

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
Special Meeting of the City Council
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

AGENDA
December 4, 2006

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: GEHRZ ____ KUETTEL ____ HARRIS ____
 LINDSTROM ____ TALBOT ____
 MILLER ____ KREUSER ____
- C. COMMUNITY FORUM:
- D. PRESENTATION: None Scheduled
- E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None
- F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
 - 1. Truth in Taxation Hearing **TAB 1**
- G. CONSENT AGENDA: None
- H. POLICY AGENDA:
 - 1. Approve Hire of Tim Pittman as Parks and Public Works Director **TAB 2**
- I. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:
- J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- K. ADJOURNMENT

ITEM: **2007 Budget Truth-in-Taxation Hearing**

SUBMITTED BY: **Justin Miller, City Administrator**

EXPLANATION:

On December 4th the City Council needs to hold our required Truth-in-Taxation (TNT) hearing. During this hearing, staff will make a presentation regarding the proposed 2007 budget, and then the council should receive comments from the public.

Staff will have a detailed presentation as well as handouts ready for the public on Monday night.

ACTION REQUESTED:

No action can be taken on the budget at this hearing, so staff recommends that the City Council receive public comment on the proposed budget and then close the public hearing.



2007 Budget Hearing Truth in Taxation

Justin Miller, City Administrator

Roland Olson, Finance Director

Ramsey County Tax Statement



2007 Proposed Property Tax This is NOT a bill – Do Not Pay

50 West Kellogg Blvd, Suite 200 - Saint Paul, MN 55102 • Phone: (612) 266-2000 • Web: www.ramco.us/correspondence • Email: PropertyTax@ramsey.mn.us

Your local units of government have proposed the amount of property taxes that they will need for 2007. Column (1) below shows your actual 2006 property taxes. Column (2) below shows what your 2007 property taxes will be if your local jurisdictions approve the property tax amounts they are now considering. Any upcoming referendums, legal judgments, natural disasters, voter approved levy limit increases, or special assessments could change these amounts.

Your county commissioners, school board, city council, and metropolitan special taxing districts will soon be holding public meetings to discuss their proposed 2007 budgets and proposed 2007 property taxes. The school board will discuss the 2006 budget. You are invited to attend these meetings to express your opinion. The meeting places and times are listed below. Also shown are the addresses and telephone numbers for these local units of government if you have comments or questions concerning the proposed property tax amounts shown on this notice. No meeting is required if a local unit of government is not increasing its property taxes for 2007, or if its increase is not above the rate of inflation, or if your city has a population of less than 500 people. There is also no public hearing on the state general tax.

RESIDENT		PIN/Property Address/Abbreviated Tax Description	
CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS		RESIDENT ADDRESS AND PIN #	
Property Classification	For taxes payable in 2006 RES HOMESTEAD	For taxes payable in 2007 RES HOMESTEAD	Your Taxable Market Value for property tax payable in 2007 was sent to you in the spring of 2006. The parcel is shown possible changes has passed and changes can no longer be made to your property valuation. It is included here for your information only.
Taxable Market Value	\$244,400	\$250,000	
Mailing Address and Phone Numbers	Column (1) 2006 Tax - Actual	Column (2) 2007 Tax - Proposed	Tax and Budget Meetings and Locations
Ramsey County	\$680.95	\$1,063.41	Arlington High School Great Room
Regional Park Authority	05.74	100.04	1405 Olive Street, St Paul, MN
Public Safety Radio System	9.55	9.50	December 12, 2006 - 6:00 p.m.
County Library	69.79	73.08	
Ramsey County Manager's Office 15 W Kellogg Blvd, Suite 200 St Paul, MN 55102 (651) 266-2000			
CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS	\$438.63	\$471.16	FALCON HEIGHTS CITY HALL
2017 WEST LARRENHEUR AVE FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113 (651) 792-3990	00	00	2017 WEST LARRENHEUR AVE FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113 DECEMBER 4, 2006 7:00 PM
State General Tax	\$ 00	\$ 00	No Meeting Required
SCHOOL DISTRICT 023			DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER
1251 COUNTY ROAD 82 WEST ROSEVILLE, MN 55113-3299 (651) 436-1800			1251 COUNTY ROAD 82 WEST ROSEVILLE, MN 55113-3299 DECEMBER 7, 2006 7:00 PM
a. Voter approved levies	\$469.60	\$573.62	
b. Other local levies	280.97	195.06	
Metropolitan Special Taxing Districts Metropolitan Council (Budget)	\$60.48	\$60.50	No Meeting Required
300 Robert St. N. St Paul, MN 55101			



