

TOWN OF BUCHANAN – TRANSPORTATION UTILITY FEE FAQs

1. What is the purpose of the TUF?

The purpose of the transportation utility fee is to generate segregated and dedicated revenue that will allow the Town to maintain and improve a transportation system with 52% of the roads rated as fair to very poor.

The primary issue facing the Town is the cost of maintaining and reconstructing the transportation system residents and visitors rely on daily has continued to increase, while the overall funding for these activities has not increased at a commensurate rate. At the same time, the Town has widespread stormwater drainage issues in the urbanized area of Town.

2. What funding options has the Town considered?

The State of Wisconsin has a very limited amount of revenue generating options when compared to other states. The Town very deliberately reviewed all available options, which are listed below.

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Property Tax Levy | d. Federal/State Grants and Aid |
| b. Debt Financing | e. Vehicle Registration Fee |
| c. Special Assessments | f. Transportation Utility Fee |

3. Is this a Vehicle Registration Fee?

No, this is not a Vehicle Registration Fee. A Vehicle Registration Fee is a charge against a registered vehicle. The TUF is charge against a property based on the number of average trip generated by a property, where the rates represent the weighted averages based on.

4. Why are trips generated used to calculate the Fee?

Trips generated are a measure of the weighted averages based the day of the week and/or time of day (e.g., weekday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday; the weekday morning and evening peak hours of the generation; the weekday morning and evening peak hours that occur during the traditional commuting peak hours of the adjacent traffic; and the Saturday and Sunday peak hours of the generation). This measure serves as an indication of the level of development on a property and more broadly viewed as an indicator of the impact of a property on the transportation system.

5. Was a Vehicle Registration Fee considered?

Yes, a Vehicle Registration Fee was considered. Based on the results of an Advisory Referendum and Town Board discussion it was determined a TUF was a more equitable approach.

6. What is the TUF rate?

The rate depends on the type of land use. For residential single family parcels the TUF will be \$315. For non-residential parcels it ranges from \$189-\$8,404.

7. Will this rate be adjusted every year?

The rate will be modified based on the Municipal Cost Index (MCI). This is a measure developed by American City & County Magazine in 1978 to show the effects of inflation on the cost of providing municipal services.

8. How much money does the City plan to raise with this fee?

The fee is intended to raise approximately \$875,000 to assist the Town in reaching the Annual Transportation Investment Benchmark, which is \$2,500,000, i.e., the Town is attempting to spend \$2,500,000 per year to address aging infrastructure and alleviate widespread drainage programs

9. How often will the TUF be charged?

The fee will be charged on an annual basis. This will continue as a revenue source as long as the Town has a transportation system.

10. How will the TUF be billed?

The fee will be included on a parcel's property tax bill. The property tax bills are typically mailed out in early December.

11. What work does the TUF cover?

The following activities are to be funded by the Transportation Utility Fee: the cost of utility district highways, stormwater management, sidewalks, street lighting and the cost of any other convenience or public improvement provided in the district and not paid for by special assessment.

12. My street was recently reconstructed, do I have to pay the TUF?

The fee will be for all properties containing a developed principal use or structure.

13. What typical section is in the 10 Year Plan?

The typical section is asphalt with curb and gutter. To see the typical section in a diagram.

14. When is year one of the Capital Improvement Plan?

Year one is 2020.

15. What projects are in the first year?

The following projects are in year one:

- Cornell Court
- Eastowne Court
- Eisenhower Drive
- Emons Road (Eisenhower Drive to Pinecrest Boulevard)
- Harvard Court
- Kebe Court
- Milky Way
- Treeline Court
- Speel School Road

Note: The projects listed are subject to change based on a number of factors, e.g., funding levels, material and labor prices, conditions of project areas, etc.

16. What happens to the ditch when the curb and gutter is installed?

The ditch is filled in when the curb and gutter is installed. The disturbed areas will be landscaped.

17. What happens to properties with rear yard swales?

This is dependent on the conditions. However, the Town may have a catch basin/pipe constructed to pick up the storm water and discharge to the storm sewer.