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 August 4, 2023 **50¢**

The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Something good is coming this way

By Charles Sercombe

Recently, State Rep. Abraham Aiyash (D-Hamtramck) hinted that Hamtramck will soon get some financial good news.

According to various sources, it could be very, very good.

As of now, though, there is no official word on how much, exactly, is headed this way. Aiyash, who lives in Hamtramck, said he should be able to release more details next week.

In the meantime, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has issued a press release giving an overview of what's to come for the state's 2024 financial year. Whitmer is calling it "Make it in Michigan," and it promises a lot of help for many of the state's communities.

"When combined with the education budget previously signed by the governor, (this) lowers costs on health care, (and provides funds for) preschool, meals for kids, higher education, housing, and workforce training," the press release said.

"Additionally, the fiscal year 2024 budget will help fix bridges, replace lead pipes, and protect public safety."

There was no breakdown on which communities will be receiving extra funding.

But in general, these

Continued on page 4

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

New Veterans Park playscape is already a hit with kids

By Charles Sercombe

It's a clichéd thing to say, but in this case, it can't be helped:

"Build it, and they will come."

Yes, it's that famous quote from the movie "Field of Dreams."

That quote not only applies to a fictional baseball field, but also to the very real and new playscape at Veterans Park (which is, coincidentally, located next to two other, very real, baseball fields).

Let's back up.

There was truly plenty of sweat equity, as the phrase has it, put into the building of Hamtramck's newest playscape.

Dozens of volunteers, mostly from General Motors, volunteered a whole lot of sweat last week – one of summer's hottest and most humid weeks – into putting together hundreds of pieces of playscape equipment.

As in, about \$600,000 worth of equipment, plus land preparation – all courtesy of a generous grant.



It didn't take long for kids to find the new playscape in the rear of Veterans Park. The playscape was installed last week with the help of dozens of GM volunteers. This is just one of more improvements coming to the park.

The final result was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday afternoon, even as some more final touches were being added while the speech making was still taking place.

The project was actually, finally, completed on Monday. The playscape is located in the rear portion of Veterans Park.

It covers 9,000-square-feet, and was designed

with a lot of input by Hamtramck school kids. The non-profit company Kaboom helped with designing and coordinating the building of the playscape. One of the features in the playscape is a kid-safe (obviously) zip line. There are also a whole bunch of whimsically designed pieces for kids to climb on.

By Tuesday evening, dozens of kids were

scrambling all over the area, each vying for their next turn on this and that.

The big favorite, without a doubt, was the zip line.

"This is the best" said one grinning 6-year-old girl.

There was an initial question whether the relatively remote location of the playscape might be a turn-off. Well, to those naysayers (which

Continued on page 2



Residents and business owners have been reporting thefts of their pride flags ever since the city council banned the flags from being displayed on public property.

Crime Watch: Pride flag theft being reported throughout the city

By Charles Sercombe

The controversy over whether to display a pride flag on public property has apparently spurred a rash of thefts of private pride flags in town.

Former Mayor Karen Majewski had three pride flags torn down from her vintage clothing store Tekla on Jos. Campau.

Former Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole also

had a few flags stolen from her house on St. Aubin.

Other residents throughout the city have reported similar thefts.

A couple who own a building on Caniff report several of their pride flags were stolen, and in one security camera recording they have, men from a mosque down the street

Continued on page 2

Tuesday is Primary Election day

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck voters will be heading to the polls this Tuesday.

Actually, voters have already been casting their ballots for the Aug. 8 Primary Election early, via absentee ballot.

So far, over 500 voters have taken advantage of that method.

The August Primary Election will feature a run-off of city council candidates, plus a school millage renewal.

In the city council race, there are currently nine candidates, but three will be eliminated in this primary before the final faceoff in the November General Election. The top six vote-getting candidates will vie for the three seats on council.

Incumbent councilmembers Mohammed Hassan, Nayeem Choudhury and Mohammed Alsomiri are facing challengers Lynn Blasey, Muhtasin-Sadman, Nasr Hussain, Ruhel Amin, Sari Ahmed, and Yousef Saed.

