

Staff Responses to Council Questions August 13, 2019

Item 5. D - Boiler Replacement Removed from Consent Agenda: *At the request of Commissioner Hosé, D. Motion: Authorize \$179,987.00 to McDonough Mechanical Services, Inc. of Waukegan, Illinois for the replacement of the primary boiler that supplies heat to the Police Station and Village Hall has been removed from the Consent Agenda.*

Item 10. A - Long-Range Plan

How many residents of the Village are 67 years of age or older?

According to the [U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder](#), Downers Grove's population in 2017 above 65 years of age was 8,191, or 16.5%, of the total Village population of 49,649.

How many VoDG households have received the Senior Citizen property tax freeze/exemption?

Of the 18,035 properties in Downers Grove classified as residential, 4,096 receive the Senior Exemption.

I rent cars often ... and in the VoDG there is a 6% "Auto Rental Tax" applied to the bill. Does this go to the VoDG or the State and, who sets the rate. Most other places I rent tax at much higher totals including a "sales tax" component (usually around 7.5%) and a "car rental excise" component (usually around 3%).

State law allows for the following to be applied to the rental of automobiles:

- a. A State tax rate of 5.0%
- b. Local government tax rates of up to 1.0%
- c. Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) tax rate of up to 0.25% in DuPage County

The Village's automobile rental tax with a rate of 1.0% has been in place since 1999 and generates approximately \$50,000 annually of General Fund revenue.

4) My understanding from Michael Cassa is that we are taxing hotel rooms at a rate lower than most of our competitors. Would you confirm the current VoDG rate and the rate of those in N'Ville, Westmont, Lombard, Lisle, and Woodridge as well as the total revenue from this tax in the last couple of years?

Municipality	Current Rate	Annual Revenue
Oakbrook Terrace	6.0%	\$1.6 million
Naperville	5.5%	\$1.9 million
Lombard	5.0%	\$2.0 million
Westmont	5.0%	\$750,000
Lisle	5.0%	\$550,000
Downers Grove	4.5%	\$950,000
Oak Brook	3.0%	\$1.35 million
Woodridge	1.0%	N/A (no hotels)

Attachments

rEmarks



rRemarks Data for August, 13 2019 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section	Agenda Item	Comment	Commenter
4. Public Comments	COMMENTS OF A GENERAL NATURE	What are the costs of pruning vs removing the cottonwood tree on Rodgers Street? Who approved the cost of pruning and how much longer will it last until removal is necessary? Again, at what cost will this pruning delay the inevitable and how much will it cost to remove? Thank you.	Jack Walczak 1443 Maple