



2016 Veterans Millage

Covered Topics

- What is Veteran Services' Doing Now?
- Areas of Growing Need
- Operational Millage Proposal
- Additional Services and Programs Needed
- Our Recommendation

What Are We Doing Now?

- Livingston County has a veterans population of around 12,300.
- Assistance in navigating the claims filing process with the Federal Government.
 - For injury or illness caused by the veteran's service.
 - For injury or illness not caused by service.
 - Federal death benefits.
 - Survivor benefits.
- Provide case management and ongoing support for VA benefit recipients.
- File and process county burial allowance claims.
- Provide financial assistance to indigent veterans and their dependents.
 - Covers anything from food & gas to home repairs.

Current Relief Fund

- Pays for all relief services and the Relief Counselor.
- Also pays for services rendered to indigent veterans by other staff.

The County Veterans' Relief Fund is a statutorily mandated fund, established by PA 214 of 1899.

Areas of Growing Need

- Increased requests for transportation.
 - Transportation for special needs patients to their medical appointments.
 - Dialysis appointments
 - Out-patient surgery
- Increased requests for financial assistance.
- Increased requests for mental health services.
- Increased requests for assistance through the Veterans Treatment Court.
 - Currently unable to accept more veterans into the program without more mentors.

Relief Fund Projections 2017-2022

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Annual Increase	Inflation
Total Veteran's Relief Expenditures	\$311,082	\$329,747	\$349,532	\$370,504	\$392,734	\$416,298	4.00%	2.00%
Relief Fund Est. Millage	0.0400	0.0420	0.0441	0.0463	0.0486	0.0510		

Inflation rate = 2% inflation and 4% growth.

An Operational Millage

- Will:
 - Provide funding for the mandated Veterans' Relief Fund per PA 214 of 1899.
 - Provide a dedicated source of funding for all veteran services and programs in the county.
 - Stabilize department revenues by separating them from potential disruptions to the General Fund.
 - Allow the department to provide services and programs that are currently unfunded, but essential.
 - Allow flexibility to meet changing needs.

Operational Millage Proposal

The Veterans Affairs Committee recommends the Livingston County Board of Commissioners approve the ballot proposal to levy a dedicated operational millage for the Veterans' Services Department of 0.139 mills for a term of six years.

First Year Revenue Generated

ESTIMATED ANNUAL REVENUE FROM VETERANS MILLAGE										
Estimated County Taxable Value Growth (as compared to the County's net 2015 Taxable Value)										
	-1.00%	-0.50%	0.00%	0.50%	1.00%	1.50%	2.00%	2.50%	3.00%	
Estimated Net County Taxable Value*										
Veterans										
Millage	\$7,812,844,000	\$7,852,303,000	\$7,891,761,473	\$7,931,220,000	\$7,970,679,000	\$8,010,138,000	\$8,049,597,000	\$8,089,056,000	\$8,128,514,000	
0.050	\$380,876	\$382,800	\$384,723	\$386,647	\$388,571	\$390,494	\$392,418	\$394,341	\$396,265	
0.075	571,314	574,200	577,085	579,970	582,856	585,741	588,627	591,512	594,398	
0.100	761,752	765,600	769,447	773,294	777,141	780,988	784,836	788,683	792,530	
0.125	952,190	956,999	961,808	966,617	971,427	976,236	981,045	985,854	990,663	
0.150	1,142,628	1,148,399	1,154,170	1,159,941	1,165,712	1,171,483	1,177,254	1,183,024	1,188,795	
0.139	1,058,836	1,064,183	1,069,531	1,074,879	1,080,226	1,085,574	1,090,922	1,096,269	1,101,617	
0.200	1,523,505	1,531,199	1,538,893	1,546,588	1,554,282	1,561,977	1,569,671	1,577,366	1,585,060	
* Includes 2015 Taxable Value of \$8,053,582,840 and 2015 Equivalent IFT value of \$44,941,639 less 2015 Captured Value of \$206,763,006.										
* Based on an estimated uncollectable percentage of 2.50%.										
Est. Uncollectable Percentage: 2.50%										

What Will It Cost?

COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON PROPOSED VETERANS MILLAGE

ESTIMATED ANNUAL IMPACT ON INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYERS

Market Value of Home

\$50,000 \$70,000 \$100,000 \$120,000 \$150,000 \$180,000 \$200,000 \$250,000 \$300,000 \$350,000 \$400,000 \$500,000

Veterans Millage	Estimated Taxable Value of Home											
	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$90,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$175,000	\$200,000	\$250,000
0.050	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$2.50	\$3.00	\$3.75	\$4.50	\$5.00	\$6.25	\$7.50	\$8.75	\$10.00	\$12.50
0.075	1.88	2.63	3.75	4.50	5.63	6.75	7.50	9.38	11.25	13.13	15.00	18.75
0.100	2.50	3.50	5.00	6.00	7.50	9.00	10.00	12.50	15.00	17.50	20.00	25.00
0.125	3.13	4.38	6.25	7.50	9.38	11.25	12.50	15.63	18.75	21.88	25.00	31.25
0.150	3.75	5.25	7.50	9.00	11.25	13.50	15.00	18.75	22.50	26.25	30.00	37.50
0.139	3.48	4.87	6.95	8.34	10.43	12.51	13.90	17.38	20.85	24.33	27.80	34.75
0.200	5.00	7.00	10.00	12.00	15.00	18.00	20.00	25.00	30.00	35.00	40.00	50.00

Current Staffing

- One – Director
 - One – Administrative Specialist
 - Two – Veteran Benefits Counselors
 - One – Relief Fund Counselor
 - One – Part-time Driver
 - 5.5 Total Staff

Additional Staff

- Increase the number of Benefit Counselors from 3 full-time staff to 4 full-time staff.
- Increase the number of Drivers from 1 part-time staff to 2 part-time staff.
- Provide funding for the addition of a full-time Veterans' Treatment Court Coordinator.

