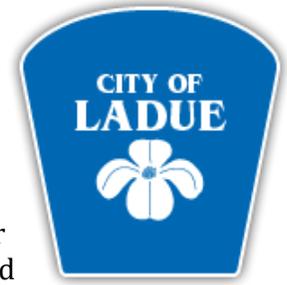


October 6, 2021



Dear Ladue Residents:

For 85 years, the residents of the City of Ladue have worked hard to preserve their beautiful neighborhoods, well maintained public roads, parks, walkways and professional public safety services that provide life-saving support for the people of this great community.

As stewards of the City of Ladue, it is our responsibility to manage the limited resources in the most cost-effective and efficient manner and sustain a healthy fund balance that allows the city to get through uncertain economic times. Over the years, we have worked diligently to reduce expenses and increase revenue streams in ways that don't require additional tax burdens on residents.

COVID-19 has had a negative impact on the city's finances just as it has adversely impacted other cities, counties and states across our great nation. We have reached a time in our city's history where our current revenues will not sustain the increasing costs of operating a first-class city in the way our residents expect.

In August, we announced that a property tax increase initiative will be placed on the **November 2, 2021**, ballot for Ladue residents. The city has not had a property tax increase in 17 years. While no one likes to pay higher taxes, including all of us whom you have elected to lead your city, we can no longer outrun the rising costs it takes to provide the top-tier level of public services you expect from the City of Ladue.

We will be asking Ladue residents to vote on an increased property tax rate of \$0.30 for fiscal year 2022 and future years, not to exceed \$1.00 per \$100 of assessed property value. Currently, only 9.23% of your current property tax bill goes to fund city operations and public safety services. All Prop L funds will go to the city.

Throughout October, we will be working with the community to educate residents on the need for this increase and the consequences of not passing the proposition. We are holding community meetings, sharing information on the city's website www.cityofladue-mo.gov and Facebook page. Please feel free to contact the Mayor, your City Council member, or the City Clerk Stacey Mann at (314) 993-3439 if there are any questions.

Nancy F. Spewak
Mayor, City of Ladue

Stacey Kamps
Ward I, Council Person

John Howell
Ward I, Council Person

Patrick Hensely
Ward II, Council Person

John Fox
Ward II, Council Person

Hal Burroughs
Ward III, Council Person

Bill Brennan
Ward III, Council Person