

YOUR COMMUNITY COLLEGE MILLAGE 2019



Bay College is asking community members to vote on an operating millage on November 5 to address budget short-falls caused by limited increases in State funding. The millage will fund critical college infrastructure upgrades necessary for a safe, energy-efficient 21st century campus.

Q: How much will this cost me?

A: Estimate examples: \$2.97 per month for homeowners with an \$80,000 home; \$7.44 per month for homeowners with a \$200,000 home.

Q: What is the College asking in the millage proposal?

A: 0.8924 mills for 20 years to address campus operations = 0.7 mills for critical improvements including boilers, chillers, roofs, solar panels, LED lighting, safety systems and much more, plus 0.1924 millage restoration lost due to the 1978 Headlee Amendment (costs Bay College \$230,000 in lost taxes per year).

Q: Why is the College asking voters for additional millage?

A: Insufficient state funding has not provided adequate funds. State Aid has decreased from 52% of Bay's budget in 2001 to 35% in 2018. The College strives to keep college affordable by limiting tuition increases and has maintained college infrastructure beyond its useful life.

Q: Why does the College need these improvements now?

A: Heating, cooling, lighting, water, safety and security systems are 20-50+ years old. By replacing antiquated equipment with new efficient equipment, the result will be an annual energy savings of \$173,658.

Q: How has Bay College "sharpened its pencil" to limit costs?

A: Bay College has significantly decreased budget expenditures over the past five years. This includes employee layoffs, reducing travel, improving energy efficiencies, revising benefit plans, and more. At the same time, the College served students, expanded programs, kept up with technology, doubled use of the facilities for non-profit organizations at no charge, and increased workforce training.

Q: What is the impact of Athletics on the College?

A: Bay has nearly 100 student athletes that use updated facilities funded by private donations. Athletic revenues positively contribute to the bottom line. Student athletes have helped Bay stabilize enrollment, filled the College apartments (previously only 50% occupied), maximized class sizes, increased community engagement, enhanced student life on campus, and provided additional opportunity for students to succeed in and out of the classroom.

