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EBRCOA Pursues Millage Renewal for June 2026 Ballot

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (01/12/2026) – The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) has formally initiated the process to renew its parish wide millage and is requesting placement of the proposition on the June 27, 2026, ballot. The proposed measure seeks voter approval to renew EBRCOA’s existing property tax, which was first approved by East Baton Rouge Parish voters in 2016. The renewal represents a continuation of dedicated funding for senior services and does not increase taxes. In fact, the proposed renewal reduces the millage rate from 2.25 mills to 2.0 mills, providing savings to taxpayers while preserving essential services.

Millage funding serves as a vital source of local support for seniors across East Baton Rouge Parish, regardless of income or geographic location. Through this funding, EBRCOA delivers services that promote independence, protect health, and strengthen quality of life for seniors. On an annual basis, approximately 25,488 older adults receive assistance through their programs and services.

A sizable portion of millage revenue supports nutrition services, among the most critical needs facing the senior population. Since 2018, more than 8.4 million meals have been provided through Congregate (Hot) Meals at senior activity centers and home delivered Meals on Wheels. These programs combat senior hunger by addressing food insecurity, reducing isolation, and fostering meaningful social connections for seniors.

Millage funding also enables long term investments in senior housing and community revitalization. Since the inception of the millage, more than \$27 million has been invested in capital projects that expanded housing opportunities for seniors. These efforts have resulted in the development of aging-in-place units that currently house 180 seniors. In addition, redevelopment initiatives tied to these projects have eliminated eight city blocks of blighted property, contributing to safer neighborhoods and increased community stability.

Transportation services funded by the millage play a vital role in maintaining seniors’ access to essential resources. EBRCOA operates a fleet of thirteen buses that transport seniors to medical appointments, senior centers, community activities, and other necessary destinations. Since inception, more than 132,000 rides have been provided; helping seniors remain independent and connected to their communities.

The millage also supports the operation of twenty-one senior activity centers and nutritional sites, including centers located in Baker, Central, St. Geroge, Zachary, and the city of Baton Rouge proper. These senior centers serve as community anchors where seniors access meals, wellness programming, educational opportunities, and social engagement.

If approved, the renewal will maintain current reduced 2.0 mill rate. The measure preserves essential services, supports responsible growth, and does so without increasing the tax burden on parish taxpayers. Due to strong fiscal management, the agency anticipates maintaining current services while also expanding and increasing its footprint across the parish.

“The renewal of this millage is essential to sustaining the services that thousands of older adults depend on each day,” said Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging. “We take our fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers seriously. Our clean audits during the current millage reflect a strong commitment to accountability and transparency. Continued funding allows us to protect vital services while remaining conscientious stewards of public tax dollars.”

For more information, visit ebrcoa.org.

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East Baton Rouge Council on Aging: Supporting Independence ~ Serving Seniors

Since 1973, the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA), a 501c3 nonprofit supported by philanthropic donations and public funds (federal, state, and local), has served the seniors of East Baton Rouge Parish through a spectrum of nutritional and social services such as the nationally recognized Meals on Wheels program and over a dozen community senior centers throughout the Parish. EBRCOA is charged with discovering and meeting the growing needs of this ever-increasing population. Central to EBRCOA's mission – Supporting Independence and Serving Seniors – is providing high-quality services to seniors, maintaining their independence, and enhancing their storied lives while being good fiduciary stewards of public funds and trust. More information about EBRCOA and its services can be found online at www.ebrcoa.org.

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) is a non-profit organization serving the senior population of East Baton Rouge Parish.