

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Report for the Village Council Meeting
5/3/2016

SUBJECT:	SUBMITTED BY:
Stormwater Utility Discussion	David Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS

This item is a Top Priority Action Item for the Village Council for the period of 2015-2017. The Village Council will meet in the Committee Room following the regular Council meeting on May 3.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Consider Changes to the Stormwater Utility is a Top Priority Action Item for 2015-2017.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Action at the discretion of the Village Council

BACKGROUND

The Village Council met on February 16, March 8 and April 5 to discuss potential changes to the stormwater utility. At the April 5 meeting, the Council directed staff to prepare the FY17 Stormwater Fund budget with \$3.9 million in revenues. The Council also directed staff to prepare three referenda questions for placement on the November General Election ballot, the results of which would be used to advise the Village Council regarding the source of revenues for the FY17 Stormwater Fund budget.

The deadline for certifying referenda questions to the Election Commission is Thursday, September 1, 2016. The last day to pass a resolution is Monday, August 22. After the questions are established, staff will propose a public education program. A key component will be the ability to email the Village for an address-specific calculation of the impact of each question.

Generally, referenda questions should be clear and concise. Questions should not be vague, ambiguous or cause voter confusion. Based upon Council discussion, the proposed questions are as follows:

Question 1:

Shall the Village of Downers Grove continue to fund all stormwater expenses, including operations, maintenance, capital projects and bond debt payments through the collection of a stormwater utility fee? [YES] or [NO]

This question is the first question in a series of three questions related to stormwater funding. Currently the Village funds all stormwater expenses through the stormwater utility fee. All non-tax exempt properties are assessed a stormwater utility fee.

Question 2:

Shall the Village of Downers Grove fund all stormwater, including operations, maintenance, capital projects and bond debt payments through the property tax levy, instead of the stormwater utility fee? [YES] or [NO]

This question is the second question in a series of three questions related to stormwater funding. Currently the Village funds all stormwater expenses through the stormwater utility fee.

Question 3:

Shall the Village of Downers Grove fund stormwater operations and maintenance expenses through the stormwater utility fee and fund stormwater capital projects and bond debt payments through the property tax levy? [YES] or [NO]

This question is the third question in a series of three questions related to stormwater funding. Currently the Village funds all stormwater expenses through the stormwater utility fee.

Should the Council approve the questions, staff will prepare resolutions for a future Council agenda.