



# State of the Township

March 21, 2019



# Agenda- State of The Township

- History of Oakland Township
- Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance
- MDEQ Mandated Water Storage
- Roads
- Police
- Fire/EMS
- Fiscal Responsibility

# History of Oakland Township



- Founded 1827
- One of Michigan's Oldest Townships – it was one of the original 25 when the Territory of Michigan was organized
- Rochester, Rochester Hills and Orion Township were part of Oakland Township
- First Township Hall built in Goodison in 1938, present Township Hall built in 1998
- Became a Charter Township in 1988
- First property purchase; will celebrate 200th year anniversary in March 2019
- We cherish and nurture our historic landmarks
- Today's population is estimated at more than 19,000 residents but retains its special rural character by minimal commercial development, our 2018 Master Plan has zero new commercial zoning, and its vast 1100 (soon to be 1300) acres of parklands

# Elected Officials

## **Board of Trustees**

**Mike Bailey, Supervisor**

**Jeanne Langlois, Treasurer**

**Karen Reilly, Clerk**

**Robin Buxar, Trustee**

**Frank Ferriolo, Trustee**

**John Giannangeli, Trustee**

**Lana Mangiapane, Trustee**

# Elected Officials Continued

## **Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Colin Choi, Chair**

**Henry Van Agen, Vice-Chair**

**Craig Blust, Treasurer**

**Emily Barkham, Secretary**

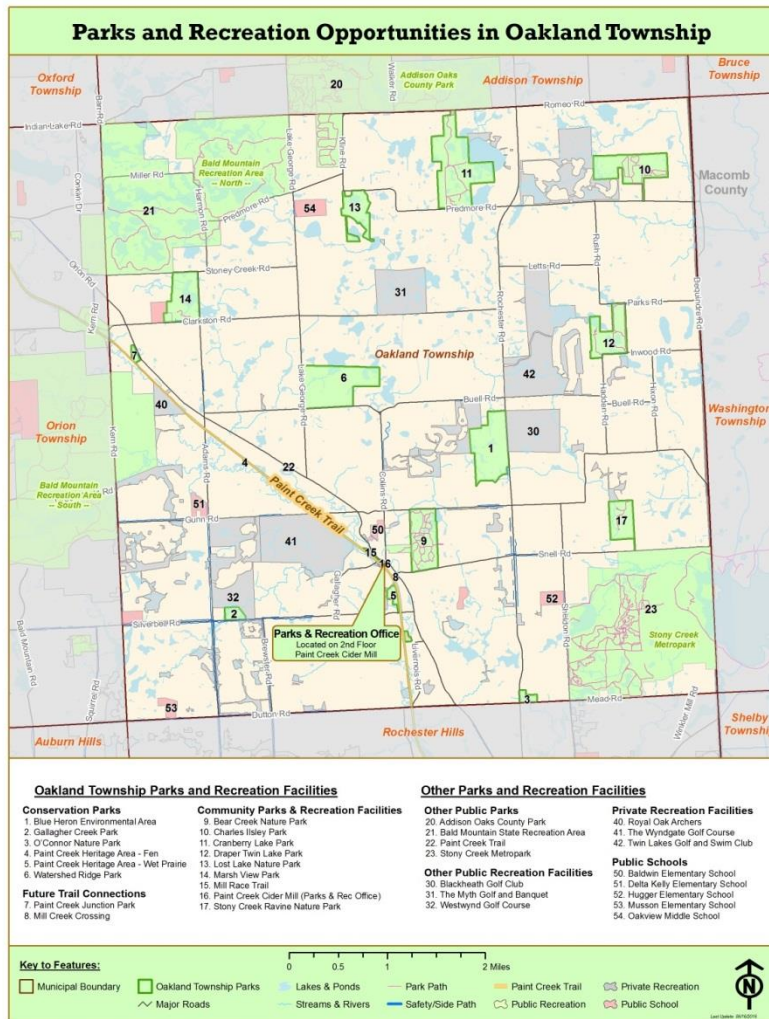
**Daniel Bukowski, Commissioner**

**Cathy Rooney, Commissioner**

**Daniel Lee Simon, Commissioner**



# Vision for Oakland Township's Parks and Recreation System



- ✓ Preserve Township's Natural Resources
- ✓ Provide Parks and Recreation Facilities
- ✓ Create Memorable Experiences
- ✓ Retain Township's Rural Character
- ✓ Contribute to Economic Value of Township

