# Election Tuesday 'Mediocre' turnout expected

There has been a lot of talk about roads.

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think it will be a mediocre turnout. It just seems to me though that everyone should get out and vote with the roads we have," Reynold's said.

Though more voters are registered for this election than for the previous June 24 special parks millage Issue, Reynolds predicts a comparable turnout. In June, only 5.2 percent of 2,108 voters cast ballots out of a total 40,877 registered voters.

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Farmington Hills now has 42,245 registered voters. By Thursday morning, 1,096 absence ballots were issued and approximately 900 returned, Reynolds said.

ON TUESDAY, voters will be asked to support financing the city's share of a three-year road improvement program with general obligation bonds. Polls will open Tuesday

from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the city's 27
voting precincts.

The road program identifies and
lists a total of \$14 million of improvements. Of the program's total
costs, Farmington Hills' share is approximately \$9 million. But 1 milli
that the Farmington Hills City Council levied for roads July 1 is being
used in conjunction with \$750,000
from the city's major road budget to
finance \$2 million of the \$9 million
city share this year.

If voters approved the bond obligation request, the city's remaining
\$7 million worth of improvements
would be financed over 10 years.

The road program includes 3
projects. City officials expect that
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Improvements along these two oroughfares, as well as other state

from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the city's 27 or county-owned trouble spots, are not included in the city's three-year road program identifies and

ROADS TARGETED for improve-ment under the three-year program include Halsted, Drake, 13 and 14 Mile, Middlebelt and numerous in-tersections, such as Halsted and 11 Mile and Inkster. Improvements include widening, resurfacing, adding passing lanes, improving shoulders, adding traffic-signals and removing sight barriers. Hills residents and city adminis-trators for the most part agree on which roads offer the biggest prob-lems and greatest need for improve-ment. ROADS TARGETED for improve

lems and greates need to improvement.

Results of a survey conducted in mid-July show that residents consider 13 and 14 Mile roads, Drake Road and the M-102/Grand River intersection in need of improvement.

The 1 mill levied in July and the bond issue address only the city's share of estimated costs. City officials are planning that non-city costs will be paid for by the Oakland County Road Commission, other communities, such as West Bloom-

field Township (which is asking voters in November for a half mill specifically for road improvements). Novi and Farmington, which share roads or would benefit from improvements.

Highway grants as well as assessments on new developments would also be used to pay the total road improvement bill.

IN A breakdown of estimated costs, the city would pay its \$9 million share, state and federal grants would account for another \$4 million, the road commission, other communities and development would be responsible for the remaing \$1 million, City Manager William Costick said.

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liam Ostick said.

If voters aprove the bond issue, il. S million would be needed annually for 10 years to pay the city's approximately 37 million proposed.

It would be the city council's decision whether to levy a full mill or portion of a mill to retire the debt. But, most likely, only 75-mill would be needed annually, Costick said.

With general obligation bonds — issued on full faith and credit of the city — city officials can legally levy whatever is necessary to retire the debt. — even if it is above the city's 10-mill charter limit.

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