As for the school millage renewal, the Hamtramck Public School District is seeking 3 mills – down from 4 mills for the past 10 years. The renewal would cover another 10 years.

That millage is for what is called a "sinking fund," which allows the district to spend money on repairing and updating buildings, security improvements, and technology updates, among other items.

The millage, however, may not be used to pay salaries, or pay for supplies or regular maintenance.

The school district previously tried – unsuccessfully – to get voters to approve a 30-mill tax a few years ago, but voters twice rejected it. That was during the covid pan-

Continued on page 2

you fit in here.

HAMTRAMCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Tickets on sale July 14, processed through the mail
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— The Hamtramck Review —

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10am-5pm

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Items for sale: kitchen & household items, books, toys, puzzles, seasonal items, metal folding chairs and much more!

For more information contact church rectory 313-891-1520

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Crime Watch: Pride flag theft being reported throughout the city

Continued from front page

are seen “high-fiving” the suspect. That resident declined to be identified, or to comment.

Hamtramck Police Chief Anne Moise told The Review that several juvenile suspects have been identified in recent pride flag thefts, and one automobile connected to a suspect was impounded.

Moise said detectives are now “working through the cases,” and that “once I have more information on follow-up, I can let you know.”

The pride flag issue has become a deep dividing point in the community. The division has pitted the conservative Muslim population in the city against liberal progressives.

It's a cultural divide that doesn't seem to be one

that can be bridged – at least, not any time soon.

Hamtramck's all-male, all-Muslim city council, including the mayor, have vowed to crack down on the thefts. City Manager Max Garbarino said the matter is a “high priority.” But some in the community are blaming city officials for inflaming this rash of flag thefts on their banning of the display of a pride flag on city property.

Phillip Kwik, a former city councilmember, has been an outspoken critic of the council and mayor on this, and other, issues.

“The vandalism against the pride flag – and the verbal abuse, physical intimidation, and death threats, against members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgen-

der communities and their allies in town – are not done in a vacuum,” Kwik told The Review.

“They are the direct result of an environment of hate created by the city council and mayor of this city. The vandals and petty thugs harassing the LGBT community are taking their cues from the mayor and council's hateful rhetoric at their

Tuesday meetings. ... The mayor and council are responsible for the hatred they have unleashed. They need to stop it.”

In the meantime, there is a Facebook page, “Hamtramck LGBTQ Alliance” that is collecting information about incidents of harassments, threats and property damage connected with anti-LGBTQ matters.

Tuesday is Primary Election day

Continued from front page

demic, when homes finances were a huge concern for many, here and elsewhere.

To register to vote, you can go to the city clerk's office in city hall on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or, alternatively, during the week.

You can also register to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, Aug. 8, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and still be able to vote. To register on election day, you still must go to the city clerk's office.

New Veterans Park playscape is already a hit with kids

Continued from front page

includes a certain local reporter), it must be said: “Ha!”

This play area bookends with another, albeit smaller, in the front of Veterans Park, and it will also tie in to a number of coming improvements to the park.

The key piece of the park is the restored historic baseball stadium that once was home to the local Negro League-era baseball team, the Detroit Stars.

All together, the many recent improvements to the park now total a few million dollars' worth.

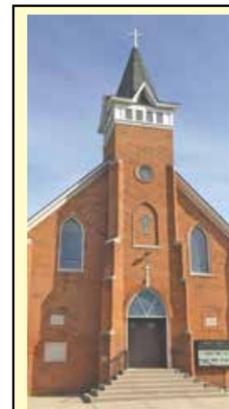
This park has come a long way since it fell into shabby disrepair in the 1970s and was subsequently slated for demolition. A local grassroots organization, Preserve

Our Parks, put a stop to that plan.

That was back in the 1990s when a seed was also planted in the minds of many to look for ways to revitalize the city's largest green space.

Next up: the restoration of restrooms connected to the baseball stadium.