Increase in Services and Programs

- Substantially increase veteran outreach.
- Addition of mental health services.
- Job placement and resume assistance.
- Updating IT infrastructure.
- Expand the transportation program.
 - Potential purchase of additional van.

Total Required Millage Breakdown

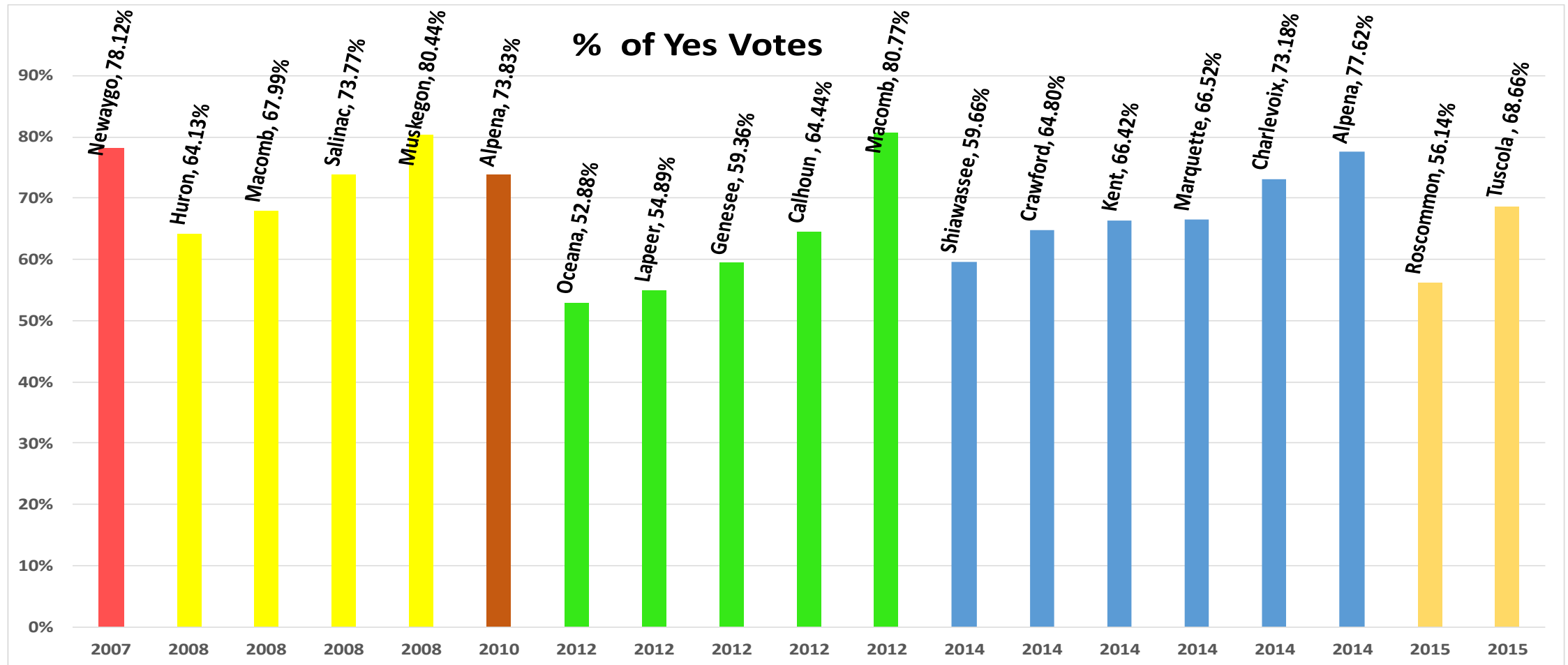
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Current Relief Supportive Services	0.0400	0.0420	0.0441	0.0463	0.0486	0.0510
Current Staffing	0.0435	0.0463	0.0485	0.0508	0.0532	0.0556
Current Services	0.0096	0.0094	0.0095	0.0096	0.0097	0.0098
Additional Staffing	0.0161	0.0171	0.0180	0.0189	0.0198	0.0207
Additional Services	0.0069	0.0040	0.0036	0.0043	0.0037	0.0037
Total Est. Veterans Millage Required:	0.1161	0.1188	0.1237	0.1299	0.1349	0.1408

Review

- The county is currently funding the Veterans' Services Department with a combination of the Veterans Relief Millage and General Fund allocations.
- An Operational Millage is needed to provide security and flexibility for veterans services and programs, by providing a dedicated source of revenue.
- Livingston County would join the growing number of counties currently operating their Veterans' Affairs Departments from Operational Millages.

Other County Operational Millage

Pass Rates and Years



Recommendation

After careful and thorough consideration of current and future needs, it is the recommendation of the Livingston County Veterans Affairs Committee that the County Board of Commissioners authorize placing on the August ballot a proposal to levy a dedicated millage of 0.139 mills to provide dedicated funding for the Department of Veterans' Services for a period of six (6) years. The proposed millage would be used to fund the statutorily mandated Veterans Relief Fund and the operations of the department.

Questions

