Ballot Measure Brief

# Lansing Public Library Millage

Election — August 4, 2026

Lansing (city)

Prepared May 1, 2026

## Key Facts

- **Measure:** 0.5-mill operating millage for the Lansing Public Library, 5-year term, estimated $2.4M/year. August 2026 primary ballot.
- **Coalition status:** No registered ballot question committee on either side as of the analysis date. The brief documents the absence as a structural fact about the measure (uncontested local millage pattern).
- **Comparable-measure pool:** thin (1 prior MI ballot proposal in scope under v1 OpenElections coverage); the comparable-measures section ships an advisory rather than a strong base-rate read.
- **Fiscal-impact stress overlay:** 36 of 62 precincts in the jurisdiction (58.1%) are above the 20% poverty threshold. Stressed precincts bear an estimated 25.5% of the total annual burden ($611K of $2.4M).
- **Universe rollup:** 100% of analyzed precincts fall in the YES-PERSUASION universe under primary-turnout thresholds — high D-lean signal but turnout below the configured `turnout_high` mark for August primaries.

> This sample brief uses fabricated measure metadata; the Lansing Public Library Millage as described here is not a real measure on the August 2026 ballot. Donor data shows null findings because no real committees were queried. Tract-level burden numbers reflect real Census ACS data and are illustrative for sample purposes.

## Measure Summary

| FIELD | VALUE |
|---|---|
| Measure | Lansing Public Library Millage |
| Type | millage |
| Jurisdiction | Lansing (city) |
| Counties | INGHAM, EATON, CLINTON |
| Election | August 4, 2026 |
| Fiscal impact | 0.5 mills for 5 years — estimated $2,400,000/year |
| YES committee | No registered committee on the YES side |
| NO committee | No registered committee on the NO side |
| Ballot text source | n/a |

## Coalition Map

**No registered committee.** Documented null finding: no ballot question committee is registered on the yes side of this measure as of the analysis date. Unusual; verify whether the measure has reached the ballot through a different mechanism (e.g., automatic statutory placement) or whether a committee filing is pending.

### NO side

**No registered committee.** Documented null finding: no ballot question committee is registered on the no side of this measure as of the analysis date. Common on uncontested local millages and renewals. The absence itself is a structural fact about the measure: no organized opposition is fundraising.

### Side-by-side summary

No contribution data on either side.

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Methodology: contribution-side transactions ( `type IN ('contribution','in_kind')` ) targeting each registered ballot question committee, joined to source-entity metadata for donor identity, type, and address. In-state classification uses the donor's state field; in-jurisdiction is conservatively reported as in-state for measures at the city/county/regional level until a city↔county crosswalk is loaded.

## Electoral Geography

[Section not generated — run analyze-electoral-geography.ts (optional in v1)]

## Base / Persuasion Universe

| UNIVERSE | PRECINCTS | VOTERS | VOTER SHARE |
|---|---|---|---|
| YES-BASE | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| YES-PERSUASION | 62 | 340,047 | 100.0% |
| TOSS-UP | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| NO-PERSUASION | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| NO-BASE | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| LOW-PRIORITY | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| LOW-INFO | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |

### Methodology

**Support signal (v1):** `partisan_lean` from precinct_demographics, mapped to a 0-1 yes-support proxy via `support ≈ 0.5 + 0.5 × partisan_lean`. This assumes "yes" tracks D-lean on the modal MI ballot proposal type, which is well-correlated for state-level reproductive-rights, voting-rights, tax-and-spending, and constitutional-amendment proposals. **For local millages (libraries, parks, school operating, public-safety) the partisan-lean proxy is weak**; the brief documents this and recommends scope expansion to a comparable-prior-measure-derived signal where available.

**Turnout estimate:** `registered_voters / total_pop` as a proxy for likely turnout. A v1.1 enhancement uses the trained turnout model rolled up to precinct.

**Universe thresholds:** turnout_high=0.6, turnout_low=0.15, support_high=0.6, support_med=0.45, support_low=0.35. Adjust in measure-config and re-run to recompute.

**Limitation:** universe assignments are precinct-level only; no per-voter scoring is produced. Per-voter scoring on a ballot measure is not currently a published product.

## Comparable Measures

Only 1 comparable measure available, below the configured `min_count` of 3. Comparable-measure analysis is presented but should be read as illustrative rather than definitive. The thin pool reflects v1 data-availability for millage measures at the city jurisdictional level.