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Aug 8 - Holy Mass 9 am

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This week at the Library . . . August 4, 2023

Summer Reading: This coming Wednesday, August 9th at 2 pm. We will be practicing our folding skills. It is not tables, chairs or laundry. It is all about origami, the Japanese art of folding paper into beautiful designs. Following weekly programs will be packed with science wacky games, awesome crafts, and tons of reading. Everyone will get a chance to earn tickets to participate in the end of program raffle with plenty of prizes. Summer adventures await.

LOM Presentation: This is for diachard Historical newspaper aficionados. It will serve as an overview of the extensive collection of local Michigan newspapers. You can view it on Thursday, September 7th at 6:30 pm. Please visit www.michigan.gov/lmpublicprograms to register and get info about upcoming presentations.

Adaptive Yoga: Summer exercise programs are offered on Tuesdays, at 3 pm. The summer sessions will end on August 15th. The programs are sponsored by the RIM Foundation.

Robert Hayden: This author born on August 4th, 1913 as Bundy Sheffey, has attained numerous titles of distinction in his field, nevertheless was met with criticism by a number of literary peers for his insistence on defining his own work in his own terms.

Let's Make Music: Join us for the last program in this series set for Thursday August 9th at 4 pm. Presented by musicians and teachers, the whole family can learn new songs and

a little bit about music theory. You are welcome to share your own traditional songs and bring along your instruments to play along.

Story Time: Get you kids together and drop in on our Wednesday afternoon Story Time at 12 noon. Presented by guest readers from Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

Game Night: Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Friday at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play.

Alzheimer's Association: The next discussion to be presented on Tuesday, August 15th at 6 pm. The program will present an overview of Alzheimer's disease and dementia as well as introduction to resources for caregivers and patients. The programs is presented by Alzheimer's Association, Michigan branch.

Declaration of Independence: On August 2, 1776, in Philadelphia, most of the 55 members of Continental Congress signed the parchment copy of the Declaration of Independence.

First Colony in North America: On August 5, 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert founded the first British Colony on the coast of Newfoundland. He took possession of the area around St. John's harbor in the name of the Queen.

First Atomic Bomb: On August 6, 1945 at 8:15 am the first bomb was dropped over Hiroshima by American B-29 bomber “Enola Gay”.

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Vote 'Yes' to support our public school millage

Property taxes. No one likes to pay them, but without taxes, we wouldn't have usable roads, sanitation service, drinkable water, police and fire service, and much more that we all tend to take for granted. Take for granted, in the sense that we believe those services will always be there – as if by magic. There's no magic to it. Maybe it's not the best system, but property taxes make cities able to function. And they also fuel our schools. This coming Tuesday, voters will head to the polls – many have already voted early, by absentee ballot – to consider whether to renew a small millage for

our Hamtramck Public School District. The district is asking for a renewal of 3 mills – actually, a reduction from the previous 4 mills property owners have been paying for the past 10 years. This revenue source goes toward paying for upkeep to the district's aging buildings. In all, the tax generates about \$800,000, and the cost to the average homeowner represents less than \$100 per year, according to the city assessor's office. That's a small price to pay to insure that our kids don't have to sit in crumbling school buildings. There are some irresponsible city council

candidates in this town claiming that this tax renewal is not needed, and that property taxes in general can be lowered. That is a bunch of rubbish. These same candidates claim our city and school district can function without them, but not surprisingly, offer no realistic plan to continue services without funding. Our kids deserve to be educated in well-maintained school buildings. It's that simple. We urge voters to cast a YES vote to renew the school millage in this August Primary Election. Your children's education and well-being deserve that.

Odds & Ends

Barbieland... Vintage clothing store Rat Queen Vintage is in the "Barbie" movie spirit with a creative window display. As you may have guessed, they have mannequins dressed up in Ken and Barbie-style fashions. For those who haven't seen the movie yet, it would be a fun idea to stop by the store, located at 10031 Jos. Campau, and get into costume before heading off to the theater. And speaking of vintage clothing, buying used clothing – as opposed to new clothing – is one way to help greatly reduce the amount of garbage in the world. It's estimated that, on average, we individually throw away almost 82 pounds of clothing per year, which adds to the 11.3 million tons of clothing that end up in landfills each year. That's a staggering



Rat Queen Vintage clothing store on Jos. Campau got into the spirit of the "Barbie" movie that's become a hit nationwide.