Ramsey County Tax Rates

Ramsey County

Tax Rates for Truth in Taxation Published Notices

For Counties and Cities with Population Greater than 2,500

For Taxes Payable in 2007

Taxing Authority Name	2006 Tax Rate	2007 Tax Rate if No Levy Increase	2007 Proposed Tax Rate
Ramsey County	43.554%	39.084%	41.941%
County Library	3.069%	2.815%	2.884%
Arden Hills	20.191%	18.969%	20.202%
Falcon Heights	19.303%	17.836%	18.600%
Little Canada	21.373%	20.456%	21.389%
Maplewood	32.101%	28.524%	32.287%
Mounds View	39.939%	37.972%	37.972%
New Brighton	34.139%	31.261%	33.565%
North Oaks	7.919%	7.097%	7.619%
North St. Paul	21.795%	19.736%	20.864%
Roseville	23.214%	21.617%	22.877%
St. Paul	28.935%	25.473%	28.676%
Shoreview	23.974%	21.724%	23.306%
Vadnais Heights	18.995%	17.219%	18.065%
White Bear Lake (Total City)	18.575%	17.331%	17.701%

City Tax Rate History





2007 Goals

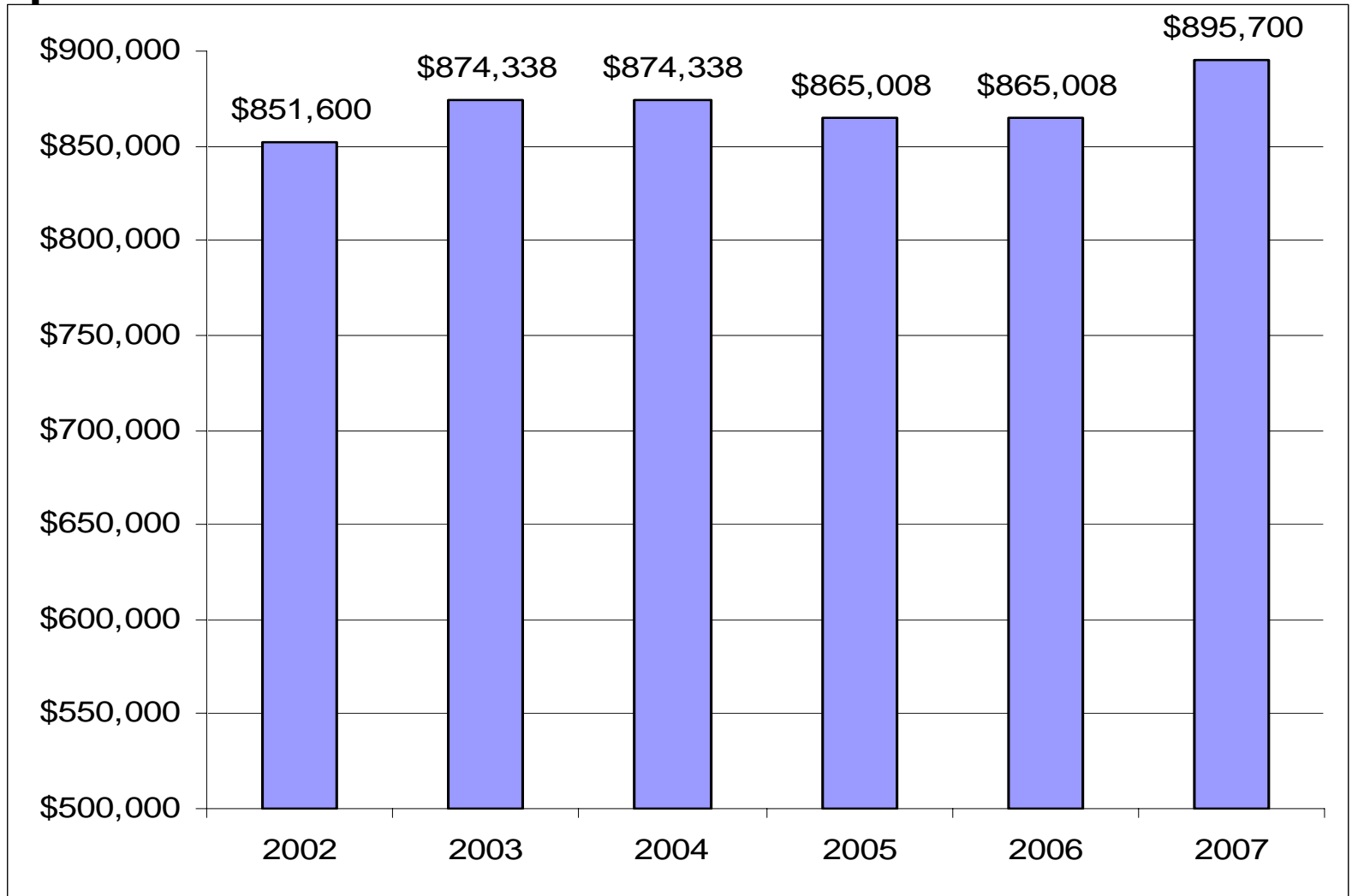
- Protect the public health and safety
- Sustain and promote the assets of the city's unique neighborhoods and tax base including commercial, residential and open space uses for present and future generations
- Expand opportunities for the interaction and involvement of citizens of all ages in their neighborhoods and community
- Provide a responsive and effective city government



