

# The Olympia Fields Villager



Special Referendum Edition • Winter, 2007

News

## YOUR VOTE COUNTS ON APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE REFERENDUM



Dear Neighbor;

On April 17th, registered voters will vote on a referendum that will have significant implications

for the future of our Village and its ability to maintain the delivery of services expected by our residents. In addition, the referendum will impact the Village's ability to repair our aging sanitary system, improve neighborhood flood protection and enhance public safety.

*“For the average household with a home that has a market value of \$300,000, this increase will amount to approximately \$327 annually”*

Please take a moment to read this special edition of the The Olympia Fields Villager. Throughout this edition, you will find valuable information on the Village's upcoming referendum, which could play a significant role in protecting your home investment and our community's quality of life.

Over the last year, the Village Board, with the assistance of the Village's Administrative team, studied the

increasing disparity between the Village's revenues and the costs it must incur to support our current level of municipal services. We evaluated the revenues

necessary to finance repairs to our sewer system; analyzed additional protection for your home from floodwaters; and projected the resources needed to maintain our quality of police, fire and emergency medical services. With the departure of Sutton Ford and Harold Motors—Chrysler, Jeep and Mazda, our

sales tax revenue has been cut by over forty percent, representing approximately ten percent of our total municipal budget, a loss of over \$600,000 in revenue. While my office, in concert with our Board of Trustees, have taken significant measures to reduce expenditures, enhance our economic base and provide new creative ways of revenue enhancement; the cost of maintaining critical services is out-pacing our availability of revenues.

Compounding the widening gap between revenues and expenditures, the

*“My Office, this Administration and this Board of Trustees are committed to continuing a strong tradition of providing high quality services in a financially responsible manner.”*

Easter 2006 rain event identified the need to initiate, in partnership with area Homeowner Associations, major neighborhood drainage improvements to increase our protection from future storm events. With sixty percent of our sanitary system older than forty years, major rehabilitation of our sanitary system must be implemented over the next five years. Finally, if we wish to maintain our status as one of Chicagoland's premier communities, we need to be vigilant about our level of police protection. The fact remains that despite our growth in the last two decades, the number of patrol officers has remained the same.

Following a year of study, analysis and deliberating over a series of alternatives, the Village Board voted unanimously to place a referendum question on the ballot as part of the spring election scheduled for Tuesday, April 17th. The referendum will ask our citizens if they will support an additional 68 cents to the

## REASONS FOR THE REFERENDUM

**1. MAINTAIN OUR CURRENT SERVICE DELIVERY** – Eliminate projected operating deficits to maintain the current level of staffing for our Police and Public Works departments.

**2. DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND FLOOD PROTECTION** – Finance major capital improvement projects in key neighborhood areas to improve storm water drainage and increase flood protection to area homes.

**3. SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION** – Repair our aging, deteriorating sewer system to reduce sanitary sewer backups into residential homes and businesses following major rainfall events.

**4. ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE** – Provide necessary annual funding for Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Beautification, advancing the mission of our Educational Commission and increasing the level of public safety for our residents.

# COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

About the April 17, 2007 Referendum

Important Information You Need to Know

Village's tax rate. This tax rate increase will generate approximately \$1.2 million dollars annually in new revenues. Approximately 50% will be directed to the General Fund to prevent a reduction in services or necessary layoffs from our Police department. The remaining 50% will finance a series of sewer and drainage improvement projects that will directly benefit many of our neighborhoods. For the average household with a home that has a market value of \$300,000, this increase will amount to approximately \$327 annually, less than the price of a cup coffee per day.

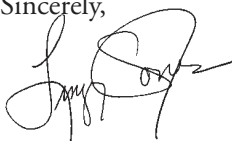
My Office, this Administration and this Board of Trustees are committed to continuing a strong tradition of providing high quality services in a financially responsible manner. Despite this change in our "Limiting Rate", our Village will still enjoy one of the lowest tax rates within the Chicagoland region! Lower than Flossmoor, Homewood, Matteson and other communities in the Chicago Southland.

