration by the Planning Commission.

Joint meeting to be held

An informational review was conducted at the November 24th meeting and after the presentation, there was public comment. One suggestion that was accepted by the Planning Commission was to have a joint meeting and discussion with Board of Trustees, DDA, and Planning Commission to review the Anderson Group Economic Development Study before the official Public Hearing. This joint meeting is scheduled for Jan 13, 2009. Check the website postings (<http://www.twp.scio.mi.us/administration/planning>) for actual dates and to offer your comments in person or in writing.

New Planning Commission Members

Two new Planning Commission members were nominated and approved at the last Board of Trustees meeting, replacing Doug Fuller who was elected as a Washtenaw County Road Commissioner, and Tom Hanson who was elected to the Scio Township Board of Trustees. Joining the Planning Commission is Jay Holland, a DDA member, and Irwin Martin, a member of the Land Preservation Committee.

Planning Commission Actions

Uno Restaurant

The final site plan was approved for a Uno Restaurant to be located on an east out lot of Meijer's store, and was forwarded to the Board of Trustees for final approval. The site will utilize some parking from the current Meijer's parking lot, and will use the southeast access from Zeeb Road.

Honey Creek Development

Conditional rezoning has been requested for this project. A presentation was given by the project architect that included the following points: this is a green development with buffers and open space; the perimeter of site is to have a unique and identifiable fencing/hedging; the first phase would be the Jackson Road commercial/residential mixed/multi-purpose multiple story buildings; the residential area is to be a small scale community; there will be no on-site sewer treatment; phasing will start with some retail, then residential and lastly a park; if progress is not made, then the rezoning would revert back to the original zoning. The rezoning request was approved by the Planning Commission and forwarded to the Board of Trustees for final approval. This is not a final site plan approval.

Conditional Rezoning has restrictions

As stated in the Scio Township Zoning Ordinance (www.twp.scio.mi.us/ordinances/zoning2003), "Scio Township may allow conditional rezoning to help ensure the proper use of land and natural resources and to allow for a more flexible approach to the rezoning process in accordance with Act No. 110 of Public Acts of Michigan of 2006 as amended. It is recognized that, in certain instances, it would be an advantage to both the Township and petitioners seeking Rezoning of land if a site plan, along with conditions and limitations that may be relied upon by the Township, could be proposed as part of a petition for Rezoning." See Article 16.05 of the Zoning Ordinance for the standards, conditions and requirements that must be met.



Delhi Bridge added to National Register of Historic Places

The State Historic Preservation Office announced in September 2008, that Scio Township's Delhi Bridge, currently being rehabilitated, was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge, built by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, is one of only five Pratt through truss bridges left in the state, and one of only two still in use in their historic locations. The Delhi Bridge was preserved in large part through the efforts of the Delhi Bridge Conservancy, a nonprofit organization formed to save the bridge. For more details, go to <http://www.historicbridges.org/truss/edelhi/>

For details on the progress of its rehabilitation, go to: <http://www.wcroads.org/roadwork/bridges/east-delhi-rd-bridge2007-08.htm>

Photo: Rich Cook

What is Proposal A

and how does it impact me?

The economy is hitting everyone. Some property owners – generally those who have owned their homes for years – are seeing increases in their property tax bills while others are seeing real declines.

The failing economy and the decline of the real estate market that Michigan is experiencing has led many homeowners to take a second look at their property tax bills. Residents can't help but wonder how Michigan's tax system works. Proposal A was added to the Michigan Constitution in 1994 by a vote of the people to address how property taxes are determined. Prior to the enactment of the Proposal A, the State Constitution required that every property owner pay property taxes based on the fair market value of their property. While the system insured that everyone would pay his or her fair share, it could be very punishing to the individual taxpayer. Whenever housing markets escalated quickly, it was not unusual for some homeowners in the community to see their tax bill jump by 20 percent or more in one year.

Significant changes to the property tax system

When Proposal A was approved, it contained two significant changes to the property tax system: the first was to reduce school property taxes and the second was a provision that limited how quickly individual property tax bills could increase from year to year. Proposal A stated that the value used to calculate property taxes could not increase each year by more than the increase in inflation, or 5 percent, whichever is less, until the ownership of the property changes.

Property owners have seen the benefit from this valuation cap for years. Each year every property owner receives a statement from the township that indicates the property's State Equalized Value (SEV). This amount represents 50 percent of the current value of the property. The township's assessor, who is required to follow procedures established and monitored by the state, determines the value. However, the more important number is the Taxable Value (TV),

which is the amount used to calculate property taxes. Any difference between the SEV and TV shows how Proposal A has limited your property taxes.