**Community's Concern, Cooperation and Effort have resulted in 1100-acre system of Township parks:**

- ❑ Protecting high-priority natural areas
- ❑ Providing 20+ miles trails, nature center, kayak docks, archery range, athletic fields and more
- ❑ Offering nature, wellness and cultural programs

# Administrative Staff

**Melinda Milos-Dale, Parks and Recreation Director**

**Carol Kasprzak, Administrative Assistant**

**Deb Gallo, Clerical Assistant**

**Becky McLogan, Recreation Manager**

**Mary Black, Recreation Manager's Assistant**

**Dr. Ben VanderWeide, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager**

**Alex Kriebel, Stewardship Specialist**

**Doug Caruso, Maintenance Foreman**

**Jeff Johnson, Maintenance Technician**

**Maintenance and Recreation Staff:**

**Clif Selent**

**Alex Dziadzio**

**Robert Zbytowski**

**Seasonal Land Stewardship Technicians:**

**Billy Gibala**

**Alyssa Radzwion**

**Barb Barber, Historic District Commission Preservation Planner**

# Parks and Recreation Millage Projects

- Bear Creek Nature Park: Addition of well and hydrants for potable water, resurfacing of aggregate trails.
- Gallagher Creek Park: Completion of landscaping and furnishings.
- Marsh View Park: Portable shade structure to protect archers.
- Paint Creek Junction: Trailhead for northern section Paint Creek Trail (funded by millage and MNRTF grant).
- Paint Creek Trail: Replacement of Bridge 33.7 (funded by millage and three grants), Paint Creek Trail Resurfacing (funded by millage and grant).



# Land Preservation Millage Projects

- Bear Creek Nature Park: Major removal of invasive plants with forestry mowing.
- Cranberry Lake Park: Major removal of invasive plants with forestry mowing.
- Blue Heron Environmental Area: Wetland and Grassland Restoration (using federal grant).
- Draper Twin Lake Park: Major removal of invasive plants with forestry mowing.
- Lost Lake Nature Park: Addition of a rustic trail loop.
- Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park: Addition of 208 acres (funded by millage and MNRTF grant) and major removal of invasive plants with forestry mowing.
- Watershed Ridge: Rustic trail system and aggregate parking lot. Wetland and Grassland Restoration (using federal grant).
- Draper Twin Lake Park: Addition of accessible kayak launch to existing dock, trail improvements.
- Marsh View Park: Addition of rustic northern trail loop.
- Watershed Ridge: New Maintenance Building.