Over the next few weeks I will be visiting Homeowner Associations along with our Village Administrator, our Chief of Police, members from our Board of Trustees and dedicated citizens from our Finance Committee to outline our "Comprehensive Financial Management Strategy for Long Term Sustainability and Maintenance of our Quality of Life". Please review the schedule of neighborhood meetings enclosed within this newsletter. These meetings will provide opportunity to learn about this important program, to field your questions and to gain insight on how you can play a significant role in maintaining our Village.

It is my hope that you will take a few moments to review this information about a very important initiative that will impact the quality of our lives and our future. This is our home. This is our community. Let's work collaboratively to ensure we are doing what is right and necessary to maintain the quality of life we have worked so hard to maintain. Most importantly, exercise your right to VOTE!

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,



Linzey D. Jones  
Village President

HERE IS A LIST OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, WHICH WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION BEFORE THE VOTERS ON APRIL 17, 2007.

## 1. HOW MUCH WILL THIS LEVY ADD TO MY TAX BILL?

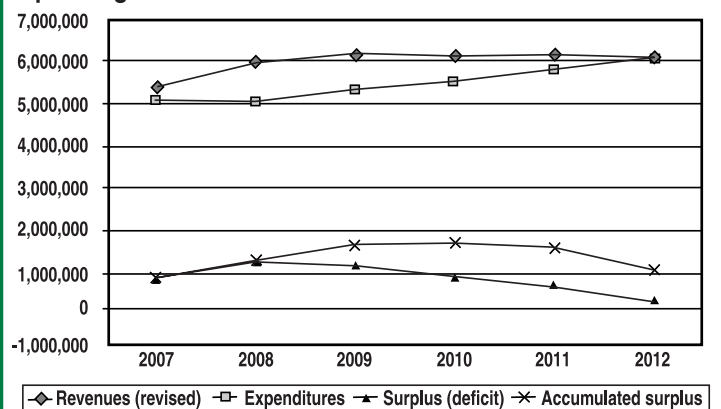
The referendum will not equate to a 68.3% increase to your overall bill. The Village's share of your tax bill only represents 4% of the total. If you have a home with a fair market value of \$300,000, the 68.3-cent increase will add \$327 to your annual tax bill, or \$27.25 per month for the 2007 tax year. For those of you who itemize, this property tax increase will be deductible on both your State and Federal returns.

HOME VALUE (Fair Market Value)	ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCREASE 2007 TAX YEAR
\$200,000.00	\$218.00
\$300,000.00	\$327.00
\$400,000.00	\$436.00

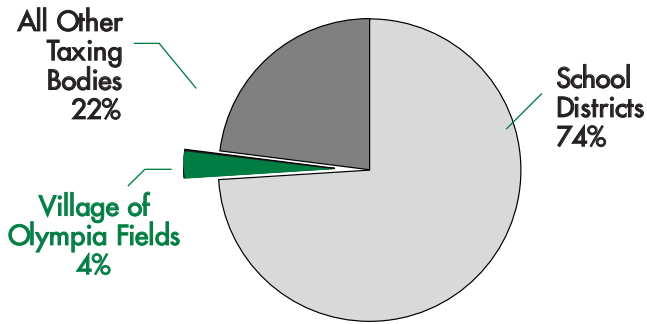
## 2. HOW MUCH MONEY IS THE VILLAGE ASKING FOR IN THIS REFERENDUM QUESTION?

The referendum requests an additional 68.3 cents (0.683% per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation-EAV) to the Village's tax rate, which will raise the Village's tax rate from 0.309% to 0.992% (Capped Funds). Non-Capped Funds (0.0368) refer to our Police Pension, I.M.R.F. and Social Security Expenses. The Village is allowed a rate necessary to adequately finance these expenses. This tax rate increase will generate about \$1.2 million in new tax revenues annually. Our current tax rate for capped and non-capped funds is 0.346. With the 68.3 cent increase our new rate will be 1.029.

