

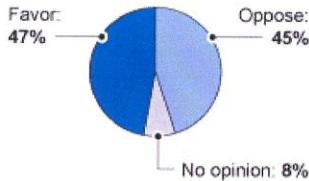
# Less than 50% of Chicagoans support the Chicago 2016 Olympic Bid!



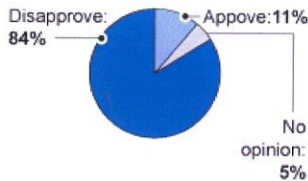
Support for the 2016 Olympic Games among city respondents has fallen from 61 percent in February to 47 percent.

POLL CONDUCTED AUG. 27-31

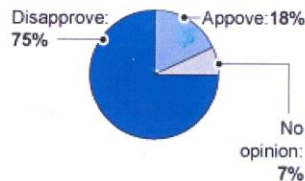
Q: Do you favor or oppose Chicago hosting the 2016 Olympic Games?



Q: Would you approve of using tax revenue to cover the loss ... or would you disapprove?



Q: Do you approve or disapprove of an unlimited financial guarantee for the Olympics in case of a revenue shortfall?



SOURCE: Market Shares Corp. telephone poll of 380 respondents in Chicago. Margin of error is +/- 5 percentage points.

TRIBUNE

We mailed a version of this card to IOC members and brought them to the IOC in Copenhagen and distributed hundreds there, as well.

## Chicago 2016 Olympic Bid: Too Much Risk!

### No Financing for the Village.

Financing for the Olympic Village may be hard to find because of the credit freeze, which raises questions about whether private developers alone can handle the project. One estimate is that lenders won't finance more than 60% to 70% of the project.

May 13, 2009 Crain's Chicago Business

### Chicago has a \$500 Million budget gap.

Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Transit Authority Chicago's roads and mass transit system are crumbling and it schools are being closed. The city deficit is staggering from one budget crisis to the next.

### History of Construction Boondoggles.

In Chicago, civic construction delays and cost overruns are customary and legendary.

### Public Support for Mayor at all-time low.

For the first time since he became mayor two decades ago, Daley's critics outnumber his fans... The mayor's approval rating is at an all-time low of 35 percent in Tribune polls, according to the new survey.

September 13, 2009. Chicago Tribune



September 2009

Dear IOC Member,

In a matter of hours you will vote on the city to host the 2016 Olympic Games—a vote with great implications not only for the city and country selected but for the Olympic Movement as well. Selecting a city where the Games would not be welcomed by the citizenry could have truly deleterious effects upon the Olympic Movement, and create a pattern that could carry over into future games.

**Chicagoans do NOT want the games.** There is plummeting support for the 2016 games, and the City of Chicago is in dire financial straits. A recent Chicago Tribune survey showed that 84% of polled Chicagoans said they did NOT want the games if public monies would be used. And less than half of all Chicagoans—47%—do not want the games here under any circumstances. The mayor's own (and most recent) approval rating is as low as 34%. These numbers indicate that the political situation is very unstable for the mayor and his allies.

**The financial risk is exponentially greater here in Chicago, and the IOC would have to bail out Chicago.** We understand the IOC has had to step in to pay the deficits of the Vancouver Games. The City of Chicago is projecting a \$500 million deficit in 2010. The city is closing for business for three days this year to save money.

No Games Chicago, an all-volunteer, self-funded organization of citizens from all walks of life, has offered you a more accurate picture of the “conditions on the ground” here than that presented by the paid cadres of highly paid experts working to sell you the bid.

Right now the combination of the financial condition of the city—unable to run even basic city services such as transportation as they should be run—plus the expressed opposition of so many Chicagoans—is a recipe for disaster for the city and an embarrassment for the IOC.

Please see the enclosed information in support of our argument.

Thank you for your consideration,

No Games Chicago

**No Games Chicago - P.O. Box 6815 - Chicago, IL USA - 60680-6815**

**[www.nogameschicago.com](http://www.nogameschicago.com) – [nogameschicago@gmail.com](mailto:nogameschicago@gmail.com) - Phone: + 1 312-235-2873**

WHITE SOX AT CUBS

## Not much at stake in this City Series

SPORTS



DAVID HAUGH

## Who will make the Bears' 53-man roster?

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

# Chicago Tribune



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 | The Midwest's largest reporting team | 24 hours at [chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com)

75¢ CITY & SUBURBS, \$1.25 ELSEWHERE—163RD YEAR NO. 246 © CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### BUSINESS

