

# August 8<sup>th</sup> Special Election Information

WiFi Password: 45000874



# The Election

- When is the Election?
- Where do I vote?
- Can I vote absentee?
- I own vacant property but live elsewhere, can I still vote?

# The Election

**Special Election  
Tuesday, August 8, 2023  
Isabella County, Michigan**

**Proposal Section**

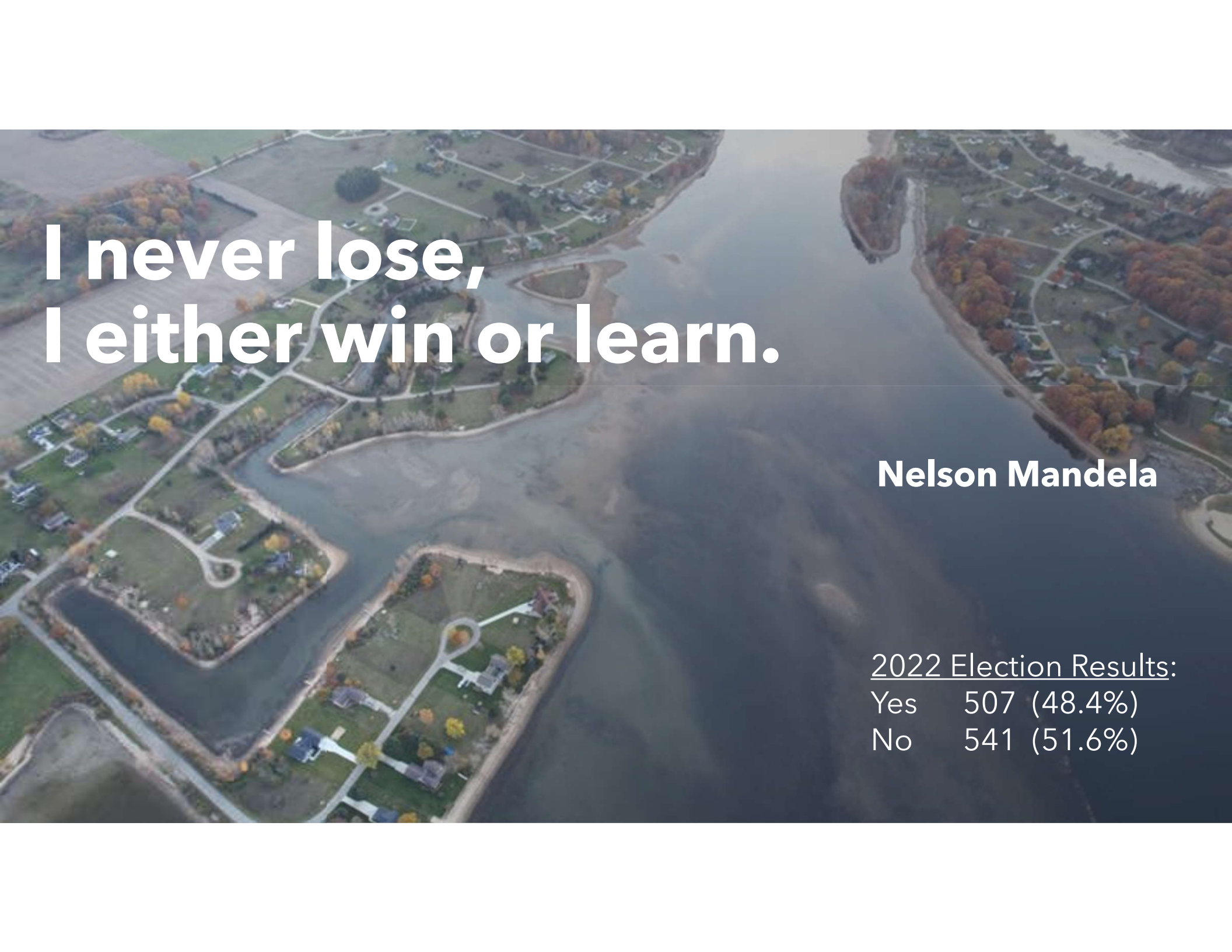
**Village**

**Village of Lake Isabella  
Lake Improvements Millage Proposal**

Shall the Village of Lake Isabella levy a new, additional millage of up to 3 mills (\$3.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of 12 years (2024 through 2035, inclusive) for the purpose of funding lake and river improvements including, without limitation, dredging, fish restocking, and other work or improvements to restore and otherwise improve Lake Isabella and the Chippewa River, together with all work, services, equipment and related costs necessary or incidental to these improvements, which is estimated to raise \$281,103 in the first year of the levy, and shall the Village of Lake Isabella be authorized to levy said millage?