# Elected Officials Continued

## **Library Board**

**Michael Tyler, President**

**Carolyn Phelps, Vice President**

**Andrew Parker, Secretary**

**Patricia Gonser, Member**

**Henry Carels, Member**

**Marisa Kallie, Member**

# Appointed Officials

## **Planning Commission**

**Gary Kwapis, Chairperson**

**George Platz, Vice Chairperson**

**Anthony Scaccia, Secretary**

**John Giannangeli, Board of Trustees  
Representative**

**Dominic Abbate**

**Joseph Peruzzi**

**Judy Workings**

## **Zoning Board of Appeals**

**Brian Blust, Chairperson**

**John Boville, Vice Chairperson**

**Kathy Thomas**

**William Jandeska**

**Joseph Peruzzi, Planning Commission  
Representative**

**Andy Zale, Alternate**

# Appointed Officials Continued

## **Safety Paths and Trails Committee**

**Libby Dwyer, Chairperson**

**Karen Reilly, Board of Trustees Representative**

**Jeanne Langlois, Board of Trustees Alternate  
Representative**

**Craig Blust, Parks & Recreation Representative**

**Joseph Peruzzi, Planning Commission Representative**

**Ron Hein, Committee Member**

**Laurel Johnson, Committee Member**

**Andy Zale, Committee Member**

## **Historic District Commission**

**David A. Phillips, Chairperson**

**Gene Ferrera, Vice Chairperson**

**Charles Busch, Secretary**

**Heidi Paterson, Commissioner**

**Bruce Parkinson, Commissioner**

**John Sanderson, Commissioner**

**Donald Westphal, Commissioner**

## **Board of Review**

**Judy Workings**

**John Casadei**

**Gary Putz**



# Historic District Commission



1961

**Paint Creek Cider Mill**



2019



THIS  
SCHUETTE OAK  
MEASURED  
CIRCUMFERENCE: 18' 9"  
HEIGHT: 114'  
SPREAD: 120'  
WHEN LISTED IN THE  
NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF BIG TREES  
IN  
1973  
BY  
AMERICAN FORESTS



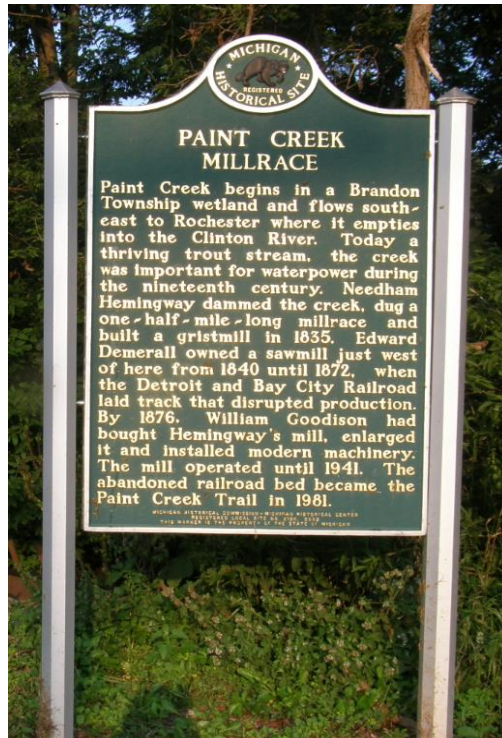
PAINT CREEK  
MILLRACE  
Paint Creek begins in a Brandon  
Township wetland and flows south-  
east to Rochester where it empties  
into the Clinton River. Today a  
into the stream, the creek  
thriving trout stream. Needham  
the nineteenth century. Needham  
Hemingway dammed the creek, dug a  
one-half-mile-long millrace and  
built a gristmill in 1855. Edward  
Demerall owned a sawmill just west  
of here from 1940 until 1972. when  
the Detroit and Bay City Railroad  
laid track that disrupted production.  
By 1975, William Goodison had  
bought Hemingway's mill, enlarged  
it and installed modern machinery.  
The mill operated until 1941. The  
abandoned railroad bed became the  
Paint Creek Trail in 1981.



Cranberry Lake Main House



## Michigan Historical Marker for the Paint Creek Cider Mill and MillRace



### PAINT CREEK CIDER MILL

Needham Hemingway built a gristmill on this site in 1835, harnessing water power from the Paint Creek millrace. William Goodison purchased the mill in 1866 for \$3,600. When the Detroit and Bay City Railway added a stop here in 1871, it became the namesake for the hamlet of Goodison. The mill operated under various owners until 1941. Dale O. Miller purchased the property in 1945, hoping to restore the old gristmill. The building was no longer structurally sound, so he had the mill dismantled in 1953 and salvaged the original hand-hewn timbers for the current structure. Architects Giffels & Vallet Inc. and L. Rossetti Associates designed the building. It features broad windows, exterior balconies and wide gable roofs, all of which are examples of Swiss Chalet architecture.

# This Place Matters!

## Paint Creek Cider Mill – Goodison

Needham Hemingway

Dale O. Miller Sr.

