

Parma voters, unhappy with residential streets, to decide road construction tax increase on fall ballot

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If passed, Issue 53 -- a 1.5-mill roads levy -- will raise \$2.1 million annually for side street road construction in Parma. (John Benson, special to cleveland.com)

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By [John Benson, special to cleveland.com](#)

PARMA, Ohio -- Everyone in Parma agrees that a common concern among residents has to do with the deteriorating condition of the community's side streets. Budgetary constraints mean the seventh-largest city in Ohio can only do so much.

On Election Day, residents will be able to decide whether to put their money where their mouth is with Issue 53, a 1.5-mill roads levy. If passed, the five-year tax increase, which would cost the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 an additional \$53 a year, would raise \$2.1 million annually to be used for residential street repairs.

Columbus State might ask voters to OK a \$300 million bond issue in 2020

By [Jennifer Smola](#)
The Columbus Dispatch

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Columbus State Community College trustees will vote later this week on whether to ask voters to approve a bond issue that would generate about \$300 million for capital improvements for the school.

Columbus State Community College could appear on Franklin County ballots for the first time ever next year.

The college's board of trustees will meet Friday to vote on whether to put a bond issue before Franklin County voters in next year's primary election on March 17.

If the measure is approved by trustees, the school would ask county voters to approve a 24-year bond issue of less than 1 mill (an estimated 0.65), to generate about \$300 million for capital improvements, according to board materials. **The college estimates the cost to homeowners would be about \$24 per year per \$100,000 of property valuation.** The bond issue would be for voters in only Franklin County, where the college has most of its physical assets.

The proposed ballot measure would be the first time Columbus State has asked Franklin County residents for their support at the polls. A measure inserted by the Ohio General Assembly in the most recent state budget paved the way for the state's community colleges to seek funding for permanent improvements from voters at the ballot.

Over the past decade, Columbus State spent an average of \$4.5 million annually on capital needs, in addition to the average \$5 million capital funding it received from the state each year, board materials state. They've also utilized grants, partnerships and private funding to meet capital needs, according to the college.