Operating results after a 68 Cent Tax Rate Increase



## Share of Olympia Fields Typical Tax Bill



### 3. HOW MUCH OF MY TAX BILL PAYS FOR VILLAGE SERVICES?

Only 4% of your annual property taxes go to the Village. For the average homeowner, with a total tax bill of \$5,000, this amounts to less than \$300 annually. From this 4%, the Village has to provide many services, including police, fire and emergency medical services, street maintenance and snowplowing, building permitting and code enforcement, planning and economic development, financial management and general government administration. Property taxes only fund 10% of the Village's General Fund operations. The Village is dependent upon other taxes, licenses, user fees, fines, state shared revenues and grants for the remaining funding. The largest portion of the total tax bill goes primarily to schools, Cook County taxing units, Rich or Bloom Township and Cook County.

### 4. HOW DOES OUR CURRENT TAX RATE COMPARE TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES? HOW WILL IT COMPARE AFTER THE PROPOSED INCREASE OF 68 CENTS?

The Village enjoys one of the lowest tax rates in the region. At approximately 35 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, our rate is \$1.00 to \$4.00 below surrounding communities. As a result of our increase in home values, our tax rate over the last decade has actually decreased (In

#### Neighboring Communities Tax Rates per \$100 of Assessed Valuation 2005

Park Forest	4.898
Country Club Hills	3.454
Sauk Village	2.132
Hazel Crest	1.943
Flossmoor	1.397
Matteson	1.346
Homewood	1.279
Richton Park	1.214
Olympia Fields	0.346

1997 – 41 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation). With resident support of the proposed referendum, even with the rate raised to 0.992, the Village will still enjoy one of the lowest tax rates as compared to its neighboring communities.

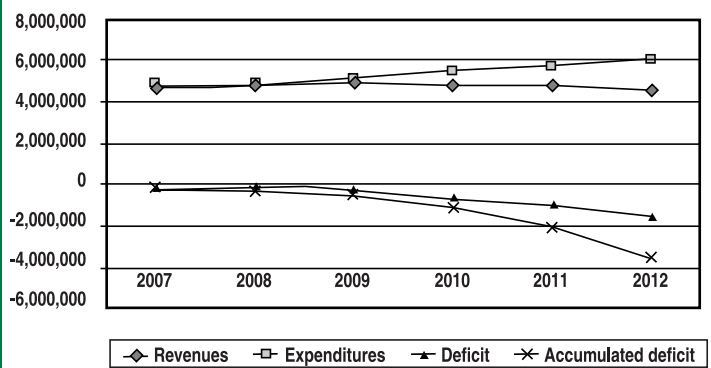
### 5. WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THE VILLAGE ASKED OUR RESIDENTS FOR A TAX INCREASE?

Never... The Village has never asked residents to support an increase in its tax rate. In 2002, the Voters were asked if they would support a referendum to finance local road maintenance. The \$2 million Bond Issue was expected to reconstruct 45% of our local roads. Through good management, the Village repaved 75% of our roadways.

### 6. THE VILLAGE HAS BEEN WELL MANAGED AND FINANCIALLY SECURE FOR MANY YEARS. WHY DO WE NEED A TAX INCREASE?

The Village has been a great steward of your tax dollars. The Village has held down the cost of government and has maintained or cut expenditures within our annual budget. Over the years, the Village has maintained a cash surplus, paying for major capital improvements on a pay-as-you-go basis. As property taxes only finance 10% of general operations, the Village had historically received revenues from

**Projected Operating Results FY2007 through FY2012 – No Tax Rate Change**



the car dealerships on Lincoln Highway. Their departures have created a \$600,000 budgetary gap. While the Board has been able to close the gap with judicious cuts to all departments, large deficits are projected in future years. The Village can help reduce the projected deficits in the short range through proceeds from building permits associated with new growth. Following build-out, the deficit will grow

exponentially resulting in a projected deficit of \$1.5 million in 2012 and a cumulative deficit of \$3.5 million. Simply put, the Village will not be able to deliver the current level of services without the assistance from our residents. Although the Village Board and staff managed the Village's finances carefully, the tax cap formula imposed by State Law has had a negative impact on the Village's ability to levy monies needed to match rising expenses.

