

Citizens for Montgomery Road Repair and Property Tax Relief
3037 Gaylord Lane, Montgomery, IL 60538

August 26th 2014

Dear Members of the Board:

A review of the Village's Road Maintenance Program has revealed that Montgomery should be spending \$2.2 million dollars each year on road resurfacing – an amount we cannot afford. The average expenditure over the past 10 years has only been \$652,000. At this rate the Village only rehabilitates 1.04 miles of road per year (a mere 1.4% of the system). This equates to a 71 year rehabilitation cycle for any particular road which far exceeds the recommended 20-30 year cycle. That's bad for our residents, and for our area businesses.

A one percent sales tax increase is the most equitable way to meet our road repair needs now, and into the future. The one percent additional sales tax, if approved, **will not** apply to non-prepared groceries, prescriptions and vehicles. The tax **will apply** to gas, alcohol, tobacco, household cleaning supplies, toiletries, soft drinks, carry out and dine-in food and other non-food items. As a result most items purchased at the grocery store weekly will not be taxed.

To soften the impact of this on Montgomery residents, the village board has enacted a 15% property tax rebate for residential property owners. The rebates will trigger upon successful passage of the referendum in November.

Passage of both measures will ensure the financial stability of the village roads program and reduce the property tax burden for its home owners. *Citizens for Montgomery Road Repair and Property Tax Relief* will be advocating for voter approval of a sales tax increase of 1% to be earmarked specifically for Roads and Property Tax Relief. Explaining the importance of this referendum to voters is the sole purpose of this committee. We request that your board formally endorse this campaign as a proactive approach to ensure financial stability of the village roads program into the future.

More information has been posted to the village website
(www.ci.montgomery.il.us/salestaxreferendum)

If you have questions, please contact the village board, Mera Johnson or myself.

We hope to see you at the many upcoming events and thank you in advance for your partnership in the Village of Montgomery's continued success.



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REFERENDUM FACT SHEET

Updated: 9-10-2014

1. **Why we are here:**
 - a. Currently Montgomery spends \$650,000 annually to maintain our 74 miles of roadway. (\$400,000 in Village funds & the remaining in one time grants)
 - b. Village Engineers estimate that we need to spend \$2.2 million annually.
 - c. Pavement lifespan is typically 20-25 years.
 - d. At the current rate, your street would be resurfaced every 71 years.
2. **How did we get here:**
 - a. Lack of funding (federal, state and local levels)
 - b. High growth in Montgomery since 2000
3. **How do we solve the problem:**
 - a. The village board feels that increasing the sales tax in Montgomery by 1.00% would be the least burdensome on our residents because non-resident shoppers will contribute sales tax towards our road funding.
 - b. Additionally, approval of this referendum will enact a 15% reduction of the Montgomery portion of your property tax bill (\$45 check in the mail)
4. **If approved, how will our Sales Tax Rate compare to our neighbors:**
 - a. 8.25-9.25% (Yorkville)
 - b. 8.25 % (Aurora)
 - c. **8.25 % (Montgomery, Kendall County)**
 - d. **8.00 % (Montgomery, Kane County)**
 - e. 8.00 % (Sugar Grove)
 - f. 7.75 % (Oswego)
 - g. 7.50 % (North Aurora)
5. **What items will be taxed:**
 - a. Gasoline, Alcohol, Tobacco
 - b. Dine-In, Carry Out & Catered Food
 - c. Household Hardware, Cleaning Supplies
 - d. Car Parts
6. **What items will NOT be taxed:**
 - a. Groceries
 - b. Medicine
 - c. Medical Appliances
 - d. Vehicles
 - e. Services
7. **Why now:**
 - a. The longer we wait, the worse the roads get.
8. **Why should I vote YES:**
 - a. Well maintained roads = safer passage for our families and better property values.
 - b. Ensures that we don't pass this problem on to the next generation.
 - c. Allows non-residents who shop in our stores to help pay for our roads.
 - d. You will receive a 15% property tax rebate check of \$45 per year.

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9. Who is supporting this effort?

a. The Ledger Sentinel Editors have said (5-29-14):

“Passage of the referendum should help assure that village streets are maintained in good condition for years to come. .. We applaud the board for unanimously acknowledging they have a responsibility to do what they can to maintain the public infrastructure for current and future generations of village residents. We also support the board’s effort to provide the additional revenue the village will require in the years ahead to maintain local streets.”

b. Marilyn Michelini, Committee Chairperson, retired Village President

c. Mera Johnson, Committee Treasurer, former Montgomery Employee

d. Montgomery Economic Development Corporation

e. Montgomery Chamber of Commerce

f. Orchard Prairie North Homeowners Association

g. Balmorea Homeowners Association

h. Matt Brolley, Village President

i. Stan Bond, Village Trustee

j. Pete Heinz, Village Trustee

k. Steve Jungermann, Village Trustee

l. Denny Lee, Village Trustee

m. Doug Marecek, Village Trustee

n. Theresa Sperling, Village Trustee

o. Heidi Dziedzic, Village Clerk

p. Jeanne Felten, former Village Trustee

q. Jesse Vazquez, Kane County Board Member

r. Kelly Pfarrer

s. Herschel Luckinbill

t. You?



See Village of Montgomery’s Q/A sheet (attached) for more information

For More Information:

www.montgomeryilsalestaxref.com

www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCitizens

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