



Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



April 2022

Livingston County Board of Commissioners



District 1 - Martin Smith

District 2 - Carol Sue Reader

District 3 - Wes Nakagiri
(Board Chairman)

District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman

District 5 - Jay R. Drick

District 6 - Mitchell Zajac

District 7 - Carol S. Griffith

(Board Vice-Chairwoman)

District 8 - Jerome Gross

District 9 - Brenda Plank

"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."

Board To Discuss Broadband Survey Results At 4/25 Meeting



The results of the County's Resident Broadband Survey are in and Merit Network's Michigan Moonshot team will be reviewing the findings at the April 25th Board of Commissioners meeting. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting either in person or

via Zoom to listen to the presentation. The meeting will begin at 6 P.M. and is held in the 2nd floor Board Chambers at the County Administration Building at 304 E. Grand River in Howell. To view the meeting via Zoom, please visit <https://www.livgov.com/boc/Pages/Virtual-Meetings.aspx> and join in whatever manner works best for you. Residents are also welcome to view the survey findings report and assessment available on the frontpage of the County's website www.livgov.com. Below are some key findings of the survey.

Monthly Meetings

All meetings will be held in person and via Zoom.

- Via Zoom (on-line meetings): <https://zoom.us/j/3997000062?pwd=SUdLVVFFcmozWnFxbm0vcHRjWkVlZz09>
- Via the Zoom app - **join a meeting**, meeting number: **399 700 0062**
Enter the password: **LCBOC**
(ensure there are no spaces before or after the password)
- Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099
Meeting ID: **399 700 0062**
Password: **886752**

4/25/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6:00 PM

5/2/2022 - General Government & Health & Human Services Meeting at 6:00 PM followed by the Asset Management Committee

5/9/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6:00 PM

5/16/2022 - Courts, Public Safety, Infrastructure Development Meeting at 6:00 PM

After compiling the survey's data, the overall response rate was about 8.49% of all households in our county. Through the data it is clear that much of Livingston County is unconnected or insufficiently connected. Connectivity data indicates a problem more stark than established FCC data suggests. The southeast portion of the county (including the areas around Brighton and Pinckney) and the region surrounding Howell demonstrate deeper broadband density per census block. However, much of Livingston County lacks access, including census blocks within better served areas. 42% of households in the study reported having no internet access at all.

The FCC defines broadband speed as Internet service at a minimum of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Survey results indicate that 56% of households overall do not have access to fixed broadband at the FCC threshold. The citizens of Livingston County indicate that underservice in their communities is much higher than reported by Federal data. The majority of unconnected residents in Livingston County do not have service because they simply do not have availability at their address. An absence of service availability impacts 62% of unconnected homes in the survey. The price of Internet service is another key barrier for unconnected residents; 32% of unserved households replied service costs are prohibitively expensive.

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- Chuck Wright has been appointed to the Livingston County Tax Allocation Board for the 2022 term.
- A three month extension has been made to the attorney services contract with Attorney Paige Favio for the Veterans Treatment Court and Intensive Treatment Mental Health Court. The Specialty Courts and Programs have explored a partnership with the Public Defender's Office for these services and have been able to come up with a plan for the services. This contract extension will allow for further exploration and implementation of the partnership.
- In order to utilize the remaining \$22,253 of the Sheriff's Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant, a budget amendment was authorized.
- The 2022 County Equalization Report has been adopted. The Report presents the equalized value of all taxable property, both real and personal, for each of the sixteen townships and three cities within Livingston County. The total value for all real property being equalized at \$13,265,310,399; personal property equalized at \$594,247,229; for a total County Equalized Value of \$13,859,557,628.
- Livingston County's Estimated 2023 General Fund Budget will be submitted to the Tax Allocation Board.
- A first quarter budget amendment to the 2022 Budget has been approved. The amendment recognizes the actual increased or decreased expenditure activity for the first quarter.
- Textron, Inc. has been granted temporary access to the vacant property of the County's West Complex for the monitoring of groundwater wells for a period of two years.
- Guidehouse will provide American Rescue Plan Act Consulting Services for a cost not to exceed \$300,000 over the life of the grant. Some of the services Guidehouse will provide include reviewing proposals for eligibility compliance, assistance with federal reporting, and reviewing additional grants and available funding sources.
- The hours of EMS's Part-Time Biller position have increased from 20 hours a week to 30. This change is the result of steadily increasing call volumes for EMS over the past several years.
- LETS will purchase five new replacement buses at a total cost of \$730,155. Due to ongoing production delays in the auto industry, current lead times for new bus orders are estimated to be 14 months or greater. The replacement buses will have a useful life of seven years or 200,000 miles.
- The Livingston County Transportation Complex has a 12,000 gallon underground storage tank onsite that was recently converted to dispense gasoline. An agreement for gasoline delivery services has been made with Petroleum Traders Corporation to provide gasoline at \$0.0253 per gallon.
- Car Pool has been authorized to lease eight Chevrolet Tahoe patrol vehicles from Enterprise Fleet Management for the Sheriff's Office Field Services Division. Four of the vehicles will be regular replacements and four will be additions to the Deputy Assigned Vehicle program. Due to the auto industry supply chain issues, five of the vehicles will be 2022 models sourced from dealer inventory and three will be 2023 factory orders. The five 2020 models will have an estimated annual lease cost of \$14,160 per vehicle and the 20263 models will have an estimated annual lease cost of \$15,144 per vehicle.