### 7. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE REFERENDUM DOES NOT PASS?

Should the referendum fail, the Village will be forced to reduce the current level of services, now delivered to its residents, including, but not limited to, significant layoffs in its Public Works and Police departments.

On the short term, the Village can utilize projected building permit revenues to close a portion of the projected shortfall. Over the next few years, \$200,000 to \$400,000 will have to be taken from our reserves in order to maintain current staffing levels. This strategy would be risky and would leave the Village unable to address unplanned costs or emergency situations. As 70-90% of our budget supports essential personnel, the only significant budget cutting measure, would involve reduction in Police and Public Works personnel.

Following residential build-out, starting in 2009, the deficit would grow exponentially, reaching \$1.5 million annually and accumulating a \$3.5 million cumulative deficit. To address these shortfalls, personnel would have to be cut by 25 - 30%. This represents a potential reduction of 12-15 employees from a workforce of just over 42 employees. Obviously, service as we know them would be curtailed significantly. The potential reduction in patrol officers would open our community to a potentially higher level of crime. The Village's quality of life would be significantly reduced, impacting all sectors of our local economy, including the appreciation of our single largest asset, our home value.

### 8. WILL THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTEND TO USE SOME OF THE REVENUES RAISED BY THE REFERENDUM TO SUBSIDIZE THE COST OF NECESSARY SANITARY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS?

Our sewer sanitary system is aging. Over 60% of our sewer lines are 40 years old. These lines are cracking, allowing

groundwater to flood the system. This ground water infiltration overwhelms the systems ability to handle sewer water. During storm conditions, sewer water can actually "backup" into our homes. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has actually issued a Violation Notice for a portion of the system along Country Club Drive. The reconstruction of this line alone will exceed \$400,000. An engineering study indicates that the cost of repair of our overall system will exceed \$7 million. To manage this critical project, the Board of Trustees intends to utilize sewer rates combined with revenues from the proposed 68-cent increase to finance a 5-year capital improvement project. The end result will mean a major reduction in sewage backups, extending the life of the system for another 30 plus years, and compliance with State Environmental laws.

### 9. WILL THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EARMARK SOME OF THE REVENUES GENERATED FROM THE REFERENDUM TO BE UTILIZED FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND FLOOD PROTECTION?

Yes! The storm events from the spring of 2006 revealed the need to evaluate and construct drainage improvements and flood protection measures in many of our older neighborhoods. Residents from Suburban Woods, Olympia Fields East and Graymoor have been targeted for comprehensive drainage improvements. In Suburban Woods and Olympia Fields East, citizen committees have been established to work with both our Village Engineer and our Public Works Director to identify the problems, analyze our options and recommend solutions. Monies received from the referendum will be "earmarked" to pay for both the detailed engineering study and debt service associated with the Municipal Bonds, which would be let to finance the public portion of the proposed project. For Graymoor, funds are being sought from the Federal Government to offset the cost of remediating the storm water management system originally installed with the construction of this subdivision. Monies from the referendum will be encumbered to pay for the "local match" required to receive federal support.

### 10. WILL OTHER "QUALITY OF LIFE" PROJECTS BE SUPPORTED BY THE REFERENDUM?

Yes! The Village Board recognizes that our quality of life is not only impacted by the continuation of service; it is also effected by other factors such as the quality of our educational system,



the physical appearance of our community and the level of our police protection. A portion of the referendum has been reserved for funding the efforts of our newly created Educational Commission in their mission to move us to a path of “educational excellence”. We as a community, can no longer tolerate our schools to fall below national, state and regional benchmarks.

In addition, funding for code enforcement and beautification has been targeted to assist our Homeowner Associations in their neighborhood beautification efforts. To enhance public safety, monies will be reserved for improvements to our Police department.

**CAN RESIDENTS VOTE ABSENTEE OR EARLY AT VILLAGE HALL?**

Unfortunately, voters can no longer vote early or absentee at the Olympia Fields Village Hall. The Cook County Clerk’s office has made changes to the early voting and absentee voting process. There are numerous locations throughout Cook County. The closest location at which Olympia Fields residents can vote early or absentee is at the Matteson Village Hall, 4900 Village Commons, off Cicero Avenue, Matteson Illinois 60443.