Expanding... Metropolitan Baking Company announced this week that it is expanding its plant by 35,000 square feet. Chances are, if you had a sandwich at a local restaurant, you had bread made by Metropolitan, which is located on the southend on Lumpkin. In a press release issued by company President George Kordas, he said: "This expansion will take Metropolitan Baking Company's internal footprint to approximately 140,000 sq ft. It will house a brand new state-of-the-art bun and roll line, and add much needed additional shipping and warehousing space. "If all goes according to plan, the new facility will be fully operational in the summer of 2024, should add 20-25 permanent jobs, and increase production capacity by close to 35%."



School Bell

From the Superintendent

This week, HPS Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed gave an update on the improvements being done in the district and the importance of the upcoming school millage renewal on Aug. 8. "Since taking on my role in 2019, one of the main priorities I set out to tackle is the persistent inequity in school infrastructure. "As an advocate for educational equity and excellence, I recognize the intrinsic link between the conditions of our schools' physical infrastructure and the academic success of our students. Additionally, research has consistently shown that staff retention is closely tied to the quality of school infrastructure. "Currently, the American Society of Civil Engineers rates the infrastructure of American schools with a disappointing D+. This is a stark reminder that our schools, the very foundations of our future, are in dire need of attention, renovation, and investment.

"The correlation between improved school infrastructure and higher student achievement is undeniable. In the face of this evidence, addressing the needs of our school buildings is not only a matter of educational equity but also a crucial factor in improving educational outcomes. Providing better teaching and learning environments for our staff and students is a matter of urgency that we cannot afford to ignore. "Throughout my tenure, I have actively raised this issue at both local and national levels. I have sought to bring it to the forefront of public awareness and policy-making agendas, pushing for necessary funding and strategic planning to address these inequities. "The journey to improve our school infrastructure is a challenging one. Still, with sustained efforts and shared dedication, we can turn our D+ into an A and give our students the conducive learning environments they deserve and our staff the satisfying working conditions they merit. "Our students are our future, and they deserve schools that reflect our belief in their potential. Together, let's continue to advocate for better learning and teaching environments for our students and staff. "Holbrook Elementary School is one of our treasures in Hamtramck.... "We urge all residents of the City of Hamtramck to participate in this pivotal

vote on August 8th. Your support will ensure the continual improvement and preservation of our public-school buildings, further enhancing our students' education and our community's strength." **Fun Fair** The HPS District is hosting a Family Fun Fair on Aug. 16, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Pulaski Park. You'll get to meet HPS staff and teachers as well as enjoy free snacks, free backpacks, entertainment (featuring Jazzy the Clown) and bounce around on inflatables. **Free meals** The state's new budget now includes money to fund free breakfast and lunch for public education students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. The state is allocating \$160 million to fund this for 1.4 million kids enrolled in public schools, which includes the HPS District. This action was taken to help alleviate many families in the state who are having a hard financial time in providing meals for their kids. The program is a two-for for the state. It not only feeds kids from low-income families, it also focuses on buying food from state farmers. The thought is, this program will also stimulate the state's economy. In Hamtramck, many of the students have long qualified for free meals under a federal program.