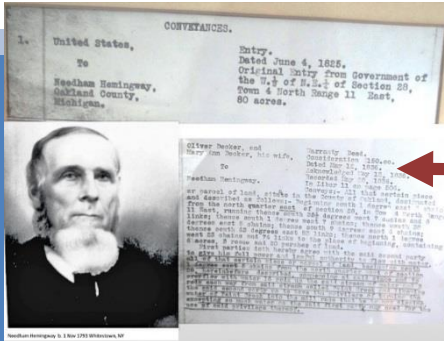


Photo credit to Leslie Whyte Mack

# Paint Creek Cider Mill

## National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Criteria A: Contributions to local development of Goodison

Criteria C: Architecture – Michigan Modern; Swiss-chalet

1960



2019







## BICENTENIAL ACTIVITIES

- Township banners have been made and now on display outside the Paint Creek Cider Mill and the Rochester Cider Mill: "Oakland Township: 200 years and still a great place to settle" and "200 years and still preserving history."
- In May, we will be having a special dedication for the Paint Creek Cider Mill history. Date to be determined.
- The HDC is collecting historic door images that can be from barns, homes, or structures to be displayed later in the year.
- The OTHS has a June presentation on oral histories from Township residents planned to be held at Cranberry Lake Farm Flumerfelt Barn.



# Oakland Township Bicentennial

1819 - 2019



*200 Years and Still Preserving History*

# Oakland Township Bicentennial

1819



2019



*200 Years and Still a Great Place to Settle*

# Administrative Staff

**Dale Stuart, Township Manager**

**Jamie Moore, Assistant Township Manager**

**Cari Neubeck, Deputy Clerk**

**Roxanne Thatcher, Clerk's Assistant**

**Susan Howell, Accounting Specialist/Election Coordinator**

**Walt Blessed, Deputy Treasurer**

**Courtney Wahnefried, Accounting Clerk/Treasury Specialist**

**Ellen Rozmary, Administrative Assistant**

**Tim Berger, Building Director**

**Louise Crane, Building Department Coordinator**

**Julie Ziehm, Receptionist/Building Department Clerk**

**Julie DeClercq, Finance Administrator**

**Donald Mende, Planning Coordinator**



# Administrative Staff

## **Fire Department**

**Paul Strelchuk, Fire Chief**

**Lou Danek, Assistant Fire Chief**

**6 Full Time Firefighters/Paramedics**

**3 Part Time Firefighters/Paramedics**

**Greg Ball, Full Time EMS Coordinator (2003)**

**Paul Elder, CPR Instructor (2006)**

**21 Paid on Call Firefighters**

## **Sheriff Office**

**Lt Charles Bernard, Substation Commander**

**12 Deputies, 1 Sergeant, 1 Detective**

# New Master Plan & Zoning Ordinance

In 2017/18, the Township updated and adopted the two most important land use documents available that influence the long range land use for Oakland Township:

- The Oakland Township Master Plan
- The Oakland Township Zoning Ordinance

# Master Plan

- Resident Survey- Fall 2015
- Public Workshop- May 2016
- Public Hearings
- Approval- September 2017



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

## MASTER PLAN



ADOPTED: September 12th, 2017

142 pages

# Master Plan Highlights, Public Input

Residents still wanted the same characteristics that they have valued for 30 years:

- Minimal commercial development, no new commercial zoning
- Large residential lots/ no clustered lots
- Love our parks and 1100 (soon to be 1300) acres of parkland

Therefore, only minor changes and updates made.



# New Zoning Ordinance Changes

- Additions:
  - Conditional Rezoning
  - Animal Provisions
  - Housing for the Elderly
  - Oil and Gas Structure
  - Accessory Buildings
  - Building Height
  - Home Based Business
  - Temporary Signs
  - Site Condominiums

# New Zoning Ordinance Changes

- Deletions:
  - General Review Standards
  - Hardship Planned Unit Development
  - Special Accommodation Use
  - Planned Residential Rezoning Overlay (PRRO), Planned Residential (PRD) option
  - Ultimate Paved Road Density

