



# ROAD LEVY EXPLANATION

In 2015, the North Dakota Legislature passed Senate Bill 2144 which put limits on how much Counties could levy for County roads. The limit became effective in 2015. Levies that had been voted in prior to 2015 would expire on January 1st, 2025.

The current County mill in 2024 was \$31,816.77 equal to about \$318,167 for the base 10 mills. Under this current legislation, the County would be required to cut the levy to the 10 mills only. With the levies adopted over 10 years ago, it does not account for the increased costs to maintain the County roads for asphalt, chip sealing, equipment, supplies, and personnel.

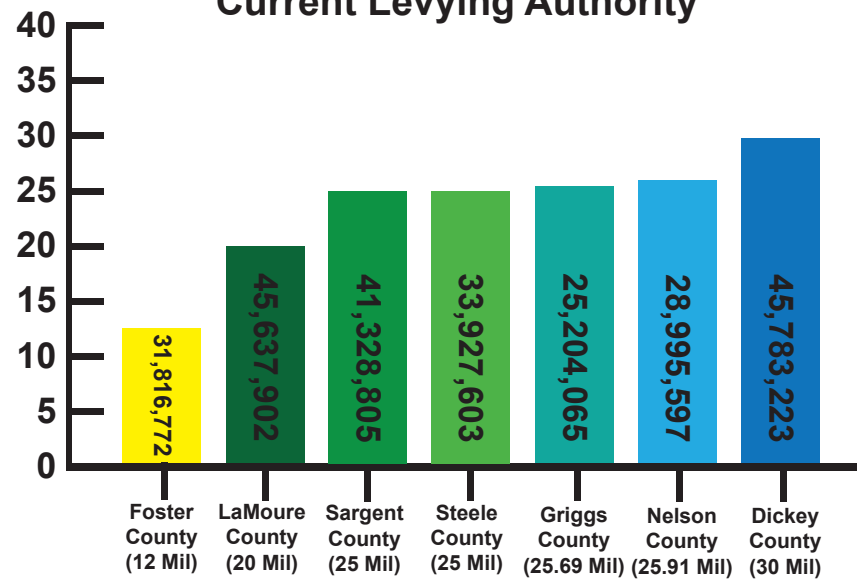
To extend or increase the levies, the County would have to put anything over the base 10 mills to a public vote. Foster County currently has 12 mills. The first 10 mills is at the discretion of the County Board. The 2nd and 3rd set of mills must be voted on. The 2nd set of up to 10 mills has a provision that cities in the County would be provided a percentage of that set of mills. The 3rd set up to 10 mills is for the County only.

The Foster County Board has determined that at this time, 25 mills would be needed to maintain current services. The County currently has 91 miles of paved roads to maintain. Many of these roads were first paved in the 1970's. Per our County Engineer, it is only because of good maintenance by the road department that these roads have lasted this long.

*Without the increase in mills, this would mean a drastic cut in services related to road maintenance. Roads would have to be prioritized and many could be categorized as low or no maintenance. School bus routes and rural traffic would be greatly affected. It would have a devastating effect on agriculture and emergency response times.*

*In order to avoid this, the County has proposed a 25 mill levy for 2025. The voters are voting on the additional 15 mills over the 10 mills that the County Board can levy without a vote.*

County Valuation and Current Levying Authority



## 2024 - Foster County Road Construction Costs

- Chipping - \$37,000 per mile
- Overlaying - \$250,000 per mile
- Painting Lines - \$900 per mile
- Crack Seal - \$1,750 per mile
- Pavement - \$1,000,000 per mile

5 Year Road Plan  
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**Vote - June 11, 2024**