

Lawmakers looked to residents to fund road repairs; let's turn the tables

In light of the defeat of the ill-conceived millage to abscond with more money from the Michigan taxpayers, our roads will remain in a pitiful state of disrepair. However, tough times call for tough decisions. A solution can be found, but it will cause some pain for some folks.

I propose that money to fund Michigan road repairs be collected from our elected officials. As our elected officials love to tell us ad nauseam, we must all share the burden.

Taking back a third of each elected official's pay is a good start to fund road repairs. A freeze on all future raises, unless voted on by the citizens of Michigan, should keep the frivolous overpay in check.

Next, the elite health care packages must go. That should provide

Letters are welcome

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a boatload of money. They can all sign up for Obamacare like the citizens they ostensibly represent.

Finally, they can kiss their pensions and lifelong healthcare benefits goodbye. No free gasoline, huge expense accounts and all of the other trappings of the

quasi-royalty that come at taxpayer expense. If we're going to get real about making sacrifices, then let's talk about the elephant in the room at long last. No more free rides. End the hypocrisy.

These are all entitlements not guaranteed benefits (like Social Security, which our elected officials have robbed to nonexistence). Citizens have paid into Social Security all of their working lives, and far too many will never see a dime of it. That is a crime. Meanwhile, our elected officials keep getting fatter and never have to shoulder any of the pain when it comes to paying their share of the financial burden.

Follow my plan. There is money available. You just have to look in the right places.

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