**11. WHAT ACTIONS HAS THE VILLAGE ALREADY TAKEN TO KEEP EXPENSES IN LINE WITH REVENUES?**

As we approached the 2006-2007 Budget Cycle, we were notified that Harold Motors would be closing its Olympia Fields store. The loss of this single business caused a 25% reduction in our Sales Tax Revenues, representing more than a 5% reduction in revenues for our entire municipal budget. With the cost of health care, liability insurance, gasoline and inflation of goods and equipment, we projected an increase in expenditures of 6%, the majority of these new costs outside of local control. With the Harold Motors announcement, we were facing an 11% budgetary gap, representing a deficit close to \$600,000. This is significant when you consider our entire General Fund budget is \$5.5 million.

To meet this challenge our Administrative Team worked toward cutting expenditures, line item by line item. Federal, State and County dollars were utilized to supplement local tax dollars for public works projects. “Public/Private Partnerships”

were forged to match State awards with private development dollars to advance our economic development efforts without adding local costs. Our Police department implemented a “step-up” in truck weight enforcement, which provided protection to our local roadways and increased revenues. The addition of the Village of Park Forest, to our “Southcom Combined Dispatch Center” reduced our expenditures in delivering 911 services. Comprehensive increases in building and permit fees for new construction provided further relief. Our debt service associated with municipal bonds let for the maintenance of our local roadways was “re-financed”, taking advantage of lower interest rates and lowering our annual obligations.

The Village can utilize its General Fund savings (reserves), reduce capital projects and non-operating activities and delay or eliminate spending on certain long-term projects. Unfortunately, those actions are not enough to sustain operations into the future. In order to provide current services, more revenue is needed. If the referendum passes April 17th, the Village will not see the new revenues until two years from now. Until then, we will rely on short-term savings and projected revenue from building permits to provide services expected by our residents.

**12. HAS THE VILLAGE EXPLORED OTHER NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING BESIDES THE REFERENDUM?**

Non-Home Rule Communities, such as Olympia Fields, have very few options to raise revenues, outside of asking its’ residents to support a change in the Village’s tax rate. The Village President and the Board of Trustees undertook a “Comprehensive Financial Analysis” for over a year to examine all options to reduce our projected operating deficits and finance construction of its aging sewer and drainage systems. While we could have placed on the ballot a “Non-Home Rule Sale’s Tax Referendum”, this measure would only yield \$250,000 annually, which could only be spent on public works projects and not on maintaining our high quality personnel.

Some communities have used debt service to finance both operating, capital equipment, and capital improvement projects. With this type of instrument, new revenues can be “borrowed from our future proceeds”. While this measure may provide a temporary stopgap measure, it only compounds

the problem for the future. The use of debt is more expensive than the use of cash because of the cost of interest. The Village Board has discussed departing from its “save then spend” philosophy and utilizing more debt, but has determined that the “save and spend” philosophy or “pay-as-you-go” policy is critical to maintaining the Village’s good financial health.

The last alternative afforded the community, would be to go out on referendum for Home Rule. This alternative was brought to the Voters in the 2004 election, and was narrowly defeated by our residents. Opponents to Home Rule have reasoned that they would prefer the “Village Fathers” to bring the case for its financial situation on a case-by-case basis and limit the request for new financial resources. This process, as we are pursuing in the April election, affords the voters the full autonomy to “weigh the Village’s argument and vote for what is in the best interest of our community’s future”.

### **13. CAN THE VILLAGE ATTRACT MORE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO DIVERSIFY AND REDUCE THE DEPENDENCE ON PROPERTY TAXES?**

Economic development is an important component to our revenue base and quality of life. Olympia Fields has worked to attract development that is compatible with our community. Over the last two years the Village has secured grants from the State of Illinois to both stimulate and revitalize our commercial corridors. In all instances we have matched these funds with private dollars from developers to expand our economic development program without the use of local funds. In one measure, the Village has crafted a new mixed-use development for the Lincoln Highway-Olympian Way (Kedzie Ave.) corridor. At build-out, the site could produce an estimated \$180,000 annually in new sales tax revenue.