# MDEQ Mandated Water Storage

# MDEQ Mandated Water Storage

- What drove the need for storage?
  - For safety reasons, the MDEQ now requires water districts that serve more than 150 units to have storage reservoirs.
- Which Community Well districts are involved and why only them?
  - Only the Southeast (SE) and Southwest (SW) as both serve more than 150 units.
- Survey was sent to 2,958 SE and SW water district residents to determine preference for:
  - Central iron removal at \$100/quarter- Location for water storage facility- Elevated vs ground level storage.
  - Survey Results:
    - Survey response rate: SE 38%, SW 32%
    - Central Iron Removal? SE 36%, SW 41% (in favor)
    - Location for water storage? Various suggestions received.
    - Preference for ground level storage was expressed.

# MDEQ Mandated Water Storage Cont'd

- Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. Advisors (OHM) has been contracted to: Determine optimal water storage locations and Prepare and deliver seminars for best home iron removal treatment systems
- Timeline:
  - **Storage location:** Using a ranking process, based on size of the available site, compatibility with possible iron removal facility, proximity to homes, etc. alternative locations have been narrowed. Next step is to determine which properties have acceptable selling prices. Recommended locations expected by mid May.
  - **Iron Removal Seminar:** Was provided in July 2018, available on our website.
- Construction time for water reservoirs
  - Two years from Board approval of final sites

# Roads



# Roads



- All public roads in the township are under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission of Oakland County (RCOC).
- The township has 44 miles of gravel/limestone roads.
- The County of Oakland has established a “Tri-Party” program wherein the County, RCOC, and Township each contribute 1 / 3 of pot of money to be used for road projects. This year, Oakland Township will be entitled to \$126,373. The Township’s share is \$42,120.
- In addition, the Board of Trustees is very proactive in addressing gravel road improvement as one of its priorities and, for the past several years, has budgeted an additional \$100,000 each budget year for gravel/limestone resurfacing. The RCOC has proposed increasing this to \$200,000 each year to provide gravel/limestone resurfacing for all roads every five years.
- All roads will be graded followed by dust control chloride applications a total of six times this year.
- As determined by the RCOC, trees in the road ROW will be removed to allow cutting ditches on both sides of the road to direct storm water off the road.
- A road millage will likely be required to pave or resurface paved roads.
- Discussions continue with the RCOC to finalize road improvement details for 2019/2020 and for the next two years.

## Projects Funded by RCOC for 2019:

- Resurfacing of Adams Rd from Dutton to Silverbell Road
- Resurfacing Silverbell Rd M24 to Adams Rd
- Replacing a Culvert on Lake George Rd North of Stoney Creek Rd
- Bridge Maintenance Project on Adams Rd to be completed while Adams and Gunn Rd closed