City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days? We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on July 11, and all councilmembers were in attendance. During public comment, Josh Hansknecht said that there's been an uptick in hate crimes against the LGBTQ community that includes incidents of eggs being thrown at houses displaying pride flags, and anti-gay slurs being yelled. Hansknecht said this is a result of the city council's recent decision to ban displaying pride flags on public property in the name of being "neutral" on the subject. "The policy that you passed, that is 'neutral,' does not have a neutral impact on the citizens of your city," Hansknecht said. He added that these hate incidents are being documented and compiled, and he accused the city of doing nothing to protect the LGBTQ community. Speaking on the same subject, Mike Petrak, who

owns Dos Locos Tacos on Jos. Campau, said that recently two masked men threw eggs at his house, barely missing a window of a room where his child was sleeping in a crib. He said this appeared to be in retaliation for a pride flag he was displaying. He added that, had the eggs broken the window where his child was, it could have turned into a tragedy, and that would have made the city look terrible. Petrak said the council needs to "step up" and condemn this behavior. Bill Meyer spoke on a proposed resolution to remove two members of the Human Relations Commission because they participated in the unauthorized raising of a pride flag at a Jos. Campau city-owned flagpole. Meyer said it's "no big deal" to be removed the Human Relations Commission. At one time, Meyer said he was removed from the

commission by then-Mayor Karen Majewski. (Majewski says she removed him because of complaints "I received from other commission members about his treatment of women and gay members.") Meyer said the commission has since "fallen apart since I left there." As for the removal of the two commission members, he said this action "is nothing against gay people. It's about following rules." He also advised councilmembers to "show your face publicly more." A woman complained about her recent property tax bill, saying it is \$300 more than last year. She asked what the court-ordered tax judgment on the bill was about. "This is not stable, not normal," the woman said of the increase. She also accused the city assessor of not assessing home values correctly. **Continued on page 6**

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August 4, 2023

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Profiles of City Council Candidates,
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Event announcements,
Evenings with authors, and more.....

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Will go on air the same day (evening)



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers July 25-31.

Tuesday, July 25

- At 6 a.m., a car theft was reported on Dequindre.
- Customer trouble was reported at a business on Jos. Campau.
- An assault was reported on Buffalo.
- An assault was reported on Jos. Campau.

Wednesday, July 26

- Just before 3 a.m., customer trouble was reported at a business on Caniff.
- A break-in was reported on Doremus.
- A theft was reported on Jos. Campau.
- A domestic dispute was reported on McDougall.
- Family trouble was reported on Zinow.
- A domestic assault was reported on Selfridge.

Thursday, July 27

- A Norwalk St. resident reported damage to their property.
- An incident of harassment was reported on Jos. Campau.
- A suspect was arrested, on Conant, for assault.
- A loose dog was captured on Goodson, and taken to the Michigan Humane Society.
- A theft was reported on Selfridge.

Friday, July 28

- An assault was reported on Yemans.
- A complaint about noise was made in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.

• A hit-and-run accident was reported at Conant and Casmere. Another hit-and-run occurred at Belmont and Jos. Campau.

- A Sobieski St. resident reported being harassed.
- A fight was reported on Grand Haven.
- A disorderly male was reported on Conant.
- A Holmes St. resident reported that someone fired multiple gunshots at his residence.
- Family trouble was reported on Grand Haven.

• A hit-and-run was reported at Florian and Latham.

Saturday, July 29

- At 1 a.m., a complaint was made about noise in the area of Hanley and Jos. Campau.
- At about 1:30 a.m., a fight was reported in the 3200 block of Caniff.
- At 2 a.m., a complaint was made about a disorderly person in the 2000 block of Caniff.
- At 3 a.m., a fight was reported in the 3800 block of Yemans.
- Suspicious circumstances were reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.
- A theft was reported in the 3900 block of Evaline.
- Customer trouble was reported in the 2000 block of Caniff.

Sunday, July 30

- At about midnight, a complaint was made about suspicious people in the 3400 block of Yemans.
- Multiple parking tickets were issued in the area of Jos. Campau and Goodson.

• At 2:30 a.m., a domestic assault was reported in the 2300 block of Carpenter.

- A business on Jos. Campau reported an incident of retail fraud.
- Family trouble was reported on Florian.
- A resident reported receiving harassing communications on Dorothy St.
- A complaint was made about an unwanted guest on Danforth.

• A domestic fight was reported on Trowbridge.

