



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DESIRABILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A WASHTENAW COUNTY LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE DATE: March 3, 2017

TO ALL THE RECORD OWNERS OF ANY LANDS WITHIN THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESCRIBED BELOW AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Washtenaw County Board of Public Works will meet beginning at 7:00 p.m., Local Time, on **Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at the Hamburg Township Hall located at 10405 Merrill Road, Whitmore Lake, Michigan, 48189.** and during such meeting will conduct a public hearing to hear objections to a proposed Lake Improvement Project for Little Portage, Portage, Base Line, Whitewood, Gallagher, Tamarack, Long, Loon, Zukey and Strawberry Lakes in Webster and Dexter Townships in Washtenaw County and in Putnam and Hamburg Townships in Livingston County, the cost thereof and the special assessment district therefore as follows:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Chain of Lakes Project will consist of a five (5) year lake improvement project on Little Portage, Portage, Base Line, Whitewood, Gallagher, Tamarack, Long, Loon, Zukey and Strawberry lakes located in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties in order to control the growth and reproduction of non-native invasive weeds, including Eurasian Water Milfoil and Starry Stonewort. The project shall include spot treatments in problem areas. All necessary regulatory approvals and scientific studies for the chemical treatments as well as the creation of a lake management plan are included in the project. Additionally, other items may be included which would provide or enhance recreational opportunities subject to approval of the Washtenaw County Board of Public Works.

The total estimated cost for the five (5) year project is \$1,953,000. A Special Assessment District (SAD) consisting of benefiting parcels in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties will cover the total estimated cost of the project. The proposed special assessment district consists of the following lands:

All tax parcels identified as having lake frontage, lake access and use of the waters on the following lakes: Portage Lake located in Sections 25 and 36 of Putnam Township in Livingston County; Base Line, Gallagher, Loon, Long, Strawberry, Tamarack, Whitewood, and Zukey lakes in Sections 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 of Hamburg Township in Livingston County; Base Line Lake in Sections 5 and 6 of Webster Township in Washtenaw County; Little Portage and Portage lakes in Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12 of Dexter Township in Washtenaw County.

The above properties are located within the boundaries of the Special Assessment District shown on the sketch on the attached page.

Commercial and residential waterfront and lake access parcels form the project Special Assessment District (SAD) since these parcels receive a benefit from the implementation of the project. The cost of the project will not be distributed equally to all parcels since some parcels receive a greater benefit than others. All parcels within the SAD will be assessed one or more of the following charges: (1) Lake Access Charge, (2) Waterfront Charge and (3) Commercial Charge. The total amount assessed to a parcel will be equal to the sum of all applicable charges.

The charges and the type of parcels included therein are as follows:

- (1) Lake Access Charge (\$100): All residential properties within the SAD that have access which do not abut to waters in the Project.
- (2) Lakefront Charge (\$175): Any residential property with any part of the parcel abutting the lake, lagoon, or canal shall be assessed the Lakefront Charge.
- (3) Commercial Charge (\$ 700): All Commercial parcels within the SAD shall be assessed the Commercial Charge.
- (4) Exemption: Parcels that are vacant and contiguous to an assessed parcel with the same owner will only be assessed once at the highest single parcel assessment level.

A report describing the Project including program plans and cost estimates has been prepared and is on file with the Washtenaw County Director of Public Works. A report is also available for public review at the Washtenaw County Public Works Office, 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103, as well as on our webpage: www.ewashtenaw.org/wrcnotices, under Chain of Lakes Improvement Project—Project Detail.

To ask questions or obtain additional project information, please call 734-222-6865 or 734-222-3827.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if the Board of Public Works proceeds with the project, a second public hearing is tentatively scheduled for April 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., local time, at the Hamburg Township Senior Community Center, 10405 Merrill Road, Whitmore Lake, Michigan 48189.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the owner, or any person having an interest in property that is specially assessed, may file a written appeal with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within thirty (30) days after confirmation of the special assessment roll. However, appearance and protest at the public hearing on the special assessment roll are required in order to appeal the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. An owner or a party in interest or his or her agent may (1) appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment or (2) file his or her appearance or protest by letter before the close of the hearing.

The Board of Public Works shall maintain a record of parties who appear to protest at the hearing. If the hearing is terminated or adjourned for the day before a party is provided the opportunity to be heard, a party whose appearance was recorded shall be considered to have protested the special assessment in person.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
DATED: February 15, 2017
Evan Pratt
Director of Public Works

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact Human Resources, 734-222-6800, TDD # 734-994-1733, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8645 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.