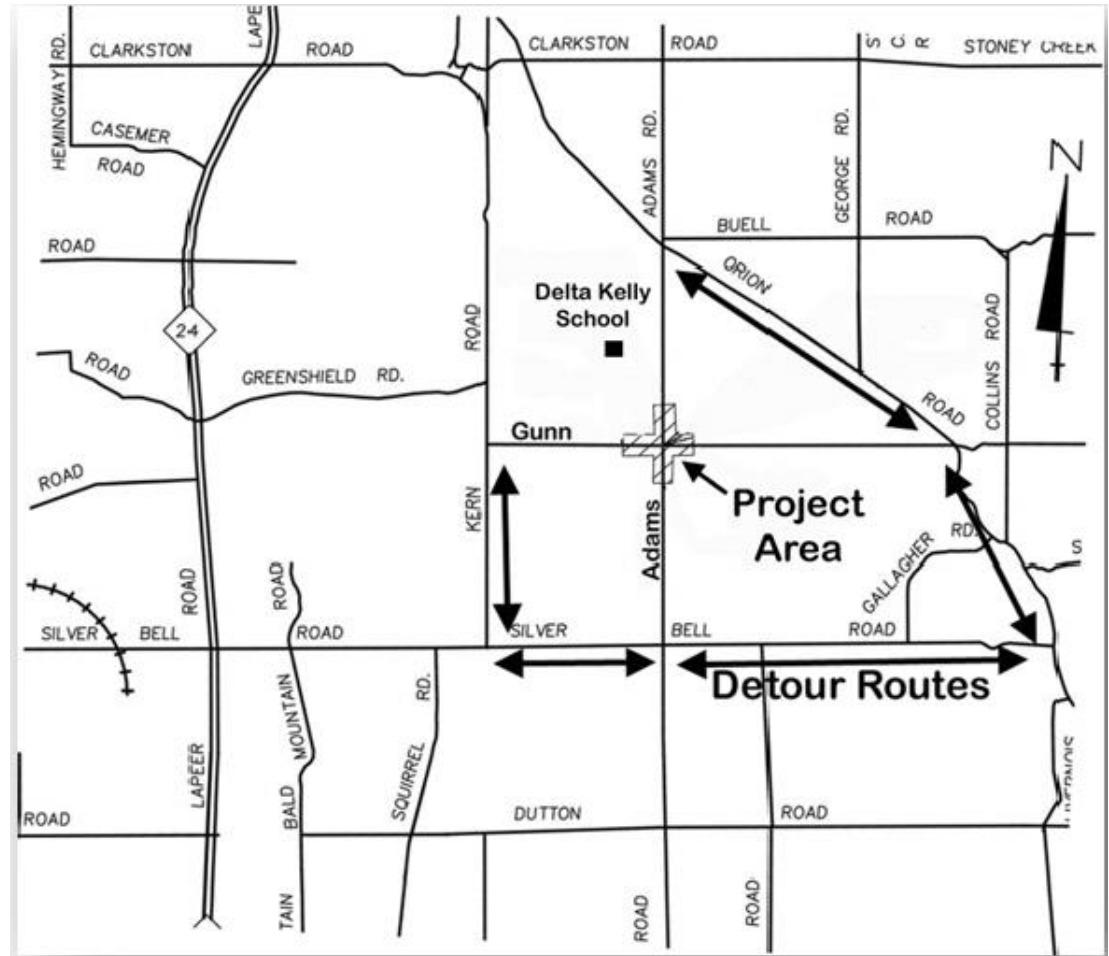
# Gunn and Adams



- The intersection is one of the most dangerous in the township.
- A four way stop was established in July 2016.
- The RCOC determined that a roundabout is the correct solution to this hazardous intersection.
- The roundabout will be constructed between June – August 2019.
- The cost of this improvement will be shared by MDOT, RCOC, and Oakland Township. Our share is \$500,000.

# Gunn and Adams

- While the round-a-bout is being constructed, the intersection will be closed. Traffic will be redirected as shown.



# Police



# Police

- We contract our police protection from Oakland County Sheriff Office
- Our substation resides in old Township Hall
- Lt. Charles Bernard manages 12 deputies, one Sergeant, and one detective
- We levy 2.3 mills, which is 29.5% of total Oakland Township tax dollars, the highest dollar funding of all township departments
- The result: We are the 2<sup>nd</sup> safest community in Michigan, 49<sup>th</sup> nationally.

# Fire/EMS





# Fire Department: A Brief History

## 1995

- February- Board of Trustees (BOT) votes to establish its own Fire department
- March- BOT approves building Fire Station 1 plus purchasing a pre-owned fire truck
- September- BOT approves purchase of second pre-owned fire truck
- December- Fire Dept, using paid on call firefighters, begins responding to fire and emergencies for East side of the township, City of Rochester contracted to cover west side of the township.

## 1997

- October- BOT approves first **new** fire truck

## 1998

- January- Contract with City of Rochester Fire Department is cancelled

## 2000-2002

- Need for second fire station is recognized and constructed, first ambulance purchased.

## 2004

- November – Due to excessive response times from private ambulance companies, BOT agrees to upgrade from Basic Life Support to Advanced Life Support and hire 6 full time Fire Fighter/paramedic employees to cover 2 ALS ambulances 24/7. Previously we were a POC department only.

## 2013

- May – Board of Trustees appoints Paul Strelchuk as full time Fire Chief. Previously we had a part-time Fire Chief with shared Building Director duties.