Monday, July 31

- Officers took a report, at 1 a.m., about an incident of harassment that happened on Mitchell.
- Just before 4:30 a.m., a complaint was made about a disorderly person on Holmes.
- Officers returned a lost juvenile to his parents.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Lehman and Conant.
- A complaint was made about an animal on Wyandotte.

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Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

are the areas that will be targeted:

- Public health
 - \$150.6 million to increase reimbursement rates for Medicaid services to improve enrollee access to necessary health care.
 - \$49.5 million to implement recommendations from the Racial Disparities Task Force, including neighborhood health grants, mobile health units, sickle cell anemia support and more.
 - \$56.4 million to fund Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies, a bipartisan initiative that supports pregnant women, new moth-

ers, and infants.

Public safety

- \$171.5 million in public safety grants, benefiting communities across the state.
- \$5 million to expand the Jobs Court, a program that aims to reduce recidivism by providing jobs and services to disadvantaged offenders.
- \$2.9 million to implement gun violence prevention policies.
- \$2 million for veteran homelessness grants, helping veterans access affordable housing and avoid homelessness.
- Rebuilding infrastructure
 - \$416 million to fix roads and build up public infrastructure, improving quality of life.

Continued on page 6



Hamtramck Public School District
You fit in here.



2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SINKING FUND MILLAGE RENEWAL

What is a Sinking Fund?



A Sinking Fund is a savings account into which a local school district can deposit voter-approved local millage revenue to pay cash for projects or building repairs.



A Sinking Fund millage is a limited property tax, considered a "pay-as-you-go" method for funding building maintenance and infrastructure projects. No debt or interest expense is incurred with a Sinking Fund.



Per current state law, a Sinking Fund millage must not exceed 3 mills and it can be levied for a period of up to 10 years.

What projects were completed since the 2014 Sinking Fund Millage?

A summary of projects that have been completed within the District since the passage of the 2014 Sinking Fund millage are listed as follows:

- **Parking Lot Improvements:**
 - Tau Beta
 - Holbrook Elementary
 - Administration Building
- **Playground Improvements**
 - Tau Beta
 - Holbrook Elementary
- **District-Wide Safety / Security Improvements**



A summary of projects that have been completed within the District since the passage of the 2014 Sinking Fund millage are listed as follows:

- **Kitchen / Food Service Improvements:**
 - Hamtramck High School
 - Kosciuszko Middle School
 - Dickinson East Elementary
 - Holbrook Elementary



VOTE TUESDAY, AUGUST 8TH

On Tuesday, August 8th, The City of Hamtramck will vote on a "Capital Improvement Sinking Fund Millage Renewal" that will generate revenue to improve and preserve our public-school buildings. The millage will allow the District to CONTINUE to improve its facilities without impacting the funding currently going towards our students' education.

Our current Sinking Fund expires with the 2023 tax levy.

There is **NO INCREASE** to taxes with this millage. Actually, there will be a **REDUCTION** in taxes from 4 mills to 3 mills.

Sinking Funds CAN be used for:

- Construction, alternation or repair of school buildings
- School security improvements
- Purchase of real estate
- Technology

Sinking Funds CANNOT be used for:

- Staff/administration salaries, wages or benefits
- General operating expenses
- Classroom supplies or books
- Routine Maintenance

What projects were completed since the 2014 Sinking Fund Millage?

A summary of projects that have been completed within the District since the passage of the 2014 Sinking Fund millage are listed as follows:

- **Roofing Replacements / Refurbishments / Exterior Improvements:**
 - Hamtramck High School
 - Horizon High School
 - Hamtramck Community Center
 - Kosciuszko Middle School
 - Tau Beta
 - Holbrook Elementary
 - Dickinson East Elementary
 - Early Childhood Elementary
 - Bus / Maintenance Building



A summary of projects that have been completed within the District since the passage of the 2014 Sinking Fund millage are listed as follows:

- **Interior Building Improvements:**
 - Hamtramck High School
 - Kosciuszko Middle School
 - Horizon High School
 - Holbrook Elementary
 - Dickinson East Elementary
 - Early Childhood Elementary
 - Administration Building