## Pfizer's penalty a record

Pharmaceutical giant agrees to pay a landmark \$2.3 billion settlement to end a federal probe of illegal prescription-drug marketing, but experts say the deal is unlikely to halt questionable practices in the industry's quest for profits. [PAGE 25](#)

### TRIBUNE/WGN POLL

# Olympic support drops

**47%** down from **61%**

Support for Chicago hosting the Games has declined since poll taken in February

**84%**

Disapprove of using tax revenue to cover any loss



A month before winning city is named, fewer Chicagoans back the bid than six months ago

By **Todd Lighty** and **Kathy Bergen**  
TRIBUNE REPORTERS

**OPPOSING OPINIONS**



# Former Blagojevich adviser dead

Indicted ex-aide Christopher Kelly dies of apparent overdose. PAGE 7

Death reminds us that corruption takes a human toll. JOHN KASS, PAGE 2

# Chicago Tribune



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2009 | 24 hours at [chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com) | Sunny and warm; high 80, low 59.

\$1.99 CITY & SUBURBS; \$3.00 ELSEWHERE—163RD YEAR NO. 256 © CHICAGO TRIBUNE

FINAL

## As Olympics vote looms, Daley struggles

By Dan Mihalopoulos  
TRIBUNE REPORTER

Mayor Richard Daley often talks about how Chicagoans want a decisive, visionary leader who can get things done without "endless politics," and that promise of iron control has become key to the city's bid to host the 2016 Summer Olympics.

But with the pivotal Olympics decision three weeks away, Daley finds himself in one of the most troubled periods of his long reign. Daley's decision to lease the city parking meter system left motorists furious over skyrocketing rates and bulky machines. Then he fumbled in explaining his promise that taxpayers would cover potential losses from the Olympics.

For the first time since he became mayor two decades ago, Daley's critics outnumber his fans, a Tribune/WGN poll found. The mayor's approval rating is at an all-time low of 35 percent in Tribune polls, according to the new survey.

None of this is to suggest that Daley is losing his dominance of the City Council or his luster with the city's business elite. There is no serious challenger on the horizon if Daley, who regularly wins re-election by landslide, chooses to run for a seventh term in 2011. Even more than his legendary father, the 67-year-old Daley is the only game in town.

On Saturday, Daley said he was not surprised by the poll results.

Please turn to Page 4

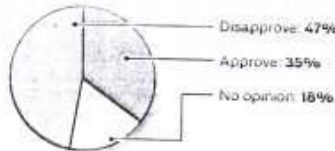
### TRIBUNE/WGN POLL

#### Daley's job approval

For the first time in Mayor Richard Daley's six terms in office, more voters disapprove of the job he is doing than approve.

#### CHICAGO POLL CONDUCTED AUG. 27-31

Q: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Richard Daley is doing as mayor of Chicago?



SOURCE: Market Shares Corp. based on 300 calls to registered voters in Illinois. Margin of error is +/- 3.5 percent.

TRIBUNE

### SPORTS

## GAME TIME!

The most pivotal year of Louie Smith's coaching career starts tonight at Lambeau Field.



**chicagotribune.com**

## Questionable Olympics plan

September 20, 2009

### Questionable Olympics plan

The League of Women Voters of Chicago opposes the selection of Chicago as the site of the 2016 Summer Olympics. We do so in reliance on the principle of our organization that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the people's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

Preparation of the Chicago bid to host the 2016 Olympics did not provide us with adequate notice of the proposal as it developed, and we had no opportunity to comment or question aspects of the proposal.

Many questions exist; the bid proposal, ostensibly a privately developed plan, relies on substantial public funding and facilities. With declining revenue to fund existing city and Park District cost what sources exist to fund construction of the Olympics facilities? Will TIF funds be used? And which TIF districts? On what basis does the Olympics planning committee believe that the federal government will provide the funds for transit repair and extension or the security costs?

Our organization believes that the parks should be used for public recreation only, consistent with enhancing their aesthetic quality. Buildings should be kept to a minimum. Funds should be distributed equitably for maintenance and development of parks throughout the city. Construction of the venue in the parks will eliminate open space for residents' use. This is space in which an individual can walk, children can play games and families can gather.