## 2017

- October- Lou Danek hired as full time employee with half time devoted to Maintenance Technician, the other half the Assistant Fire Chief.



## Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) Protocol Requirements for Advanced Life Support Licensing

1. Personnel protocol Requirement- 1 Paramedic + 1 EMT available 24/7 for each ambulance.
2. For “Hot” emergency calls (Heart attack or other life threatening event), arrival time must be less than 8 minutes, 90% of the time.

## Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) Issue

2018

- March- OCMCA notifies Fire Chief Strelchuk that there must be 1 paramedic and 1 EMT 24/7 for each of our 2 ALS units.
- March/April: BOT allocates a \$200,000 increase in paid on call funding and directs Chief Strelchuk to comply with OCMCA personnel protocol by scheduling POC and hiring part time firefighters and notify OCMCA of this plan. OCMCA agreed to this plan.
- Chief Strelchuk has been working to schedule Paid on Call (POC) and hiring part time people to assure compliance to OCMCA personnel protocol.

## Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) Issue

2019

- Have hired 7 part time. Two then quit, two were fired because they did not consistently report for duty. Currently have 3 part time people. Still working to hire more part time people.
- Hiring more full time paramedic/EMT personnel is also being considered. This is my recommendation.
- Finally, still need a plan to meet 8 minute response time, 90% of the time.