Inequity in the system

While Proposal A protected individual property owners, it has created inequities. When a house is sold, the property value is set to the sale price and the SEV and TV are set to be 50% of the new property value. The new owner must pay taxes on the new TV. This means a person who has owned the same home for the last 15 or 20 years is likely paying much less in property taxes than their neighbor who just moved in three years ago, even though both homes may be identical. The newest fairness issue has been exposed with the falling housing market. Our state law that implements Proposal A directs that the Taxable Value must increase by the rate of inflation any time the Taxable Value on a piece of property is less than its State Equalized Value. This occurs even if the value of the property is decreasing. This continues until the SEV and TV are equal, at which point any further decline results in real property tax reductions. Hopefully the above explanation answers the question asked by many: Why did my property taxes go up when the value of my home just went down?

We'll do more with less

As administrators of the property tax system, the Township can only point to the Constitution and the decision made in 1994 by the residents of this state that a predictable property tax assessment was more important than an equitable assessment. The economy is hitting everyone. Some property owners – generally those who have owned their homes for years – are seeing increases in their property tax bills while others are seeing real declines. Local governments also feel the strain and have been struggling for years to maintain services due to declining funding from the state. The expected decline in property tax collection – the Township's most important revenue source – simply means we must also do more with less, just like our residents are doing. It doesn't diminish our responsibility to maintain a community that is a great place to live, work and raise our children.

We intend to continue to do what we can to provide you with the services that you expect in a cost-efficient way.





Get involved in your community

Scio Township Information

Scio Township Hall
827 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 665-2123; info@twp.scio.mi.us
visit us at: www.twp.scio.mi.us

Township Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Township Board of Trustees

Spaulding Clark, Supervisor
Nancy Hedberg, Clerk
Donna Palmer, Treasurer
Dick DeLong, Trustee
Christine Green, Trustee
Tom Hanson, Trustee
Jack Knowles, Trustee
Darrell A. Fecho, Township Manager . . . (734) 665-2123

Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall. E-mail sent to townshipboard@twp.scio.mi.us will be forwarded to all members of the township board.

Scio Township Department Heads

Carl Ferch, Fire Chief (734) 665-6001
Scott Martin – Utilities Director (734) 665-2606
James Merte – Assessing (734) 665-2123

Phone Numbers

Emergencies 911
Fire Department
Administration (734) 665-6001
Sheriff's Department,
Zeeb Road Sub-Station (734) 994-8105
Utilities Emergency (734) 651-4770
Utilities Administration (734) 665-2606
County Building Inspection Services . . . (734) 222-3900
County Drain Commissioner: (734) 994-2525

The Scio Township Community Report

Is published quarterly by the Scio Township Board of Trustees for the residents of Scio Township.

Editor
David Read
Graphic Design
Julie Tanguay
Photographer
David Read

County Information:

Washtenaw County Road Commission
(734) 761-1500; wrcr@wcroads.org

Washtenaw County Commissioners:

District 1 – Mark Ouimet
(734) 663-0927; ouimetm@ewashtenaw.org
District 2 – Ken Schwartz
(734) 686-4445; schwartzk@ewashtenaw.org
District 3 – Jessica Ping Mills
(734) 260-7844; pingmillsj@ewashtenaw.org
District 9 – Leah Gunn
(734) 663-7307; gunnl@ewashtenaw.org
District 10 – Conan Smith
(734) 662-0268; smithco@ewashtenaw.org

State Information:

State Representative
District 52 – Pam Byrnes
(517) 373-0828;
pambyrnes@house.mi.gov

State Senator:

District 18 – Liz Brater
(517) 373-2406;
SenLBrater@senate.michigan.gov

Governor:

Jennifer M. Granholm
(517) 373-3400;
e-mail via www.michigan.gov/gov

Federal Information:

U.S. Representatives:

District 7 – Mark Schauer
(202) 225-6276;
e-mail via www.schauer.house.gov/contact
District 15 – John Dingell
(202) 225-4071;
e-mail via www.house.gov/dingell

U.S. Senators:

Debbie Stabenow
(202) 224-4822;
senator@stabenow.senate.gov

Carl Levin
(202) 224-6221;
e-mail via www.levin.senate.gov

President of the United States:

Barack H. Obama
(202) 456-1111; president@whitehouse.gov