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Kalamazoo Township Strategic Framework

The Kalamazoo Township Board of Trustees adopted the 2025 Strategic Framework on May 12, 2025.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2025

Our Mission

The mission of Kalamazoo Township is to provide government services that promote a safe, inclusive, healthy, accessible, and economically viable community to live, work, visit, learn, and play.

Our Goals

- Goal 1:** Vibrant strong community and neighborhoods
- Goal 2:** Strong community identity and engagement
- Goal 3:** Efficient and effective operations and collaborations
- Goal 4:** Financial stewardship

Our Vision


- We envision Kalamazoo Charter Township with an emphasized focus on:
- Community engagement and inclusiveness
 - Economic development
 - Intergovernmental collaboration and advocacy

Our Core Values

Ethical | Respectful | Transparent | Responsive | Relevant & Professional | Good Stewards

CONNECT

 1720 Riverview Dr,
Kalamazoo, MI 49004

 (269) 381-8080

 ktwp.org

 Kalamazoo Charter Township



EXCITING NEWS - NEW EASTWOOD FIRE STATION ON GULL ROAD

The Charter Township of Kalamazoo is excited to announce a significant investment in public safety and community infrastructure with the construction of the new Eastwood Fire Station off Gull Road and Texel Drive. This project marks an important step forward in ensuring that residents continue to receive the highest level of service—both now and in the years to come. The groundbreaking of this project is scheduled for mid-October this fall. Completion is expected by the end of 2026.

Public Safety as a Priority

Township residents consistently prioritize fire and police services, and this project directly demonstrates that dedication. The Eastwood Fire Station is more than just a structure—it symbolizes a commitment to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our community.

Addressing Urgent Needs

Our current fire facilities are deteriorating, with structural disrepair and costly maintenance issues posing risks to service delivery. The Eastwood Fire Station offers a modern, safe, and efficient space that enables our first responders to operate at their best while safeguarding the community.

Fiscal Responsibility & Transparency

The Township is financing this project through a legally authorized special assessment, a method chosen for its transparency and fiscal responsibility. Tax increases have been kept as modest as possible and are offset by reductions in other assessments and debt payments. The Township Board remains committed to accountability and long-term financial stewardship.

A Unified Township Vision

The Eastwood Fire Station is part of a broader Township investment that also includes the creation of a centralized Township campus on Douglas Avenue. Together, these projects will establish a modern hub for civic engagement, community services, and public safety operations. The Township's intentional planning ensures that this campus and our fire stations will serve residents for the next 50 years and beyond.

Article continues on next page...

NEW EASTWOOD FIRE STATION continued...

Why Was a Special Assessment Chosen To Fund the Bond Requirements?

Our public safety building infrastructure has reached the end of its lifespan, making quick construction essential rather than a luxury or preference. The Board has held extensive and transparent public discussions over the past six months regarding this funding method and has decided to move forward with the special assessment option.

How Does This Financially Impact You As A Taxpayer?

The Township will issue tax-exempt bonds to fund these projects and repay them over time. This process will be the same as that used for the road bonds purchased ten years ago. The special millage will appear on the winter tax bill, along with the final payment due for the Road. That tax bill will be slightly higher this winter—under \$60 per resident, based on a home value of \$200,000. In subsequent years, the Township will review all areas to minimize the impact of the new millage.

Investing in the Next Generation

This is more than a construction project—it's a vision for the future. The Eastwood Fire Station will improve continuity of services, support operational efficiency, and lay the foundation for ongoing growth. By investing now, we are ensuring that Kalamazoo Township remains a safe, connected, and thriving community for generations to come.

HELP US PROTECT THE PLACES WE ALL ENJOY

We've loved seeing residents enjoy our parks this season! New playground equipment, picnic grills, and refreshed green spaces have been well-received. Unfortunately, we've also seen a rise in vandalism, including damaged swings, vandalized restrooms, and grills misused as fire pits. These incidents not only create unsafe conditions but also pull funds away from future park improvements and events. If damage continues, some amenities may need to be reevaluated. In the meantime, we're increasing maintenance and exploring long-term safety measures.

How You Can Help

- Report concerns: Call our nonemergency line at (269) 488-8911 if you witness vandalism.
- Start conversations: Encourage respect for public spaces with friends, neighbors, and kids.
- Lead by example: Keep parks clean and show pride in our community.

