

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE DOWNERS GROVE PARK DISTRICT DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

- I. A Public Hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for the Downers Grove Park District for 2021 will be held in person on November 18, 2021 at 7 p.m. at Downers Grove Park District Recreation Center at 4500 Belmont Road, Downers Grove, Illinois, 60515.

Any person desiring to appear at the Public Hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Adine Wrzesinski, Executive Assistant, at Downers Grove Park District Administrative Center, 2455 Warrenville Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515, (630) 960-7253.

- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2020 were \$8,159,409.26.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2021 are \$8,559,481.00. This represents a 4.90% increase over the previous year.

- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2020 were \$362,103.96.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2021 are \$359,683.00.

- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2020 were \$8,521,513.22.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2021 are \$8,919,164.00. This represents an increase of 4.67% over the previous year.

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Note: This notice must be no less than 1/8 page in size, and the smallest type used shall be 12 point and must be enclosed in a black border no less than 1/4 inch wide. These notices cannot be published in the section of the paper reserved for legal notices. It has to be published in the general news portion of the paper.



October 21, 2021

The importance of Parks and Recreation was on full display during the past 18 months. With the virus impacting so many parts of everyday life, people sought an outlet for normalcy. Some of this normalcy could be provided by the Park District. Throughout the pandemic, there has been considerable demand for paths, parks, playgrounds, nature and many of the areas that the Downers Grove Park District create and maintain for our community. Staff and the Board of Commissioners have followed Governor mandates, while continuing to offer recreational opportunities to the public.

It has been a long-standing goal to maintain diverse revenues and a strong fund balance to ensure that no matter what came our way, the Downers Grove Park District could continue to uphold our Mission. Historically, approximately 60% of our operating revenue is from taxes and 40% from non-tax revenues, like facility fees and programming. These Property Tax dollars are a main funding source for our parks, infrastructure and basic operations. These dollars provided the ability to maintain core services, many of which don't earn revenues, while retaining our talented full-time team. As a result, we were able to maintain the parks, make adjustments to allow programming opportunities and continue to make a difference in the community.

The District is approving a tax increase in 2021 (collected in 2022). In order to assist us with delineating information to the public, the Downers Grove Park District put together the following Q&A for tax payers to better understand the Tax Levy.

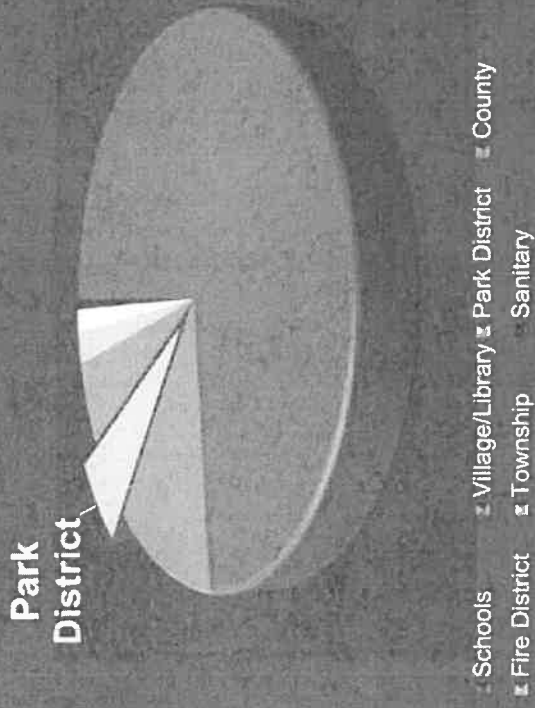
- How are Taxes annually calculated? The District determines the amount of taxes to levy within State Statutes, while at the same time the township calculates a valuation of all properties. Based on this information, a tax rate is calculated by the County, which is multiplied by the township's valuation to determine the final taxes for a property owner.
- How does the District determine the amount of taxes to levy? By State Statute, Park Districts are limited to increases from the Consumer Price Index (CPI), New Construction or for Special Recreation. CPI is a measure of the cost of a basket of goods compared to the prior year, somewhat similar to inflation. This allows the District to keep up with growing costs. New Construction provides the ability to levy and collect tax dollars for new property, which the District will serve, as residents and businesses are added.
- Does the District annually levy for the full CPI and New Construction increase? Annually, this decision is scrutinized by balancing the need for additional funding, with a respect for the impact that taxes have on the public. This has led to years in which the Board decided to maintain or minimally increase taxes. Over the past 10 years, the District has averaged a 2.4% increase, which is lower than what would have been allowed from full CPI and New Construction growth.
- How much will the District Levy for Taxes? The District will capture New Construction (including expiring TIF) and CPI. Staff is estimating New Construction growth of 3.92% due to an expiring TIF in the downtown. The CPI is based on the prior year's value from the federal government of 1.4%. The overall levy is expected to grow \$397,650.78 to a total of \$8,919,164.00.
- How will this affect individual businesses and homeowners? On average Park District taxes to property owners will increase 1.4%, holding home values constant. However, those within the TIF District will see a larger change to taxes paid to the Park District, as TIF dollars will shift from the Village to the District (and other local governments). This will be seen as an increase to District taxes, but is a reallocation of dollars from the Village for taxes that would have been the Park District's if not for the TIF District.
- What is a TIF? Tax Increment Financing or TIF, is a financial tool used to assist a municipality in the redevelopment of a specific area. This designation lasts for 23 years. Essentially, it freezes the property taxes that local governments receive within the area, allowing any new growth/construction to be reinvested within the existing area for such things as development incentives and infrastructure improvements (i.e. the parking decks in Downtown Downers Grove).
- How much would this actually cost someone? A \$400,000 home would pay about \$6 more to the Park District (without considering the shift in taxes from the TIF). This will grow proportionally in impact on larger properties.
- How will this money be utilized by the Park District? With the additional \$400,000 that this increase would provide to the Park District, we will be able to invest in further Maintenance, Repairs, Improvements and Replacements District-wide. After 75 years in the community, these dollars will help to preserve what we have created together and strengthen the District for future generations.

2021 Downers Grove Property Tax Levy (Collected in 2022)

The District will levy taxes based on the following:

- 1) Prior year property taxes of \$8,521,513
- +
- 2) New Construction added within DG during the past year
- +
- 3) New Construction from the Downtown TIF District that has ended (only impacts property owners within the Downtown TIF by shifting Tax dollars from the Village to other government units)
- +
- 4) Consumer Price Index (CPI) that will impact tax payers with a 1.4% adjustment to taxes similar to the District keeping up with inflation

Median Home Value: \$350,000
DGPD Taxes: \$357
Impact: \$5.20
DGPD Portion of Tax Bill: 5.7%



Tax Levy % Growth	New Funds for DGPD	Est. Impact on \$400,000 Home	Est. Impact on \$800,000 Home	Est. Impact on \$1,200,000 Home
4.67%	\$ 397,650.78	\$ 5.92	\$ 11.67	\$ 17.42