A summary of projects that have been completed within the District since the passage of the 2014 Sinking Fund millage are listed as follows:

- **Mechanical Improvements:**
 - Kosciuszko Middle School
 - Holbrook Elementary
 - Dickinson East Elementary
 - Early Childhood Elementary
- Hamtramck Community Center – Retaining Walls / Entry Improvements
- Hamtramck High School – Pool Filtration Equipment Replacement
- Hamtramck High School – Electrical Upgrades



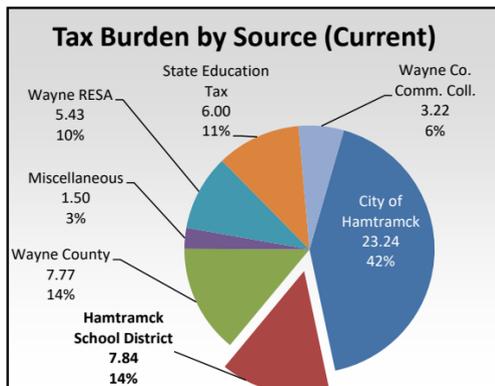
STRONG HISTORY – STRONG COMMUNITY



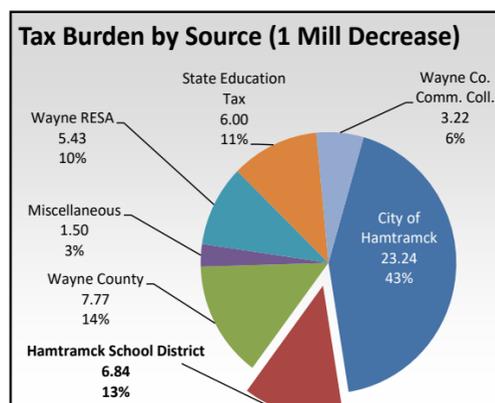
- Better buildings will mean a better education and a better community.
- Improvements made to our schools make Hamtramck a more desirable community to live in and boost all property values.
- Projects supported by the Sinking Fund millage will invite local contractors to bid on millions of dollars in new work

Hamtramck Public Schools have been in operation for over 130 years. Holbrook Elementary's building was built in 1896. Dickinson East was constructed in 1917. Several of our schools are historic treasures of the community. The Sinking Fund millage will contribute to preserving that historic value.

Tax Burden by Source



Source	Millage
City of Hamtramck	23.24
Hamtramck School District	7.84
Wayne County	7.77
Miscellaneous	1.50
Wayne RESA	5.43
State Education Tax	6.00
Wayne Co. Comm. Coll.	3.22
Total	55.00



Source	Millage
City of Hamtramck	23.24
Hamtramck School District	6.84
Wayne County	7.77
Miscellaneous	1.50
Wayne RESA	5.43
State Education Tax	6.00
Wayne Co. Comm. Coll.	3.22
Total	54.00

Hamtramck Schools 2023 Sinking Fund Analysis of 1 Mill Reduction Impact on Homestead Properties

Additional Debt Millage	Home Cash Value	Taxable Value	Savings to Taxpayer			
			Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
1.00	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50.00	\$4.17	\$0.96	\$0.14
1.00	80,000	40,000	40.00	3.33	0.77	0.11
1.00	60,000	30,000	30.00	2.50	0.58	0.08
1.00	50,000	25,000	25.00	2.08	0.48	0.07
1.00	40,000	20,000	20.00	1.67	0.38	0.05
1.00	30,000	15,000	15.00	1.25	0.29	0.04
1.00	25,000	12,500	12.50	1.04	0.24	0.03

Northland Securities, Inc. Public Finance Department
100 Maple Park Blvd., Suite 142, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081.

QUESTIONS?

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jaleelah Hassan Ahmed, Superintendent
Hamtramck Public Schools
3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI
Phone: (313) 591-7413
Email: jahmed@hamtramckschools.org



Hamtramck Public School District
You fit in here.



