

For the first time in 20 years the Champaign Park District is seeking a modest increase in the property tax. While other units of local government have many funding sources, the District receives its majority of monies from real estate property, and it may increase these rates only with your approval by referendum.

Why does the Park District need my support?

No one likes a tax increase, but the current park maintenance budget, which serves substantially more parks and facilities than it did 20 years ago, is stretched beyond its limits. During these years, growth in assessed valuation and increased fees and charges have allowed the District to maintain your facilities and programs at a level of excellence. However the District has stretched its abilities and with the 1997 tax cap, this growth in funding is limited.

The Champaign Park District is facing many capital needs. Most of the major facilities are at least 20 years old and are in need of improvements. The swimming pools are over 30 years old and will need major renovation repairs in the near future. These fixed costs continue to rise while the income remains constant with minimal increases. Without a tax increase the District will have a difficulties maintaining the standard of excellence to which you are accustomed.

*For more information
call 398.2550*

How has the Park District grown?

The Champaign Park District has offered many diverse and exciting leisure opportunities for all interests and ages since 1911. Residents approved the last general operating funds increase in 1980. Over this 20-year period, the District has grown tremendously.

	1980	2000
Parks	33	68
Acres of park land	447	569
Recreation centers and facilities	8	14
Programs and Special Events	271	1200+

What will it cost me?

Your "yes" vote, while it means an increase of only 10¢ per \$100 assessed valuation (2¢ per year for the next 5 years), impacts the future of your community immensely. It will provide continued support for the parks, programs and activities that have become an important part of your life in Champaign.

It's a value of a lifetime... for less than \$10 a year you, your family and friends can enjoy walking, picnicking, biking, and playing in the parks, as well as participating in recreational programs and special events. The estimated average annual impact to you over the next five years would be as follows:

Your Home Value	Assessed Value	Average Annual Increase
\$60,000	\$20,000	\$4
\$90,000	\$30,000	\$6
\$120,000	\$40,000	\$8
\$150,000	\$50,000	\$10

How can I help?

Always a part of life in Champaign, an issue concerning the direction of parks is an issue that involves everyone...including you! If you agree that the Champaign Park District has been doing a creative and responsible job in improving the quality of life for Champaign's residents, show your approval.

You can voice your support of the District by voting for a moderate increase in funds thereby allowing the District to operate at its current standard of excellence. This is a vote "yes" for a value of a lifetime.

Shall Champaign Park District be authorized to levy and collect an additional tax of not to exceed .10% for all corporate purposes as provided in Section 5-3 of "The Park District Code?"

YES ☒

NO

When and where do I vote?

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2000
Time: 6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Location: all precinct polling places

What if I have questions?

For additional information or to invite a Commissioner or staff member to your next club or homeowners meeting, call the District at 398.2550. The administrative offices are located in the Bresnan Meeting Center at 706 Kenwood Road.

The mission of the Champaign Park District is to improve the quality of life for all residents through education, recreation, culture and leisure opportunities.

Excellence in Action

- Illinois Parks and Recreation Association Distinguished Agency Accreditation (1999)
- Tennis Center (renovation)
- National Gold Medal Award Grand Award Winner—best park district (1998, 1990, 1979)
- Dodds Softball Complex (renovation)
- Governor's Home Town Award (1998 Douglass Park Concerned Citizens)
- Zahnd Park (acquisition and development)
- Governor's Home Town Award (1986 Clark Adopt-a-Park Group)
- Accessible playground equipment
- Nations in Bloom International Competition Highly Commended (1996)
- Douglass Library (co-operative project)
- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (1995-1999)
- Springer Cultural Center (acquisition and remodeling)
- Champaign County Design and Conservation Awards
- Douglass Annex (renovation)
- Barkstall and Stratton Gymnasiums (co-operative projects with Unit 4 Schools)
- Special Events (Taste of Champaign-Urbana, Day in the Park, etc.)
- Co-sponsored Events with Community Non-profits (Urban League, Boy Scouts, United Way)

Who are my elected Park District representatives?

The Champaign Park District is a separate unit of local government with its own financial and legal responsibilities. It is governed by five elected residents, who serve the community for six-year terms. Your commissioners are:

- Morgan C. Powell, President
- Midge Wallace, Vice-President
- James A. Barham
- Newton H. Dodds
- Alvin S. Griggs

*A continuation of
excellence*

—your decision

Vote "yes"

to continue

the excellence on

Tuesday

March 13, 2000



Paid for by
The Friends of The Champaign Park District
706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, IL 61821

*Here's
why...*