Yes ☐

No ☐

An aerial photograph of a large body of water, likely a lake or reservoir, with several small islands and peninsulas. The land is covered with green grass, trees with autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange, and some residential buildings. The water is a deep blue-grey color. The text "I never lose, I either win or learn." is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

**I never lose,  
I either win or learn.**

**Nelson Mandela**

2022 Election Results:

Yes 507 (48.4%)

No 541 (51.6%)

# 2022 Proposal Post Mortem

- Was the “ask” too much?
- Would a Special Assessment have been a better option?
- Where there differences between how each Township voted?
- Should the proposals have been separated?

# What We Learned...

Dale VerMurlen • Lake Isabella

...

Sorry, I do not want to buy sidewalks and dog parks to pay for the lake improvements. put it on a separate ballot and you've got my vote, YES.

Marty Howe [Author](#) • Lake Isabella

...

Debra all they need to do is put the dredging on a millage by itself and we can vote on it again in February or May. It will pass if done the correct way.

Melissa Schalk • Lake Isabella

...

Chris then they should have separated the proposal into 2. We are all for the dredging but everything else is a hard NO.

26 Oct [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#)



# What's Different

## 2022

- Bond proposal, seeking 2.75 Mills
- 60% Directed to Dredging, 40% Directed to Recreation programs
- Crafted by just the Village & LIPOA

## 2023

- Millage Proposal, seeking 3 Mills
- **100% Directed to Dredging and Lake/River Restoration**
- Crafted by a Committee of equal parts Village, LIPOA, and community members at-large.



# Bond vs. Millage

## Bond

- A one-time lump-sum injection of revenue.
- Debt service rates.
- Amount cannot be adjusted downwards.
- More restrictive due to tax exempt status.

## Millage

- Continual on-going revenue stream.
- Does not require debt.
- The millage rate is a cap, it can be lowered if desired in future years.
- Greatest flexibility



# Committee Members

## LIPOA

- Norm Burmeister
- Bill Keelean
- John Dauffenbach
- Christine Belanger, alt

## Village

- Dave Torgerson
- Robert Laraway
- Brent Peavey
- Carol Shannon, alt

## At-Large

- Todd Buchanan
- Pete Dambrosio
- Tracy Nelson

# How Much of Your Taxes Stay in Lake Isabella?

Entity	Millage	Collection from Lake Isabella	% of Total
Isabella County	6.6100	\$ 663,748.97	23.83%
State Education Tax	6.0000	\$ 602,495.28	21.63%
ISD Taxes (Voc, Special, Oper.)	5.0230	\$ 504,388.97	18.11%
Chippewa Hills Debt Millages	3.8755	\$ 389,161.74	13.97%
<b>Fire Millage/Assessment</b>	<b>1.0000</b>	<b>\$ 100,415.88</b>	<b>3.61%</b>
Medical Facility	1.0000	\$ 58,241.21	2.09%
Sherman Twp. Operating	0.9955	\$ 99,964.01	3.59%
Broomfield Twp. Operating	0.9758	\$ 41,154.04	1.48%
Commission on Aging	0.8776	\$ 88,124.98	3.16%
I-Ride	0.8620	\$ 86,558.49	3.11%
<b>Village Operating</b>	<b>0.8180</b>	<b>\$ 82,140.19</b>	<b>2.95%</b>
Isabella County Parks	0.3500	\$ 35,145.56	1.26%
<b>Lake Isabella Road Patrols</b>	<b>0.3333</b>	<b>\$ 33,468.61</b>	<b>1.20%</b>

**Taxes Paid by Lake Isabella Property Owners: \$ 2,785,007.92**

The Village property tax levy is 0.818 Mill  
 Village Operating/Fire/Road Patrols = 7.7%

