



Borough of Lincoln Park

973-270-2021

Dr. David A. Runfeldt, Mayor
e-mail: Mayorrunfeldt@bolp.org

Dear Lincoln Park Resident,

The Borough of Lincoln Park budget, for the 10th consecutive year, has remained relatively stable and minimal. In fact, I am happy to report that the **spending in this year's budget, excluding the full funding of the bond ordinances, has actually decreased**. Cost containment has always been a goal of mine and has likewise been an aim of the Borough Council. Once again, with this direction, we have attained a very positive result and I commend Council for their steadfastness to this objective. Another annual goal has been to present a fully compliant budget to Council with regards to the State's financial regulations. I am happy to inform you that this budget is, in fact, a compliant budget without any cuts in services.

This budget totals a minimal 1.17% increase in taxes which is well below the allowable 2% cap. Even more remarkable and important to recognize is that **the 1.17% increase is a total increase, including those items which are not required to be included the 2% cap calculation**. Further, it is also essential to note that this minimal increase was achieved in the face of the borough losing an additional \$700,000 in tax ratables this year due to flood buy outs and tax appeals.

While this minimal increase immediately bodes well for our residents, possibly one of the most significant inclusions in this year's budget is quite favorable for the future of our community. I am excited to inform you that we now have a plan for Lincoln Park to become **completely debt free within the next 12 years**. The plan is to "pay as you go" for all capital improvements and reserve for future foreseeable projects. The Borough plans to maintain the capital budget of approximately 1 million dollars per year by issuing ordinances and fully funding them in the following year. The 10 year capital plan that I started, and council has continually backed, provides us with a sound foundation for being able to move forward with this plan.

To recap these points and a few additional items that I would like to bring specifically to your attention to regarding the 2018 budget...

- Total amount to be raised by taxes for the municipal budget has increased by only 1.17 percent from \$13,022,666 in 2017 to \$13,174,716 in 2018.
- Impact to the average household in Lincoln Park is less than \$40.00 for the year or roughly \$10/quarter.
- 2018 budget is \$765,061 below Appropriation Cap.
- The Borough has developed a plan to be debt free by 2030.
- **Fund Balance increased from 3.4 million to 4.2 million as a result of prudent oversight of the 2017 budget. Fund Balance now stands at roughly 23 % of overall budget.**

A large amount of the increases to this year's budget are statutory, contractual or insurance obligations. There are minimal discretionary spending increases. The budget as presented provides a balance that takes into consideration the fiscal realities of the time while also maintaining the resources necessary to provide the services to our residents and businesses that have made Lincoln Park such an attractive place to live and do business.

I and the administration fully anticipate that watchful oversight of spending will continue to find areas within the budget which will present opportunities for further savings. The small increase to our residents this year in light of required statutory and non-discretionary spending, along with the loss of nearly \$700,000.00 in tax ratables is a wonderful accomplishment and shows how hard the administration and your elected officials work for you and the Lincoln Park community.

I have constantly prided myself on making decisions that are in the best interests of our town at present, and also to ensure that we remain a vibrant and thriving community in the future. This budget is good for our residents now, and the goal to become debt free sets us up for financial success in the future.

Dr. David A. Runfeldt
Mayor, Borough of Lincoln Park



Borough Information

additional details can be found at www.lincolnpark.org
973-694-6100



RECYCLING RULES & REGULATIONS

In 2017-2018, China began to limit the quantity of material accepted for recycling with specific contamination limits. The significant changes are affecting the recycling industry world-wide and the Borough's focus is on ensuring long-term sustainability of our recycling programs.

LOOK for recycling signs indicating numbers **1 or 2** on plastic recycling. RINSE out containers (plastic, glass & aluminum). Do not place your recyclables in plastic bags when putting out for curbside collections. All recyclables must be in a clearly marked recycling containers.

Please visit: <http://www.lincolnpark.org/204/Recycling> for a full list of acceptable recyclables.

Any contaminated recycling will not be picked up and will be left curbside.
WHEN IN DOUBT - THROW IT OUT.

HOMEOWNER REMINDERS

SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE: All persons owning or occupying residential property with a public or private sidewalk shall be required to maintain, construct, replace and repair the same if in need of maintenance and repair.

EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE - GRASS: All exterior grass and lawn areas of residential premises shall be maintained at a cut height of no more than six (6) inches.

OVERHANGING VEGETATION / SIGHT OBSTRUCTIONS: The owner or tenant shall remove hedges, bushes, low-hanging branches or other impediments from sidewalks, streets, drive or avenues or other walkways or highways.

All of the above have been Borough adopted Ordinances and can be read in full on our website. Failure to comply with Borough Ordinance can result in a summons being issued.

DON'T EVER MISS A WATER BILL AGAIN!

The Water & Sewer Department is offering **E-Bills**.

Go paperless and get your water and sewer bills emailed to you each quarter.

The process will generate an email when your current bill is available for viewing on www.lincolnpark.org under the appropriate link. If payment is not received by the due date, friendly reminders and shut-off notices will continue to be mailed to the address on file via the US Postal Service. To sign up please stop by the Water Department or visit the Water Dept page of the Borough's website.



ACH DIRECT WITHDRAWAL: This automated electronic funds transfer program is a convenient way to pay your Municipal Property Tax and/or Utility bill. This program allows you to preauthorize payment of your municipal charges directly from your checking or savings account through electronic funds transfer - with no paper check involved! To sign up for ACH Direct Withdrawal, please complete the attached form and drop off or mail back to the Borough with a copy of a voided check.



The Borough's website offers a general notification system - through the **NOTIFY ME** module of our website. Through this module, web users can subscribe to receive email and/or text message updates.

The **NOTIFY ME** page offers several lists to choose from including Mayor's News, Police, DPW, Homeowner information, Recreation & Special Events, and LP P.A.L.

Visit www.lincolnpark.org, click on **NOTIFY ME** and enter your "profile" with your e-mail address and/or phone number for texts. Once you register, you will receive an e-mail notification from listserv@civicplus.com, you must accept the e-mail to confirm your choices. You will have the option of adding or deleting your preferences at any time by returning to your account through **NOTIFY ME**.



On May 15, 2018, the Lincoln Park Police Department will begin using a new emergency notification system. This system will be replacing the current Everbridge Program we currently use. In the event of an emergency in our area we may send out notifications. You may choose to receive the notifications through your landline telephone, cellular phone, text message or email. You may register for this free service at <https://getrave.com/login/lincolnpark> In order to register for text alerts, text LincolnParkAlerts to 67283. While text alerts will be utilized, we encourage you to also complete the full registration at the website above.

If you have any questions please contact Officer Ruggiero at 973-694-5533.



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