Shaping the Future

OF OAK PARK PARKS



PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK

THE IMPACT OF THE 2005 REFERENDUM

In 2005, the voters of Oak Park passed a referendum authorizing the Park District to collect 25 cents for every $100 of equalized assessed valuation of property for the Corporate Fund beginning in the fall of 2006.
The Park District's pre-referendum tax rate was 0.197. The projected tax rate increase at the time of the referendum was 0.447. The actual tax rate with the referendum is 0.397. On a home valued at $100,000, with an equalized assessed valuation of $20,908, the Park District projected that the annual yearly impact of the referendum would be $52.27. The actual referendum impact is $51.52.
The estimated portion of the property tax bill projected by the District at the time of the referendum was 4.31%. The actual Park District portion with the referendum is 4.35%.
Making these accurate projections was important to the Park District to openly and honestly communicate to our residents the impact of the referendum. The Park District had not asked for a referendum for over 35 years.

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This additional tax money is being used to improve parks by implementing a five-year Capital Improvement Plan and to replace an annual $1.6 million transfer from the Village of Oak Park. The Capital Plan was developed to address many years of deferred maintenance. Capital improvements are already being made with the renovation of the parking lot and side drive at Ridgeland Common, updating the playground at Andersen Park, new roofs, doors and hardware at many facilities, and the development of master site plans for Andersen, Carroll and Field Parks along with community- wide Dogs in the Park Plan.

The Park District recently submitted a $400,000 matching grant to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the renovation of Field Park. In September, a second phase of the lead abatement project will take place in the Cactus Room of the Oak Park Conservatory.

Coming before the end of the year are district-wide technology improvements allowing for real time online recreation program registration. Planning efforts for the fall include Master Plans for Fox and Longfellow Parks. Currently, a major architectural planning effort is taking place at 218 Madison to study ways to improve the Gymnastics Center, Buildings and Grounds Operation Area and the Hedges Administrative Center.

In 2007, Master Plans are slated for Ridgeland Common, Maple and Taylor Parks. Substantial improvements are being planned to take place at Austin Gardens, Carroll Park, Cheney Mansion, Field Park, Longfellow Park and Stevenson Park as well as facility improvements to the Recreation Centers.

Park District of Oak Park
Tax Referendum Actual Impact Information

Actual Home Value	Projected Referendum Impact	Actual Referendum Impact	Total Increase in Park District Tax
$ 100,000	$ 52.27	$ 51.52	$ 52.48
$ 400,000	$ 209.08	$ 206.08	$ 209.92

Note: The difference between Total increase and Actual Referendum Impact is the annual growth allowed by the Tax Cap legislation.

The Park District portion of the tax bill was projected to be 4.31% the actual portion is 4.35%.

In Partnership with the Community, we provide quality parks and recreation experiences for the residents of Oak Park.

Park District of Oak Park
Tax Referendum Actual Impact Information

Unit of Government	2004 Total Levy	2005 Total Levy	Levy Growth	% of Total '05 Tax Bill (Current)
School District 97	*$42,928,689*	*$44,368,628*	*3.35%*	*32.79%*
High School District 200	*$34,877,400*	*$41,124,311*	*17.91%*	*30.39%*
Village of Oak Park	*$14,835,565*	*$15,791,972*	*6.45%*	*11.67%*
Cook County	*$6,830,349*	*$7,895,997*	*15.60%*	*5.84%*
Oak Park Library Fund	*$7,083,752*	*$7,451,559*	*5.19%*	*5.51%*
Water Reclamation District	*$3,996,849*	*$4,666,483*	*16.75%*	*3.45%*
Triton College District 504	*$2,983,239*	*$3,451,716*	*15.70%*	*2.55%*
Oak Park Township	*$3,179,050*	*$3,348,017*	*5.32%*	*2.47%*
Oak Park Park District	*$2,315,177*	*$5,881,251*	*154.03%*	*4.35%*
Miscellaneous Agencies	*$840,836*	*$1,333,281*	*58.57%*	*0.99%*
Totals	**$119,870,906**	**$135,313,216**	**12.88%**	**100.00%**

Note: The increase in the Park District Levy is due to the referendum and future levy growth will be limited to the lesser of prior year CPI or 5%