# How Much is 3 Mills

\$40,000 Taxable Value  
**\$120**

\$75,000 Taxable Value  
**\$225**

\$150,000 Taxable Value  
**\$450**



81.7% of parcels in the Village have a TV of \$75,000 or less





**The way to get  
started is to quit talking and  
begin doing.**

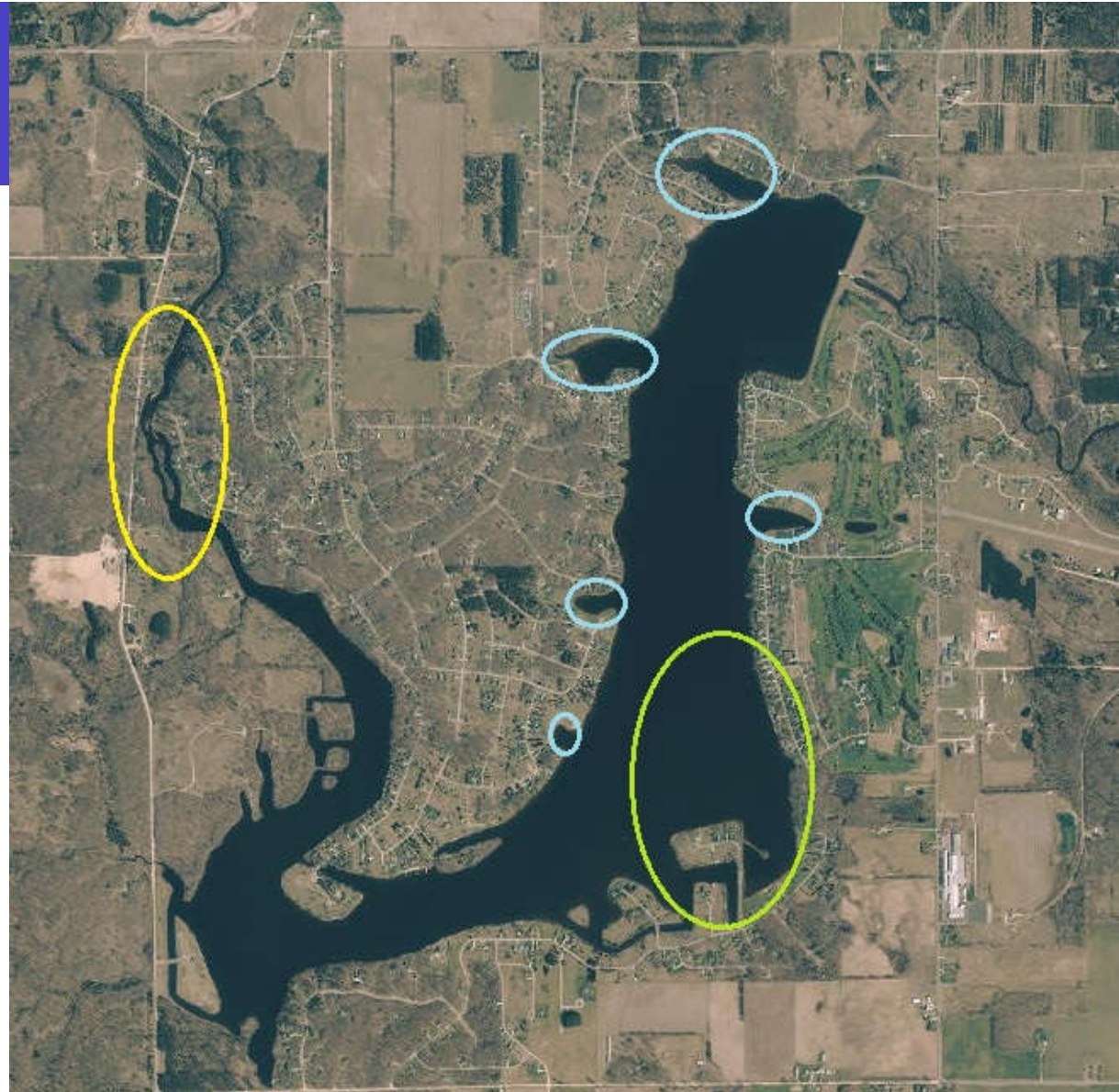
**Walt Disney**

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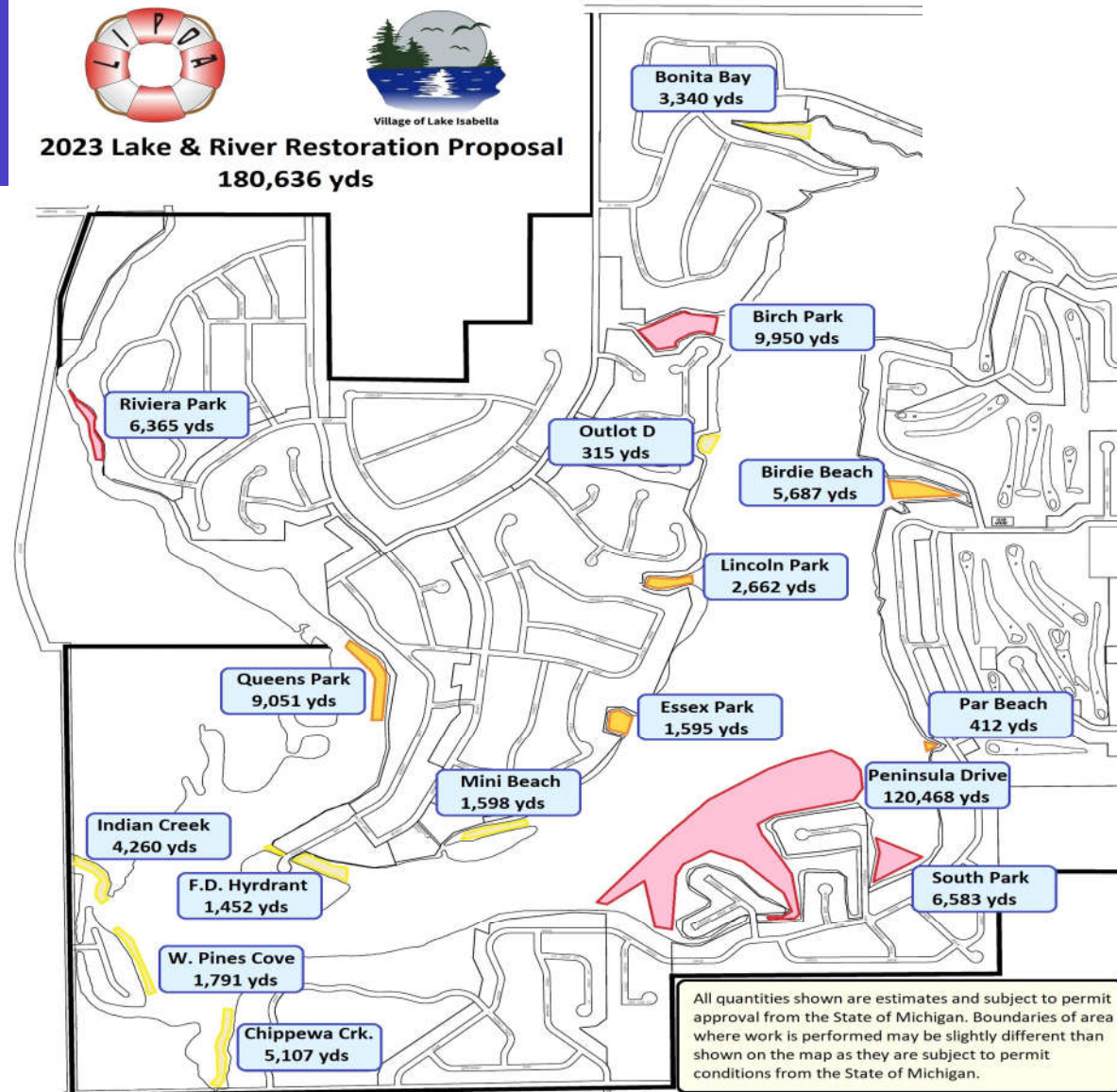
## The Plan Then...

Selected Bays, The River, and the Southeast Corner of the lake.



# The Plan Now...

Targeted areas for this proposal, highest need in the River/Riviera Park, Birch Park, and the Southeast Corner of the lake.





# Target Area: The River





# Target Area: Southeast Corner



# Target Area: Boat Launches





# Target Area: The Bays



11/22/2021 11:20

# Target Area: Inflows





# The Plan Now...

Targeted areas for this proposal, highest need in the River/Riviera Park, Birch Park, and the Southeast Corner of the lake.

