

65% TAX INCREASE EXPECTED IN PINECREST

The Village of Pinecrest has grown rich in cash with assessed property values now exceeding \$8.3 Billion.

Now our Village officials want to increase taxes by 65% as they claim that increasing our police budget in late 2022 and future capital projects can't be funded at our current tax rate.

Our streets are riddled with pot holes, our sidewalks are falling apart and the council keeps rubber stamping expensive capital projects as they're led by one of the highest paid city managers that has exploded our budget since incorporation.

Their excessive spending is not sustainable and residents are left holding the bills. Those bills are **BONDS** and they plan to raise our taxes to cover it unless you speak up.

As they mortgage the Village, our Stormwater Management Plan moves at a snails pace with only 25% of the projects completed. Completing our stormwater and drainage plan will reduce flood insurance premiums.

Instead their priorities are focused on parks we can't afford, more asphalt/cement costing \$4 million just for the new SUP on 67th Avenue, relocating parrots costing \$1.5 million, less tree canopy and expensive art.

Sadly our great men and women in blue rank even lower.

As outlined in the Manager's 2025-2026 Proposed Budget Message...

*"The Village is...navigating a significant shift in its capital expenditure profile. The acquisition and planned development of two new park properties, while undeniably beneficial for the community's long-term quality of life, has redirected resources historically allocated to broader infrastructure maintenance and capital improvement efforts, **towards new debt service.**"*

She goes on to state..."a millage rate increase from 2.35 to 3.86 is

recommended. This adjustment would result in a 79.7% increase in ad valorem revenue, generating \$30,762,598 in Fiscal Year 2026."

Residents should know that the council routinely amends the annual budget to issue new debt that allows them to spend more of our money.

A new \$15 million bond was issued on July 15, 2025.

BONDS aka "Debt" Funded Capital Projects & Parks include:

Matzner Park Improvements (67 Ave & Kendall Dr.) = +/- \$3.6 million (excludes acquisition cost of almost \$4 million)

Mas Park Improvements (120 Street) = +/- \$9.2 million PLUS new roof +/- \$500,000

Coral Pine Park PHASE 2 Improvements = +/- \$5.7million

Pinecrest Gardens Terrace renovation = +/- \$1.5 million

SUP on 67th Ave DESIGN ONLY = +/- \$1 million

SUP on Kendall Dr. = +/- \$1.5 million

Veterans Wayside Park= +/- \$900,000

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD WHEN COUNCIL VOTES ON INCREASING YOUR TAXES

**STAY TUNED AS WE POST MEETING DATES THAT WILL DETERMINE OUR FINAL
MILLAGE RATE**

We encourage residents to forward this email to neighbors and friends.

Also note that this is the first email sent out by Concerned Citizens of Pinecrest since April 2025. We are always identified as Concerned Citizens of Pinecrest with the written opinion of Laura McNaughton a resident of Pinecrest since 1999.