A separate concern is the lengthy withdrawal of park facilities from public use. Areas of Washburn Douglas and Jackson Parks will be closed to the public during construction and the post-Olympic facilities will eliminate residents' unstructured use of open space. Also, will park maintenance programs continue unaffected by the Olympics preparations? Or will these decline to provide funding for the construction? The preparation of the Chicago Olympics bid occupied years and the plan on public money from all levels of government. Yet only recently have public meetings been held throughout the city. The people can comment, but we cannot influence either the proposal or the decision to seek selection as the site of the 2016 Olympics. The Chicago bid to host the 2016 Olympics was undemocratic and unworthy of the great city in which we live.

-- *Esta Kallen, president,*

-- *Margaret Herring, board member,*

*League of Women Voters of Chicago*

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/chi-0920vpletersbriefs0sep20,0,3073735.pr...> 9/

www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-chicago-budget-31-jul31,0,1438505.story

**chicagotribune.com**

## Chicago official predicts even worse budget problems in 2010

**Chief Financial Officer Gene Saffold says higher property taxes are 'last resort'**

By Hal Dardick

Tribune reporter

July 31, 2009

Mayor Richard Daley's administration Thursday predicted a gaping hole in next year's budget that will eclipse the current financial problems -- even after the city exhausts its brand-new \$320 million rainy day fund.

The anticipated \$6.2 billion budget for next year could be more than half a billion dollars in the red because of plummeting tax collections and rising wages that account for more than 80 percent of the city's day-to-day spending, said Chief Financial Officer Gene Saffold. He announced the gloomy prediction as Daley aides began briefing aldermen in anticipation of public hearings next month.



Although higher taxes are "a last resort . . . nothing is ruled out at this point," Saffold said. "The mayor has instructed us not to look at property taxes as we move forward in 2010."

Daley has laid off city workers and pressured unions to take unpaid days off to save money this year, and aldermen and outside budget experts predicted that personnel cuts were likely next year. The biggest chunk of increased spending next year will come from \$117 million in higher wages, benefits and pension fund payments, Saffold said.

"You have to look at personnel and personnel reductions because they represent 80 to 85 percent of the operating costs," said Laurence Msall, executive director of the Civic Federation.

Significant new taxes are unlikely, Msall added. "There is little that comes to mind that the city isn't already taxing or would be a new revenue source," he said.

Daley has been credited with bolstering city finances by innovative leases of public assets such as the Chicago Skyway. But after taking a public drubbing for the problem-plagued lease of city parking meters, the mayor will count heavily on one-time revenue from that deal -- including all of the rainy day fund -- to offset next year's bad news.

From Chicago Tribune Originally posted: February 15, 2009

## State of corruption: A history of insatiable greed

*From Sunday's print edition:*

By Bob Sexter

Tribune reporter

OK, Illinois, let's be honest about our dishonesty.

We've put an impressive collection of cheats and boodlers into public office over the decades, and the public outcry has never led to more than a token crackdown by government.

So why should the curious case of Rod Blagojevich now make things different? One reason, perhaps, is that the December arrest of Illinois' now-ousted governor has reduced Illinois politics to a late-night TV punch line. ("Scumdog Million-Hairs" is Jon Stewart's nickname for the amply maned Blagojevich.)

There's an even more compelling reason, and it's one to contemplate as you write that enormous property tax check this month or when you file your state income tax return in April: Pernicious corruption costs you every day in bloated government and inefficient services.

No-bid contracts get inflated to cover the costs of the campaign cash needed to grease them. Public jobs too often go to the connected and lazy instead of the best, brightest and most eager.

We all pay.

That's hardly a revelation. But all of a sudden, in the wake of Blagojevich's downfall, the new buzzword in Springfield has become accountability. Even veteran pols who have yawned past earlier high-profile scandals are scrambling to one-up each other with reform gestures.

Pat Quinn, the self-styled crusader who succeeded Blagojevich as governor, formed a corruption commission. Legislative leaders countered with their own in-house panel of experts. Separately, Atty. Gen Lisa Madigan, a likely Quinn rival for governor in 2010, is positioning herself as the champion of open government.

But if it seems like you've heard it all before, it's because you have. As the Tribune begins a campaign against the Illinois culture of political sleaze, it's worth noting that the history of that culture is long and sullied, and that past efforts to reform it have been half-hearted. Think of all the blue-ribbon ethics panels, their reports typically gathering dust in a file drawer right next to all those expert studies on how to reform school funding.

Reform chatter often spikes when the feds swoop down on City Hall or the Statehouse—a stunningly frequent happening. Mostly, such talk is just that.

Tsunamis of cash still flood political coffers in one of the most wide open and loosely regulated campaign-finance systems in the country. Insiders still score the big