Olympia Square shopping center has gone through a comprehensive redevelopment strategy to improve its façade, and make the center more competitive in today’s retail market. A summer “Farmers Market” was introduced to stimulate new foot traffic to our existing retail patrons. A new “Specialty Market” is undergoing plan review for a 15,000 square foot high-end grocery store. With a second grant, a comprehensive analysis of our remaining centers will be conducted to make them more attractive for retail businesses.

In partnership with the City of Chicago Heights and Currie Motors, the Village has drafted a strategy to analyze, improve and market the Lincoln Highway/Western Avenue corridor. The strategy is designed to open the site for new retail businesses on the Harold Motors site and the former Dominick’s shopping center located on the eastern side of our Village boundary.

However, even with optimal economic redevelopment, we may, at best, double our sales tax revenues. This is still far below our need to maintain services.

### **14. WITH RESIDENTIAL NEW CONSTRUCTION REACHING 525 UNITS, WON’T THE VILLAGE RECEIVE NEW REVENUES FROM THIS NEWLY CREATED TAX BASE?**

The short answer is no! State Law limits increases in property taxes to the lesser of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 5%. The total taxes collected last year can only increase at a rate equal to one of these factors, regardless of the amount of growth. Over the last decade these rules have limited the growth of property taxes to approximately 2% annually. In other words, “more homes simply increase the number of individuals contributing to a fixed budget”. The more homes the less we all have to pay. The impact on our annual budget is minimal, unless changed through a referendum to increase our Tax Rate (Limiting Rate). This problem is then compounded, increasing municipal expenditures to service the new properties.

Over the next few years, the 500+ home sites will bring a 25% increase in population and a 30% increase in our local road network. New water and sewer lines and storm water management facilities will be added to our existing inventory. Police patrols will increase proportionately. Service delivery from all departments will be impacted significantly without the influx of new revenues.

### **15. WHERE AND WHEN DO RESIDENTS VOTE?**

The election will be held on April 17, 2007. If you are unsure about your polling place, please contact Village Hall at 708-503-8000.

# REFERENDUM QUESTION:

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Voters of Olympia Fields will be asked the following referendum question:

## REPRINT OF BALLOT QUESTION PROPOSITION TO INCREASE THE LIMITING RATE

**A** *Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for The Village of Olympia Fields, Cook County, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to .683% above the limiting rate for the levy year 2005 and be equal to .992% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for the levy year 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010?*

*The referendum requires that the following supplemental information be included:*

**B** *(1) The approximate amount of taxes extendable at the most recently extended limiting rate is \$547,760, and the approximate amount of taxes extendable if the proposition is approved, is \$1,761,932.87.*

**C** *(2) For the 2007 levy year, the approximate amount of the additional tax extendable against property containing a single-family residence and having a fair market value at the time of the referendum of \$100,000 is estimated to be \$109.28.*

**D** *(3) Based upon an average annual percentage increase in the market value of such property of 5.2321%, the approximate amount of additional tax extendable against such property for the 2007 tax year is estimated to be \$109.28, and for the 2008 tax year is estimated to be \$115.00, and for the 2009 tax year is estimated to be \$121.02, and for the 2010 tax year is estimated to be \$127.35.*

**E** *(4) If the proposition is approved, the aggregate extension for 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 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).*

## WHAT DOES THE BALLOT LANGUAGE REALLY MEAN?

The basic question asks Olympia Fields voters to increase their tax rate by an additional 0.683 cents above the 2005 rate, and hold that rate for tax years 2007-2010, thereafter, the rate would be subject to the Property Tax Cap law.