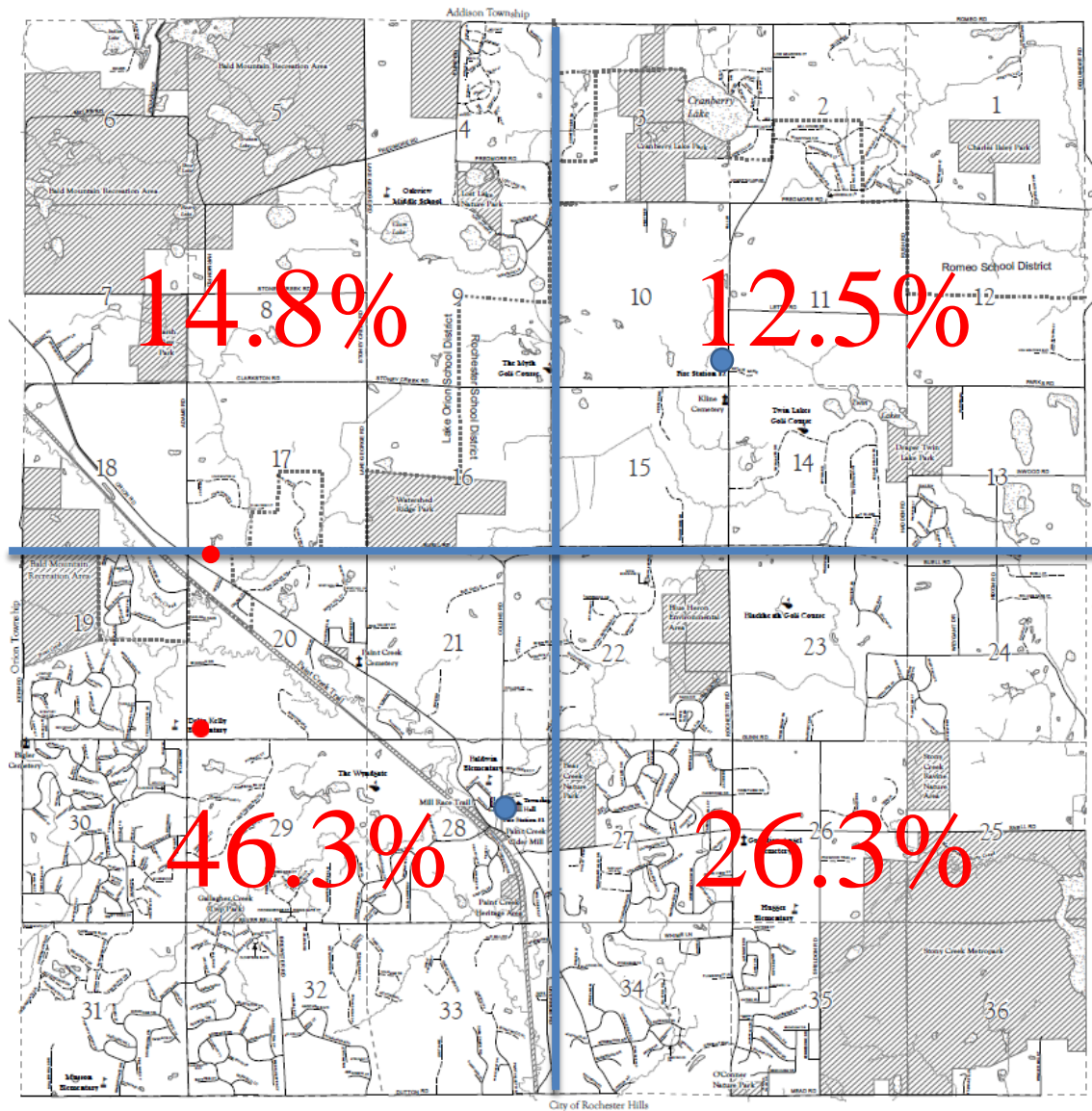
# Fire Department, Future Expectations

- When our population increases to transition from Rural to Suburban, likely no later than 2020, the Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) response time requirement for “Hot” EMS calls decreases from 8 to 6 minutes 90% of the time.
- It is not possible to meet the 6 minute requirement with only 2 stations. Today we struggle to meet 9 minute response time. A strategically located third station is required. The Township has already purchased property at the Northeast corner of Orion and Adams Roads. We are also studying merits of a third Fire station at Gunn and Adams, and an ambulance station near Blossom Ridge senior development.



# 2018 EMS/Fire Response Totals by Quadrant

- Legend
- Proposed Station
  - Existing Station





Station 1



Station 2



OTFD has 3 similar 2002 and one 1997 fire engine, each carry 1250 gallons of water.



OTFD has 1, 2002 tanker that carries 3000 gallons of water.



# OTFD Has 4 Ambulances



3, E350 Van Chassis Ambulances



1, F550 Truck Chassis Ambulance



## Major Fire EMS 2019-2020 Capital Plan Items

- Refurbish 1997 Medium Rescue \$350,000



- Replace oldest (20 years old) Fire Engine \$700,000



## Mark Garrett Story in Brief:

- Saturday midnight, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Mark has very severe chest pains.
- Called 911.
- Paramedics from Oakland Township Station 2 arrived 6.5 minutes later
- Administered aspirin and nitroglycerin, performed an EKG.
- Diagnosed Mark was having a heart attack and transmitted results to Ascension Hospital.
- Transport to Ascension hospital, doctors there had reviewed the EKG, the cardiac team was ready.
- The stent was in place in 24 minutes.
- Hospital goal is to have the stent in place within 90 minutes.
- Mark's procedure, completed in 24 minutes may have set a record for least time for stint in place.
- OTFD from Station 2 was very professional, trained at the highest level and was compassionate.
- Mark's family is forever indebted to these exceptional people.



# Fiscal Responsibility

# Fiscal Responsibility

- The State of Oakland Township financials are excellent.
  - Oakland Township has Standard and Poor's highest bond rating attainable of "AAA"
  - Oakland Township has one of the lowest General Fund millage rates in Oakland County and it has been lowered or not increased each year for the last 5 years. The 2018 General Fund millage rate was 0.5143. This rate is lower than Addison, Brandon, Milford, Oxford, Orion and others.
  - The General Fund budgeted expenditures for 2018/19 was \$4,491,850 while budget income was \$3,092,600.
  - The General Fund balance has increased annually for the last several years due to the careful and prudent spending of the Board of Trustees. Ending fund balance was \$8,494,126 for 2017/18.
  - Capital purchases for 2019/2020 will increase significantly primarily due to Fire Department purchases.

Thank you!