



## Village of Shorewood Hills

Dear Property Taxpayer

Enclosed is your 2019 property tax bill. Property tax payments provide revenue to four different taxing jurisdictions. The Madison Metropolitan School District comprises the largest portion of your property tax bill at 54.15% of the total; the Village portion is 25.49 %, followed by Dane County at 16.04 % and the Madison Colleges at 4.30%. The overall tax increase in 2019 is 4.52% or \$521.97 on a median valued \$590,500 home in the Village. Of that amount, \$343.58 is due to an increase in school taxes while \$131.84 is the Village increase. Dane County and Madison Colleges account for the remainder.

The Village Finance Committee and the Village Board strive to keep property tax increases as low as possible while also trying to maintain and improve upon services. The Village is in excellent financial shape with a solid general fund balance and we have continued to retain our AAA bond rating, something that very few Wisconsin municipalities are able to achieve.

In 2019, the Village issued new debt for projects in and financed entirely by Tax Increment District III including a new Village street (Catafalque Drive), a new section of bike path (the missing link section south of Marshall Court along the railroad tracks) and new infrastructure on Marshall Court. The Village also refinanced some existing Village debt saving roughly \$100,000 in interest payments. The Village AAA rating helped garner rates of less than 2%.

Capital plan/long-term spending wise, much needed renovations to the Four Corners Park restroom pavilion are underway. A plan is approved, Village financial commitment made, and fundraising will soon be underway for renovations to the Heiden Haus. We continue to prepare for the substantial Village contribution to the 2021-22 reconstruction of University Avenue between Shorewood Boulevard and Grand Avenue; as well as reconstruction of the Lake Mendota Drive bridge in 2022.

Going forward in 2020, Shorewood Hills will be the first Village in the state to contract for 100% green electricity utilizing wind and solar programs offered through MGE. We continue to grow the Village tax base and look forward to the new Lodgic building, an innovative mixed use co-working space with scheduled and drop in childcare (including evenings) with a full service restaurant and food service opening on Marshall Court in early 2020. The Plan Commission will update the Village Comprehensive Plan (last issued in 2009) as well as complete a neighborhood plan for Garden Homes that suffered so greatly from the August 2018 flood. The Village is working closely with FEMA to gain financial help to rebuild damaged public infrastructure resulting from the flood and those projects should be completed in 2020. The Village incurred over \$10,000,000 in public and private damage from that flood event and we are working collaboratively with the City of Madison to try to reduce the potential impact of future events of this magnitude.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and for the contributions all of you make to the quality of life we enjoy in Shorewood Hills. Always feel free to contact Village Hall with questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

David J Benforado  
Village President

Karl P. Frantz  
Village Administrator