## SECTIONS 1-4 PROVIDES FURTHER EXPLANATION

1. The Village currently collects \$547,760 in property taxes. The referendum will generate \$1,214,173 more than the old rate.
2. Fair market value is defined as the assessed value of your property prior to applying the State Equalizer. The State requires that the Village calculate the impact on \$100,000 fair market value. For the first year of collection, a homeowner would contribute \$109.28 for every \$100,000 dollars of home value. For example, if your home has a fair market value of \$300,000 the additional tax collection would amount to \$327.00 per year or \$0.89 cents daily.
3. Based on an average annual increase in your property's market value, for every \$100,000 of home value, the calculated impact to your tax bill for years 2008-2010 is estimated at \$115.00 for year 2008, \$121.02 for 2009 and \$127.35 for year 2010. Using the same example from above, the annual cost to a homeowner with a fair market value of \$300,000 would be \$345.00 for 2008, \$363.06 for 2009 and \$382.05 for 2010 or a daily cost of \$0.94 cents, \$0.99 cents and \$1.04 respectively.
4. This section means that if approved, the Village will apply the new rate of .992% for tax levy years 2007-2010. Thereafter, it will be calculated under the Property Tax Cap law. The Village believes that by freezing our rate, our existing residents will realize a higher rate of revenue from the Village's projected new growth and development.

## 16. HOW CAN RESIDENTS LEARN MORE ABOUT THE REFERENDUM?

Our Village President, Village Administrator and Board of Trustee members will be visiting your Homeowners Association before the April election. A schedule is included in this newsletter. An information video has been produced and can be seen on Channel 4, our Government Access Channel for Comcast subscribers.

## COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Additional information can be found on the Village's web site at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com). The Village will be conducting a special Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, March 31, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., at Rich Central High School, in the Little Theater. In addition, our residents are welcome to attend any one of our Board of Trustee meetings held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, where questions are always welcome!

Postal Customer  
Olympia Fields, Illinois 60461

News from the  
Village of Olympia Fields

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Olympia Fields, IL  
60461  
PERMIT NO. 12



**YOUR VOTE COUNTS ON APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>**  
MORE INFORMATION  
In addition to the information contained in this newsletter, the Village created a special "Public Information Video" which can be seen on our Government Access Channel, on the hour, on **COMCAST - CHANNEL 4**. Residents can also go online to [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com) for other educational materials, articles and facts about the referendum question.

**SPECIAL HOMEOWNER  
ASSOCIATION MEETINGS  
REGARDING REFERENDUM  
APRIL 17, 2007 ELECTION**

*All at Village Hall unless noted*

Wysteria	Completed, December 16 <sup>th</sup>
Original Village	Completed, January 13 <sup>th</sup>
Suburban Woods	Completed, January 20 <sup>th</sup>
Olympia Fields East	Completed, January 27 <sup>th</sup>
Enhancement Org	Wednesday, February 21 <sup>st</sup> 7:00 PM
Maynegaite	Thursday, February 22 <sup>nd</sup> 7:00 PM
Arcadia	Thursday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM
Trails	Wednesday, March 14 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM
Vienna Woods	Wednesday, March 14 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM
Lakes of Olympia	Saturday, March 17 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 AM
Greens-Homes	Friday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6:30 PM @ Olympia Fields CC
Graymoor	Sunday, March 25 <sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM
Greens-Town Homes	April, (date to be announced)

*SPECIAL TOWN HALL REFERENDUM MEETING  
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007  
RICH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
(in the Little Theater) 10:00 AM*

**WITH A 68 CENT INCREASE IN OUR TAX RATE  
THE VILLAGE WILL BE ABLE TO:**

- ✓ Eliminate projected deficits, which would result in major layoffs and reductions in services.
- ✓ Fund necessary capital improvement projects expected by our residents.
- ✓ Fund modest service delivery improvements such as Property Code Enforcement, Beautification, the Mission of the Educational Commission and provide an increase in Police Protection.

**THE REFERENDUM TO INCREASE THE FUNDING  
TO MAINTAIN OUR QUALITY OF LIFE IS AN  
IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR THE FUTURE OF YOUR  
VILLAGE, AND YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO  
EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE**

**VOTE APRIL 17, 2007**

Visit us on the Web at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com) or e-mail us at [www.volfields1@comcast.net](mailto:www.volfields1@comcast.net)