### Summary

- **1** comparable measure found
- **1** passed (100.0%)
- **0** failed (0.0%)
- **Average yes share:** 56.7%

### Comparables (most recent first)

| DATE | JURISDICTION | TYPE | YES | NO | YES % | PASSED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2022-11-08 | Michigan | state-proposal | 2,416,167 | 1,848,837 | 56.7% | ✓ |

Source: ballot_proposals table in elections/db/voters.db. See ingest-ballot-proposals.ts for source-system details (OpenElections for statewide, manual-csv for hand-curated locals).

## Fiscal Impact

Total annual burden across the jurisdiction: $2,400,000

Allocated across 62 precincts using `pct_homeowner × registered_voters` as the burden-base proxy. **Methodology limitation:** this is a homeowner-base proxy, not a taxable-value-weighted allocation. Tract-level taxable value is not yet wired into the elections DB; a v1.1 enhancement plumbs BS&A taxable values per parcel for a precise per-tract burden computation. Until then, the brief reports the homeowner-base proxy with this caveat.

### Stress overlay (poverty rate ≥ 20%)

- **Stressed precincts:** 36 of 62 (58.1%)
- **Burden borne by stressed precincts:** $611,140 (25.5% of total)

Stress flag uses Census ACS pct_poverty ≥ 0.20 as a proxy. ALICE thresholds are a more accurate stress measure but are not yet plumbed into precinct_demographics; the v1 brief uses pct_poverty with this documented limitation.

### Top 10 precincts by estimated burden

| COUNTY | PRECINCT | REG. VOTERS | % HOMEOWNER | % POVERTY | BURDEN $/YR | STRESSED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INGHAM | 00001 | 46,730 | 76.6% | 15.0% | $362,674 | |
| CLINTON | 00001 | 37,651 | 88.1% | 11.6% | $335,978 | |
| EATON | 00001 | 35,665 | 84.1% | 12.0% | $303,876 | |
| INGHAM | 00002 | 20,263 | 65.8% | 16.5% | $135,105 | |
| EATON | 00002 | 10,629 | 82.0% | 12.0% | $88,264 | |
| CLINTON | 00002 | 8,945 | 76.8% | 15.7% | $69,591 | |
| INGHAM | 00004 | 9,013 | 67.2% | 14.7% | $61,335 | |
| INGHAM | 00007 | 6,332 | 72.7% | 17.8% | $46,630 | |
| INGHAM | 00003 | 8,421 | 50.8% | 21.6% | $43,303 | ✓ |
| INGHAM | 00006 | 5,747 | 56.0% | 31.6% | $32,577 | ✓ |

### Top stressed precincts bearing above-average burden

| COUNTY | PRECINCT | % POVERTY | BURDEN $/YR |
|---|---|---|---|
| INGHAM | 00003 | 21.6% | $43,303 |

## Methodology

The Ballot Measure Brief composes deterministic outputs from public-record sources. Each analytical section is produced by a discrete script in `elections/scripts/` and inlined here. The generator does not write prose interpretation; the only narrative section ("Key Facts") is analyst-drafted before publish, and `package-deliverable` rejects unfilled `[ANALYST DRAFT NEEDED]` markers.

See Source Appendix below for source-system identifiers, retrieval dates, and v1 methodology limitations.

## Source Appendix

| SECTION | SOURCE SYSTEM | IDENTIFIER(S) | RETRIEVED |
|---|---|---|---|
| Measure metadata | Analyst-curated from MI SOS / county clerk | `lansing-library-millage-2026` | 2026-05-01 |
| Comparable measures | ballot_proposals (OpenElections + manual-CSV seed) | filter rule per measure-config | 2026-05-01 |
| Fiscal impact | Census ACS via precinct_demographics; jurisdiction revenue from measure-config | counties: INGHAM, EATON, CLINTON | 2026-05-01 |
| Universe rollup | precinct_demographics.partisan_lean (proxy) | counties: INGHAM, EATON, CLINTON | 2026-05-01 |

### Methodology limitations

- **Comparable-measure pool (v1):** OpenElections coverage of MI ballot proposals is limited; local-measure outcomes require manual seeding via . Briefs document thin-pool advisories or null findings rather than expanding to less-comparable measures.
- **Fiscal-impact allocation (v1):** burden share computed via `pct_homeowner × registered_voters` proxy. Tract-level taxable value is not yet plumbed into the elections DB; a v1.1 enhancement uses BS&A taxable values for precise per-parcel allocation.
- **Stress overlay (v1):** uses Census ACS `pct_poverty ≥ 0.20` as a proxy for affordability stress. ALICE thresholds are a more accurate measure but are not yet plumbed into precinct_demographics.
- **Support signal (v1):** `partisan_lean` from precinct_demographics, mapped to a yes-support proxy. Best-correlated for state-level and constitutional measures; weaker for local millages. Where precinct-level prior comparable-measure results become available, the brief upgrades to that signal directly.