



Macatawa Area Transit Authority millage passes

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Kathryn Gray recommends this.  

Holland, MI — A tax proposal supporting the Macatawa Area Transit Authority passed easily Tuesday. More than 76 percent of Holland area voters cast their ballots in favor of the tax; 23.6 percent voted against funding the bus system.

"We're very, very happy for that," said MAX Marketing Manager Sherri Cadeaux. "Certainly the surge in gas prices gives people thought and pause for supporting the transit system. Who's to say how high these prices are going to go for fuel and for how long? More families are going to look at alternative means of transportation and we're pleased to provide that service."

Without renewal, the millage would have expired in November. Voters are asked to consider renewing the tax every five years.

The millage will bring in about \$890,000 a year. The millage supplies roughly a quarter of MAX's operating revenue. The state and federal governments supply 36 and 32 percent of MAX's operating budget, respectively. Passenger fares cover about 6 percent.

The 0.4 mills will cost 40 cents per \$1,000 of a home's taxable value. For example, it would cost \$85 a year for a home with a taxable value of \$100,000.

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