

For the Silver Line Millage

Vote YES May 5th

Here's what our community leaders are saying about the Silver Line Rapid Transit:

“All the people who work here will be linked, not only to the greater downtown area but to businesses and services all the way south to Kentwood and Wyoming. It's the right idea at the right time.”

- Carol Sheets, Mayor, City of Wyoming

“The retailers are highly pleased and motivated by the presence of the Silver Line. They know how vital that is.”

- Jonathan Bradford, CEO, Inner City Christian Federation

“The Silver Line is going to be a real plus to the thousands of professionals who are working — and will be working — along the Michigan Medical Mile.”

- Joseph P. Gavan, Van Andel Institute

“If we as a community do not support this bold step with a small millage increase, we'll watch \$40 million walk out the door — and it won't be coming back. We have one chance to make this happen.”

- George Heartwell, Mayor, City of Grand Rapids

“The Silver Line represents an excellent opportunity for some of our commuters to leave their cars behind and get to work quickly and easily.”

- Richard Root, Mayor, City of Kentwood

“This is about jobs and development. Not only will there be jobs in the building of the new Rapid Transit line, but this type of service will attract new development and in fill redevelopment along the entire line.”

- Rick Chapla, The Right Place, Inc.



An Investment in Our Community. An Investment in Our Future.

Vote YES – May 5th

The Rapid Ballot Proposal

Ballot Request: 1.28 mills

1.12 mills renewal of the existing millage

0.16 mills enhancement to operate Silver Line rapid transit

Why is the Enhancement Needed?

The Rapid has secured federal and state funds for \$40 million toward development, but now must show financial capacity to operate the system without a reduction in services. The millage increase will not be collected until July 2012 when Silver Line launches.

What is the Silver Line?

Silver Line is more like a light rail system than a traditional bus. A proven solution in other communities, it will maximize ridership opportunities, economic development, and travel-time savings. Silver Line vehicles will use:

- Dedicated lanes during peak times
- In-station fare collection to speed boarding
- Intelligent transportation system applications such as signal priority, allowing quick travel between stations

The Cost:

- The owner of a \$150,000 house will *continue* to pay \$7.00 per month under the 1.12 mills renewal request and will pay an **additional \$1.00 per month** for the 0.16 mills Silver Line enhancement
- This millage would cover a period of five years beginning in 2012 when the Silver Line launches
- Many seniors will pay no additional taxes due to the Homestead Property Tax Credit

For more information or to support Friends of Transit call **447-1682** or email at **info@RapidYES.org**. Need a ride to the polls – call **447-1682**.



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