

Name and SST309 Section	Rachel Monzo: SST 309-01
Title of Article and APA Citation	<p>Americans for Prosperity donating to Grand Rapids streets tax opposition</p> <p>Vande Bunte, M. (2014, March 24). Americans for prosperity donating to grand rapids streets tax opposition. Mlive. Retrieved March 24, 2014, from http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/03/americans_for_prosperity_donat.html#incart_river_default</p>
Complete summary of Article: (5Ws and H) (Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?)	<p>Americans for Prosperity donated around 2,000 dollars to the Grand Rapids Taxpayers Association. GRTA is opposing the street-tax proposal that will take more money from tax payers to fix the roads when current roads were not efficiently fixed in the last with tax increases. On Monday, March 24, 2014, GRTA asked for their side to be reconsidered after a Michigan court denied the appeal earlier in the week. So far, hundreds of dollars have been both donated by Americans for Prosperity and spent by GRTA to get the tax proposal to not appear on the ballot for May 6 in the first place because they will just campaign against it. GRTA does not want this proposal on the ballot because it will ask for more tax payer money and "Michigan residents have been paying for first-class roads for 20 years and politicians haven't delivered". Asking for more money is taking advantage if michigan residents because they spend enough money to get no results so spending more is not right. Mayor Hartwell, however believes that this is the single most important issue of the public right now and should definitely be on the ballot.</p>
Core Democratic Value(s)	1. Checks and Balances
	2. Truth
Rationale for each of the CDVs (Why does the CDV you chose fit this issue?)	1. Some GR residents are checking what their local government can do. Along with their attack of personal opinions on the increase of tax for streets, GRTA expressed (and sued GR for) the city missed a deadline for letting the county clerk about the proposal and they are trying I use that, too, as a way to show that it shouldn't be on the ballot. By using and bringing the issue to court, citizens are challenging the powers of their government.
	2. Truth means that the government and the people should not lie. With the government officials not being completely honest with the people, people can lose trust in the structure of the government as well as the officials that have been elected to represent them.
Branch of Government indicated in this issue AND how do you know?	<p>Judicial - michigan courts were involved in the suing of GR as well as with denying the appeal for the proposal being on the May 6th ballot and the possible reconsideration following that repeal.</p> <p>Legislative - the Legislative branch of the government was in charge of creating the ballot proposal in the first place. The Legislative branch makes laws and is part of the process for making proposals become laws.</p>
Level of Government with jurisdiction – AND how do you know?	This article deals with issues of the local government. The city of Grand Rapids is within West michigan which is inside of Michigan. Michigan's Court of Appeals was involved, which is at the state level, but the city if Grand Rapids is still the only city involved in this issue so it remains, for the majority, at the local level.
2-3 Focus questions – how would you lead a substantive discussion on this article as it relates to the Core Democratic Values?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How have officials not been honest with their use of taxpayers money? 2. Which branch of government is the problem in this case and why? 3. What are residents doing to check their local government?