



MCTA

42430 Utica Rd.
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
586-254-1284
philis@desaele.us

<https://mcta-mi.com/>



Press Release

Use Tax \$\$\$\$\$ for Road Repairs, Not Regional Transportation or More SMART Buses

The Macomb County Taxpayers Assoc. (MCTA) opposes:

- The SMART, millage increase which will be on the August Primary ballot (<https://bit.ly/2vZxkR1>)
- The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) 20-year millage which would amount to \$5.4B which could also be placed on a ballot this year (<https://on.freep.com/2HBbUPJ>)

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and the Macomb County Board of Commissioners oppose the 20 year \$5.4B Regional Mass Transit tax increase. Some communities like Washington Twp., Romeo and Bruce are forced to pay a third local property tax for buses.

“Fixing the roads is far more important than spending more on a Regional Mass Transit Bureaucracy,” said Philis DeSaele, Chair of the Macomb County Taxpayers Assoc. (MCTA). ‘Macomb County voters overwhelmingly rejected (9222,806 no votes to 148,159 yes votes) the 20 year \$4.7B tax increase for the RTA mass transit tax in 2016. Liberal politicians like the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Chairman Paul Hillegonds should respect the vote of the people instead of continuing to use taxpayers’ dollars to promote another 20 year, \$5.4B property tax. The 1.5 mill proposed RTA tax would raise Metro Detroit’s annual property tax on an average home of \$200,000, \$300 a year.

This year’s Regional Tax Authority’s (RTA) \$5.4B tax increase is higher than the rejected 2016 tax increase and is being proposed the same year that SMART is pushing for a property tax renewal! The proposed Smart Bus Tax is a 4-year increase, from 0.59 mill to 1 mill, and would generate \$28M in the first year and an estimated \$100M in property tax revenue over the next 5 years. (<https://bit.ly/2HlaChu>)

“Liberal Hillegonds doesn’t feel the budget pinch of working Macomb County Families as Hillegonds receives approximately \$120T a year state pension, and shamefully grabbed \$1M from the Michigan road building fund to promote another tax increase and pay himself and other top bus bureaucrats approximately \$100T a year” - Noted DeSaele! “It is time that government started prioritizing how they spend Taxpayers money. They should be spending it on roads, police, etc. **What good are buses if there are no roads to drive them on?**

Philis DeSaele
Chair MCTA
586-254-1284