

ISSUE 1, AUGUST 2022

THE MACOMB MINUTE

A Monthly Newsletter from Macomb Township

A NEW PARK COMING YOUR WAY

Work continues on a brand new park with much-anticipated amenities for everyone in your family - including your furry friends.

Pitchford Park, the new park planned for the area of Romeo Plank between 22 Mile and 23 Mile.

There will be a play structure, tennis and pickleball courts, walking trails, a dog park, and more.

You can see more about the plan on our website.

[MORE HERE](#)



RIGHT
WHERE
YOU
BELONG

HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD

The Parks and Recreation Department wants to hear from you. While working on the next Parks Master Plan, we're asking for your input on what matters most to you.

Go to macombtwp.org/parksurvey22 to take the survey by August 5.





PROPOSED MILLAGE AIMS TO REDUCE PARKS AND RECREATION COSTS

We are always striving to do more with less. This is why on the August 2 ballot Macomb Township residents will vote on a millage that proposes lowering the parks and recreation tax. The proposal would set the new millage at .75 mil. In 1996 voters approved the first parks and recreation millage at 1 mil, which was renewed in 2000. Over the past 20 years, the Headlee Amendment required a rollback and the millage currently sits at .765 mil. Vote on August 2. [CLICK HERE](#) for details on the proposal.

MACOMB MASTER PLAN WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

After more than a year and a half of work on the Cultivate Macomb! master plan, the Macomb Township Planning Department has received the Outstanding Implementation Award from the American Planning Association Michigan Chapter. This plan took an idea from 2001 for a town center focused around Township Hall and created a clear path forward. For more on the master plan and the award received by the Planning Department [CLICK HERE](#).





AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS MACOMB UPGRADES

Macomb Township was awarded \$7.2 million from the American Rescue Plan Act fund. So far, \$4.9 million dollars has been allocated for projects across the township. The money is going toward building upgrades and road and pathway improvements. Read below for specifics on how the money is being used.

Road Projects

\$3.2 million of the ARPA funds are being spent on two different road projects. The first is the preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition for the widening of Romeo Plank. These are some of the first steps needed before the county begins construction of Romeo Plank between 23 Mile and 21 1/2 Miles roads. That road work will likely start in 2023.

The other road project being funded by ARPA money is the Garfield Road construction. This project will extend Garfield Road between 24 Mile and 25 Mile roads. This is the first phase of a larger project that will connect Garfield through the township.

Pathway Gaps

A long-term vision for the township is to make the township more walkable, connecting our small communities to each other, our parks, and more. This year alone, several stretches of sidewalk are being constructed around the township with the help of the ARPA funding.

Sidewalks will be constructed in the following areas:

- East side of Romeo Plank Rd. between 26 Mile Rd. and Country Club Dr.
- North side of 25 Mile Rd., east of Hayes Rd. between Brentwood Dr. and Pacific Ridge Dr.
- East side of Hayes Rd., north of 23 Mile Rd. between Hallmark Dr. and Buckskin Dr.
- North side of 22 Mile Rd., west of Romeo Plank Rd. between Walnut Creek Dr. and Valley Forge Dr.
- East side of Fairchild Rd. between 21 Mile Rd. and the entrance to L'Anse Creuse Middle School



Basement Construction Project

As the township expands, we've found the need to expand our offices as well. Instead of spending millions of dollars to construct a new building, we had a solution right under our feet. The basement of Township Hall was mostly empty with small areas being used for storage.

\$681,300 was budgeted for a complete renovation of the basement, this includes creating several rooms, a bathroom, while keeping storage space available.

As of June 30, 2022, only \$283,977.93 has been spent on the project and it is scheduled to come in under budget.

Boardroom Upgrade Project

Making the Township Hall a more versatile room has helped us make better use of the large, open room.

Money from ARPA allowed the Township to take out the old seating, which was fixed to the floor, and replace them with chairs.

The new seating has made the room more functional and usable.

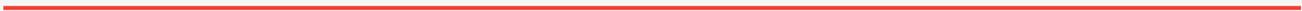
The project came within the \$17,063 budgeted.

COVID-19 Testing Kits

Through the ARPA funding, \$50,000 was budgeted for COVID-19 test kits and other supplies and so far \$3,649 has been used.

This money allows us to test employees and keep our community safe.

@realityreporter





FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS BOARDROOM TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

Transparency is of the utmost importance and we want you to be able to know exactly what is going on with your local government. Part of that is giving you access to our Board of Trustees meeting, even if you can't be there physically.

The Community Development Block Grant allowed the township to invest in new equipment for the boardroom.

New cameras and microphones create a better product and make it easier for you to watch the meetings over Zoom or later on YouTube.

The grant for the project was \$12,140.

GFL ADDS NEW PHONE NUMBER, NEW PROCEDURES

GFL Environmental has a new customer service number just for the residents of Macomb Township. Call (586) 210-6433 with any concerns.

After concerns regarding recycling, we want to remind you about what can and can't be put in the recycling bin.

The following **CAN'T** be recycled:

- Styrofoam
- wax/grease-coated cardboard
- Paper milk or juice cartons
- Batteries
- Auto parts/tires
- electrical cords

Instead of GFL putting residents' recycling in the trash when unaccepted items are spotted, recycling containers will receive a reminder sticker about mixed materials. For more information on garbage, recycling, and yard waste restrictions [CLICK HERE](#).



RESTRICT WATERING, SAVE MONEY

Simple changes to your irrigation system and general water use habits can positively impact you and your neighbors.

The Great Lakes Water Authority calculates rates partially based on how much water Macomb Township uses during “peak hours.”

The more water our Township uses during peak hours, the more they charge us all for water.

To help minimize rate increases, Macomb Township has a lawn water ordinance. This restricts lawn watering to between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Simply adjusting the schedule on your irrigation system can save you and your neighbors from water rate hikes.

Learn more about the water ordinance by [CLICKING HERE](#).

TEEN SPRINGS TO ACTION DURING MEDICAL EMERGENCY

We are in awe of Sophia Vitale! At 15 years old, she sprang into action to help someone during a medical emergency while working at the National Coney Island on Hall Road.

She showed a dedication to her community and had the courage to help others. During Wednesday night's Board of Trustees meeting, Supervisor Frank Viviano and the rest of the Board Members honored Sophia for her bravery and compassion. Thank you Sophia! Read the resolution honoring Sophia [HERE](#).