2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SINKING FUND MILLAGE RENEWAL

Quick Hits

Cont. from page 4

- An \$80 million investment supporting Michigan's Bridge Bundling program, to replace or rehabilitate more than 20 structurally deficient bridges across the state.
- \$50 million for Intermodal Capital Investment Grants, to support investments in rail, marine, in-

tercity, and local transit infrastructure that have the potential to leverage federal funding opportunities.

- \$21.3 million for clean energy and electric vehicle infrastructure investments.

Economic development

- Michigan is set to receive over \$1.5 billion (4th highest in the nation) through the Broadband Equity, Access, and De-

ployment (BEAD) program to expand high-speed internet access to over 200,000 Michiganders in unserved and underserved areas across the state.

- \$50 million for Revitalization and Placemaking, to fund community development projects.
- \$15 million for supporting talent action teams, to fast-track assistance to businesses looking to expand or locate in Michigan.

That's just a quick summary of some of the projects and plans.

Next week, we expect to hear more details about what's in store for Hamtramck.



City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 4

rectly.

A lengthy discussion on property taxes was held later in the meeting. The council created a sub-committee to look into the matter.

Konrad Maziarz, of the city's assessor's department, said they have to follow state law and policy when assessing property values, and that there is nothing they can do to change policy.

During public comment, several emails and letters were read out loud.

Regarding the pride flag issue, a person named

Freia said that "gender non-conformity is as ancient as humanity, and has had countless iterations throughout cultures and history."

Jacki Van Tuyle said: "I am a queer transgender woman. ... Queer people are here in Hamtramck. The city council's decision regarding the pride flag is cowardly, divisive, and bigoted. They ought to be ashamed."

Marcus Merritt said the council's stand on displaying pride flags has attracted international attention.

"Hamtramck now bears the mark of being uniquely intolerant of the LGBTQ community," Merritt said.

Merritt added that the council's decision has also caused vandalism and "hostile behavior from people on the street."

The council's action, he added, "affirms the rights of bigots to harass gay people."

Ian Nichols said that the increase in vandalism regarding pride flags needs to be addressed by the city.

"The city council must immediately rescind their ban on the gay pride flag," Nichols said.

Councilmember Muhith Mahmood questioned City Manager Max Garbarino

on what is being done about the vandalism.

Garbarino said the police department "is on high alert." He said those caught vandalizing will be prosecuted. The city, Garbarino said, "will not tolerate this."

In two purchase requests from the Department of Public Works, the council agreed to buy a truck for snow plowing, which included a salt spreader and snow plow, at a cost of \$42,103.

The second request, to purchase replacement windows for city hall, was rejected.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan said the windows are "not emergency-needed."

In a yearly move, the council agreed to purchase several properties that were facing county tax foreclosure. The city always has first dibs to purchase properties before they go up for a tax sale.

In the past, the city then sells them to investors, who are then required to make them habitable. The following properties were purchased, for a total of over \$41,000:

- 2302 Alice, lot
- 2400 Zinow, house
- 2314 Holmes, house
- 11332 Dyar, lot
- 11816 Jos. Campau, commercial building
- 3907 Trowbridge, lot with a garage



City of Hamtramck

Notice of Public Hearings

The City Council will have two public hearings on August 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall (3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212) on the following topics:

1. A proposed Amendment to Hamtramck Dangerous or Abandoned Building Ordinance; Title IX; Chapter 92, Sections 90.001- 92
2. A proposed Amendment to Hamtramck Parking Regulations Ordinance; Title X; Chapter 72, Sections 72.005- 72.999

Full and complete text is available on the City of Hamtramck's website through Boarddocs. The public is invited to view and comment during the Public Hearing or to make written comments on or before 4 p.m. August 22, 2023 to the City Clerk at RFaraj@hamtramckcity.com.

The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids, and services for individuals with disabilities at the public hearing upon advance notice by writing or by calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x343. Please contact the Clerk's office at least 10 days in advance.



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Eric R. Sabree

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