



Michigan Votes 2025 - The MiddleGround Mic Election Cheat Sheet

Contents: Detroit | Pontiac | Hamtramck | Sterling Heights | Dearborn Heights | Wayne County | Oakland County | Macomb County | Voter Prep | Turnout Notes | Scan and Connect

Key local races, ballot measures, and how to be vote-ready tomorrow.

MI Detroit

- Mayoral: Mary Sheffield vs Solomon Kinloch Jr. - administration vs movement leadership.
- Issues: neighborhood investment, corridor small-biz growth, safety staffing and accountability, school partnerships.
- Turnout: West Side church networks, Midtown/Cass youth precincts, downtown/riverfront growth.
- Absentee batches can shift margins after 9 PM - watch late uploads.

FACT

If you are in line by 8 PM, you can vote - stay in line.

FICTION

"A machine jam voids votes." Valid ballots are secured and counted.

MI Pontiac

- Priorities: downtown revitalization, housing, and public safety.
- Turnout vs 2023 benchmarks in core precincts is decisive.

FACT

Use only official city drop boxes or deliver directly to the clerk.

FICTION

"Campaigns can collect ballots." Only authorized returns are allowed.

MI Hamtramck

- Issues: housing density, cultural programming, fiscal transparency.
- Coalition-building across communities is key for close council races.

FACT

Language/disability assistance is lawful; bring a helper (not employer/union rep).

FICTION

"Assistance compromises privacy." Privacy rules protect voter choice.

MI Sterling Heights

- Public safety staffing and infrastructure top the agenda.
- Shifting demographics make precinct-level swings consequential.

FACT

Verify precinct location the day before - some change between cycles.

FICTION

"If a precinct moved, you can't vote." You vote at the new assigned location.

MI Dearborn Heights

- Property taxes, roads/sidewalks, and school resources drive decisions.
- Local concerns often outweigh party labels in many precincts.

FACT

Michigan allows photo ID or a signed affidavit for a regular ballot.

FICTION

"No ID forces a provisional ballot only." The affidavit yields a regular ballot.

County Proposals - Read the Fine Print

Wayne County	Renewals for public safety/infrastructure - check duration (years) and earmarks for parks/health
Oakland County	School millage renewals - note mill rate, term length, and district/community health allocation
Macomb County	Fire/emergency millage extensions for equipment and staffing - distinguish renewal vs new-m

Voter Prep Checklist (Clip and Share)

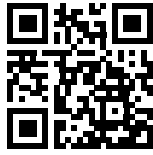
- Confirm registration and precinct at Michigan.gov/Vote.
- Preview your ballot (candidates and proposals) before you go.
- Bring acceptable photo ID or be ready to sign the affidavit.
- If you are in line by 8 PM, you can vote - stay in line.
- Return absentee ballots to official drop boxes or the clerk before 8 PM.

Turnout and Reporting Notes

- Local odd-year turnout typically 20-30 percent; competitive mayoral/school races can raise participation.
- Absentee uploads may post in batches after 9 PM; margins can shift with late adds.
- Use official sources (Michigan.gov/Vote; county clerk pages) for live updates and corrections.

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