

Budget Town Hall FAQs

1. What is the Village’s portion of the property tax bill?

Of your tax bill, 81% of each \$1 of taxes paid goes towards:

- Shorewood School District - 56%
- Milwaukee County – 15%
- Milwaukee Area Technical College - 4%
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District - 6%
- State of Wisconsin - 0%

Please direct questions on these levies to the appropriate taxing body.

19% goes towards Village services:

- Police Protection
- Fire & Emergency Medical Services
- Garbage & Recycling
- Brush, Leaf & Yard Waste Collection
- Street & Sidewalk Maintenance
- Snow Removal & Salting
- Library Services
- Forestry, Parks & Beach
- Senior Resource Center
- Zoning, Land Use & Planning
- Municipal Court Operations
- Economic Development

2. How many street trees with Emerald Ash Borer will be removed in preparation for the reconstruction of Lake Drive in 2025?

This year There 21 ash trees were removed on Lake Drive in advance of the 2025 roadway reconstruction project by the Village of Shorewood in conjunction with our Emerald Ash Borer Plan Assessment and operational approach approved by the Village Board on May 16, 2024, see [pg. 238 of the packet](#). WisDOT will not include any tree removals as none were identified in its approved Environmental Review document. Please recall that this is reflective of their previous public commitment to no tree removal on the project. The Village of Shorewood will be replacing these trees 2026 following completion of the private side Lead Service Line (LSL) replacement.

3. Will private side Lead Service Lines (LSL) replacements be completed in 2025 when Lake Drive is reconstructed?

Private side Lead Service Lines on Lake Drive will be replaced in 2026, one year following Lake Drive roadway reconstruction. You can find a list of upcoming replacements [here](#).

4. Who is required to replace their service? What is the cost?

Effective September 30, 2022 replacement of all utility and customer lead services lines is mandatory:

- at the time of a utility water main replacement,
- if repair of the private or public service line is deemed necessary; or
- during any project to replace lead service lines ([Ordinance 3043](#) amending [Village Code 514-12](#)).

For further information, see the Village of Shorewood [Lead Service Replacement Program](#) document.

5. What is the cost to replace a private Lead Service Line (LSL)?

Service line replacement costs will vary. Observed costs in 2022/23 for the replacement of a typical private side service have ranged from \$6,000 to \$8,000.

All property owners will be eligible for Water Utility financial assistance to replace the customer owned lead service lines when work is done in conjunction with an identified water utility project subject to the following conditions pursuant to [Policy 44 Lead Service Replacement Program](#):

- The property owner signs an agreement to allow work to be performed on their property at least 10 days in advance of the anticipated project start.
- The property owner agrees to use one of the Village's pre-approved contractors for the project.
- The property owner provides the Village / contractor inside access to the property to verify information related to the service line and location.
- The property owner works with the contractor to schedule and be available to provide inside access to complete the work within the timeframe identified by the Village.
- The property owner agrees to any other necessary modifications to the existing meter connection to become compliant with current plumbing standards.

The Water Utility's financial assistance may cover up to 50% of the cost of replacing the property owner portion of the lead service line subject to a limit of \$5,000 per property.

The Village may also provide additional financial assistance related to these projects depending on the receipt of federal or state grants, or the designation of other funds for this purpose. Such funding will be applied annually on a dollar amount basis, depending on the availability of funds and the total number of lead service lines replaced, for up to an additional 25% of the replacement cost.

All remaining costs will be the responsibility of the property owner being served by the service line. Upon request, the property owner may elect to pay for these costs in the form of a zero percent (0%) interest loan from the utility to be repaid in twelve (12) equal installments on the next twelve (12) utility bills for the property. Loan balances may be prepaid without penalty; any past due loan balances may be placed on the property tax roll. Neither the Water Utility nor the Village of Shorewood are allowed to forgive unpaid loan balances.

6. Are grants available for replacement of the streetlight system?

During a town hall the Village Manager incorrectly relayed that there were not grants available for replacement of the streetlight system. A Street Lighting System Replacement Plan was developed by Strand Associates in 2023 which identified possible grant funds available, see [pg. 47 of the packet](#).

Acting upon the recommendations of this report, the Village issued an RFP for the design of a comprehensive system replacement design and implementation plan. An agreement for that work was awarded to KL Engineering. KL's [Streetlight Improvement Plan](#) was presented to the Village Board on June 3, 2024 ([view the presentation](#)). KL's work with the Village includes review of available funding options and preparing of funding applications, if required, for the replacement of

the system, see [p. 3 of the RFP](#). The plan’s recommended implementation schedule has been incorporated into the Village’s Long Range Financial Plan with construction proposed over five phases beginning in 2025 and concluding in 2029. Applications for available funding will be submitted on an annual basis corresponding with the upcoming project phase.

7. Has the Village applied for grants to replace Lead Service Lines (LSL)?

On March 18, 2024 the Village Board reviewed the options for funding consideration for LSL replacements, see [pg. 82 of the packet](#), issued an [RFP for Developing and Implementing a Lead Service Line Replacement Program Utilizing Performance Contracting and the CBP3 Delivery Model](#), and considered Statement of Qualifications for such work with Community Infrastructure Partners. An application for funding was submitted this summer for LSL replacements to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through the [Safe Water Loan Fund Program with funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\)](#). The DNR releases the ranking of the applications submitted this fall. The Village will continue to explore funding available when we work with a consultant on an implementation for the LSL replacements.

In addition to grants, Congresswoman Moore submitted to the House Appropriations Committee and received \$1 million for Shorewood LSL projects.

8. How much parking utility revenue is received from parking permits on Village-owned lots included in the [Request for Proposal \(RFP\) for Redevelopment of Village-owned Parking Lots](#)?

The Village sells parking permits on [off street municipal parking lots](#). Revenue (FY2023) generated from the three lots identified for possible redevelopment in the RFP is as follows:

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Oakland North (\$50)	\$2,450	\$29, 400	49
Menlo (\$50)	\$1,000	\$12,000	20
Village Hall (\$30)	\$1,680	\$20,160	56
Total:	\$61,560.00		

9. How are the commercial properties contributing to the tax base?

The Village’s Statement of Assessment for 2024 reflects 3,652 residential parcels or 79% of the assessed tax base is \$1,688,523,600. There are 215 commercial parcels or 21% of the assessed tax base is \$436,525,900.

10. What is the Village doing now to address this deficit?

In 2024 the financial impact of the Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and Streetlight Replacement Plan were known and included in the Long Range Financial Plan. The Long Range Financial Plan is completed once a year to forecast financial projects for the next 10 years. The Village is communicating about the forecast now so the Village Board has the opportunity to provide education to the community and receive public feedback on the high impact options provided. Projects of this size are funded by municipal bonds that are repaid over a 20 year time

period, therefore, our decisions made in the 2025 budget will impact future budgets and it is prudent to consider the impacts of annual budget decisions on the long term future projects. Long term policy decision that impact the 2025 budget are the high impact options.

The Village will consider service level reductions among other tools as the Village Board directs in the first half of 2025 to plan for the 2026 budget and beyond. Community members have clearly requested the Village evaluate service level reductions at both Town Hall meetings.