



**REFERENDUM FOR THE FUTURE MAINTENANCE  
OF STREETS AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Village of Burr Ridge has always been proud of the way it maintains its streets, sidewalks and stormwater system. As we celebrate our 60th Anniversary, it is clear that we need to plan for the future maintenance of our infrastructure. Over the past few years, it has become increasingly difficult to find revenues to fund necessary street, sidewalk and stormwater related improvements. One-time developer revenues used for this purpose in the past have been expended, and developer donations for sidewalks and annexation fees for Capital Projects can no longer be relied upon as ongoing sources of revenue. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, the General Fund will no longer be able to support funding for further infrastructure improvements.

After considerable review, the Mayor and Village Board have determined that a new source of revenue is needed. One approach to solving this problem without increasing what Burr Ridge taxpayers currently pay is to “transfer” the amount of property taxes previously used to pay off the principal and interest on the G.O. Bond issue that brought Lake Michigan water to Burr Ridge from Bedford Park, (\$520,000), which expires at the end of the year 2016, to the Corporate Levy and earmark these existing tax dollars for streets and other infrastructure for years to come. This action would result in **no increase** in the actual property tax paid by Burr Ridge residents, but it will require a Referendum to increase the Village’s “limiting rate” (see ballot question below). Again, the only difference is that there will be \$520,000 more in the Corporate Levy and \$520,000 less for the Bond and Interest Levy, which will no longer exist on residents’ tax bills after this year.

<p align="center"><b>PROPOSITION TO INCREASE THE LIMITING RATE (INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: MARK A CROSS (X) IN THE SPACE OPPOSITE THE WORK INDICATING THE WAY YOU DESIRE TO VOTE.)</b></p>		
<p>Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limiting Law for the Village of Burr Ridge, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.0499% above the limiting rate for the purpose of funding street and infrastructure improvements within the Village for levy year 2015 and be equal to 0.1612% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2016?</p>	YES	
	NO	

- 1) The approximately amount of taxes extendable at the most recently extended limiting rate is \$1,133,668 and the approximate amount of taxes extendable if the proposition is approved is \$1,641,934.
- 2) For the 2016 levy year the approximate amount of the additional tax extendable against property containing a single family residence and have a fair market value at the time of the referendum of \$100,000 is estimated to be \$16.63 for such property in DuPage County and \$12.81 for such property in Cook County
- 3) If the proposition is approved, the aggregate extension for 2016 will be determined by the limiting rate set forth in the proposition, rather than the otherwise applicable limiting rate calculated under the provisions of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (commonly known as the Property Tax Cap Law).

## REFERENDUM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. How has the Village paid for the maintenance of streets and other infrastructure in the past?

Unlike many other municipalities, Burr Ridge has prided itself in developing a systematic approach to street maintenance on a pay-as-you-go basis, without "assessing" residents for the cost. Over the past several years, the cost of the Village's Annual Road Program has been \$650,000 to \$750,000 each year. The Village's only ongoing source of revenue for streets and other infrastructure has been the approximately \$250,000 per year it receives in State Motor Fuel Tax proceeds. In order to make up the differences, the Village has used one-time revenue sources such as annexation fees, developer donations and impact fees, as well as surpluses in the General Operating Fund to pay for the maintenance of streets, the construction of new sidewalks, etc. These funds are no longer available.

### 2. If the referendum does not increase the amount that Burr Ridge property owners pay in property taxes, why does the referendum question include the language "increasing" the limiting rate?

For the past 20 years, Burr Ridge property owners have been paying for the principal and interest on the bond issue that brought Lake Michigan water to Burr Ridge. This bond issue will be paid off at the end of 2016. What is being proposed is to simply "transfer" the same amount that Burr Ridge taxpayers have been paying annually for this bond issue (\$520,000) and use it for the maintenance of streets and other infrastructure needs. However, in order to accomplish this, the \$520,000 previously collected through the bond in interest levy will need to be added to the Corporate Levy. This requires an "increase" in the Corporate Levy, which in turn requires an "increase" in the limiting rate. Again, there will be no increase in the total amount that Burr Ridge taxpayers have been paying on their property tax bill, only an increase in the Corporate Levy as the bond and interest levy is retired.

### 3. If the referendum fails, how much will property owners save in property taxes as a result of the termination of the tax levy for principal and interest for the water main project that brought Lake Michigan water to Burr Ridge from Bedford Park?

The principal and interest on the bond issue that brought Lake Michigan water to Burr Ridge expires at the end of 2016. If the referendum fails, beginning in 2017, Burr Ridge property owners would realize a reduction in property tax equal to \$16.63 for every \$100,000 of EAV for a property located in the DuPage County portion of the Village and \$12.81 for every \$100,000 of EAV for properties in the Cook County portion of the Village. For example, if you own a home in the DuPage County portion of the Village with an EAV of \$600,000, you would receive a reduction in your property taxes in the amount of \$99.78 ( $\$16.63 \times 6 = \$99.78$ ).

### 4. If the referendum fails, how will the Village pay for the future maintenance of streets and other infrastructure needs?

The amount that the Village will be able to spend in street and other infrastructure maintenance will be reduced and projects will be deferred. Instead of repaving streets approximately every 15 years, it may be 20-25 years or more before some streets are repaved. At the point in which the condition of the streets and other infrastructure becomes intolerable, the Village of Burr Ridge, like other communities in similar situations, will ultimately be forced to special assess residents for the cost of these improvements.

### 5. How much do Burr Ridge property owners pay in property taxes to the Village of Burr Ridge?

Less than 3% of a Burr Ridge property owner's tax bill goes to the Village of Burr Ridge.