Most visitors treat our parks with care, and we genuinely appreciate your support in keeping them safe, clean, and welcoming for all.



Summer Tax Bills are due **September 15th**

The Township will be open until 5:00 p.m. on September 15th for in-person payments. Residents may also drop off their tax payments using the drop box.

NOTE: There is an interest accrual of 1% per month for the outstanding balance not paid by September 15th.

NEW COMMUNITY CAMPUS

The Future Home of Kalamazoo Township's Community Campus

Kalamazoo Township is pleased to announce significant updates to our [new Community Campus](#), situated prominently on [Douglas Avenue](#). With signs already in place declaring it the future home of the Kalamazoo Township Community Campus, we are moving steadily toward enhancing services and engagement with our community. The following are the key features of the new campus:

Expansive 17-Acre Community Build: The project spans 17 acres, providing ample space for both current and future community needs. Notably, there is designated room for a future Northwood Fire Station—a development envisioned for 15 or more years from now—ensuring that our Township can adequately prepare for community growth and evolving safety requirements.

A Modern Township Hub: The campus will incorporate a new Township Hall and a dedicated Board Meeting space, along with enhanced administrative services, designed to bring efficiency and accessibility to local governance. The campus will also house an updated Police Department facility, reinforcing our commitment to safety and community well-being.

Dedicated Resident Green Space: Behind the campus, on the eastern side, many acres are reserved for green space. This tranquil area will offer residents a natural retreat, contributing to a healthier and more connected community environment.

Construction Timeline: We're excited to share that the development of the campus is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2026. As construction progresses, we look forward to keeping residents informed and involved in the evolving project.

This ambitious new project is part of our broader vision to create a centralized, versatile location that not only meets today's needs but also anticipates the Township's future growth and development. We are proud to move ahead with planning and development that brings together essential public safety services, community space, and environmental stewardship.



Stay Informed

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Stay informed and engaged with the Township by attending our upcoming meetings, where important decisions and discussions take place regarding the future of our community.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held at the Township Administrative Offices, 1720 Riverview Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49004, or via Zoom at www.ktwp.org/live, in accordance with state regulations.

Board of Trustees Work Sessions at 6:00 p.m.

- September 8th and 22nd
- October 14th and 27th

Board of Trustees Regular Meetings at 7:30 p.m.

- September 8th and 22nd
- October 14th and 27th

Planning Commission at 6:00 p.m.

- September 4th
- October 2nd

Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:00 p.m.

(meets as needed)

- September 17th
- October 15th

ELECTION INFORMATION

Kalamazoo Township voters will participate in an **upcoming election on Tuesday, November 4**. On the ballot, voters will be asked to consider (1) A proposed millage for public transportation services AND (2) School-related proposals for residents in the Comstock and Parchment school districts.

Local elections may not receive as much attention as national ones, but they have a direct impact on our community. **Make a plan to vote on or before November 4!**

Absent Voter Ballots

All Michigan voters are eligible to vote early using an absent voter ballot.

- Available beginning Thursday, September 25
- Request online, by mail, or at the Township Clerk's Office
- Must be returned by 8 p.m. on Election Day (return early to avoid delays)

Drop Box Locations (24/7)

- Township Hall – 1720 Riverview Dr. (to the right of the entrance doors)
- Westwood Fire Station – 1310 Nichols Road
- Checked daily and under video surveillance.

HOURS OF OPERATION

- Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday: Closed

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

- Labor Day: September 1st
- Columbus/Indigenous People's Day: October 13th
- Veteran's Day: November 11th
- Thanksgiving: November 27th-28th
- Christmas: December 24th-25th
- New Year's Eve: December 31st

IMPORTANT

LEAF PICKUP REMINDER

Please remember:

- Your pickup day is the same weekday as your recycling day.
- Use paper yard bags only—plastic bags will not be collected.
- Brush (under 2" in diameter and 4' long) should be tied in bundles.
- Small twigs may be placed in corrugated boxes.
- Do not place loose leaves in the street.

Thank you for helping us keep the Township clean and safe this season!

Township App



SCAN
TO DOWNLOAD!

USPS MAILING PERMIT

RETURN ADDRESS

TOWNSHIP LEADERSHIP



David Combs, Supervisor
supervisor@ktwp.org



Lisa Mackie, Clerk
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Ashley Glass, Trustee
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Sherine Miller, Treasurer
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