Transfer & Reserve Policy

- Policy strives to limit impact on taxpayers, while not jeopardizing the city's bond rating or future financial health
- 0.00% Levy Increase in 2004
- -1.07% Levy Decrease in 2005
- 0.00% Levy Increase in 2006
- 3.5% Levy Increase in 2007
- \$161,337 transferred from reserves to General Fund for 2007

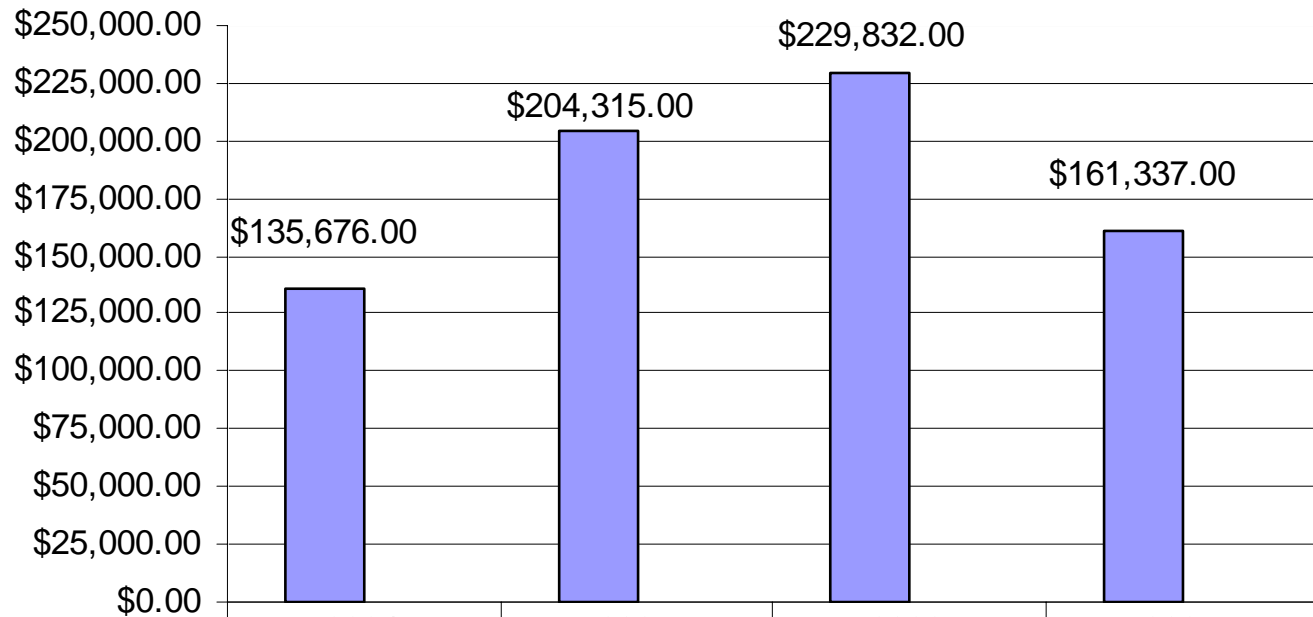
History of Property Tax Levy



5.2% increase in levy over six years – Inflation during the same period is over 12%

History of Transfer of Reserves to General Fund

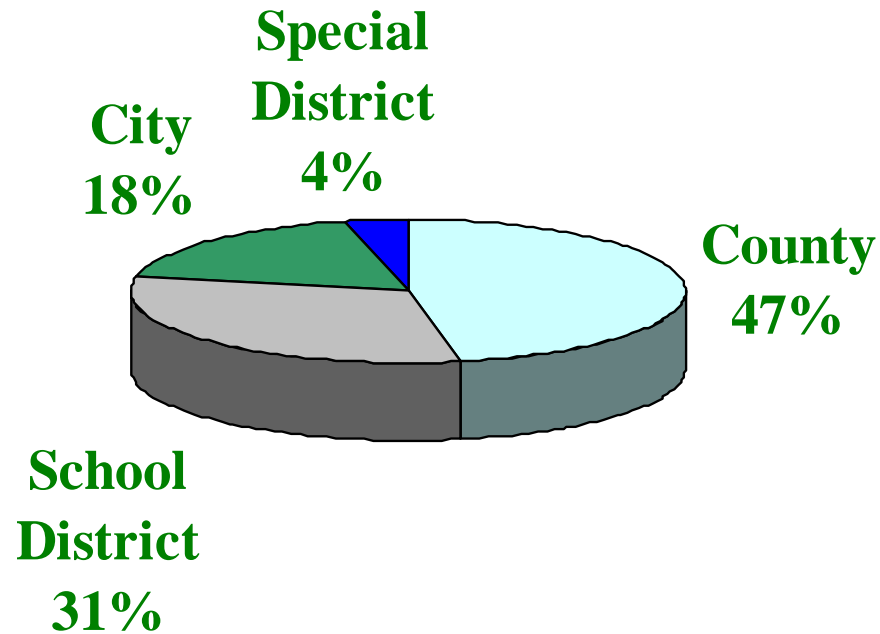
HISTORY OF TRANSFERS TO GENERAL FUND



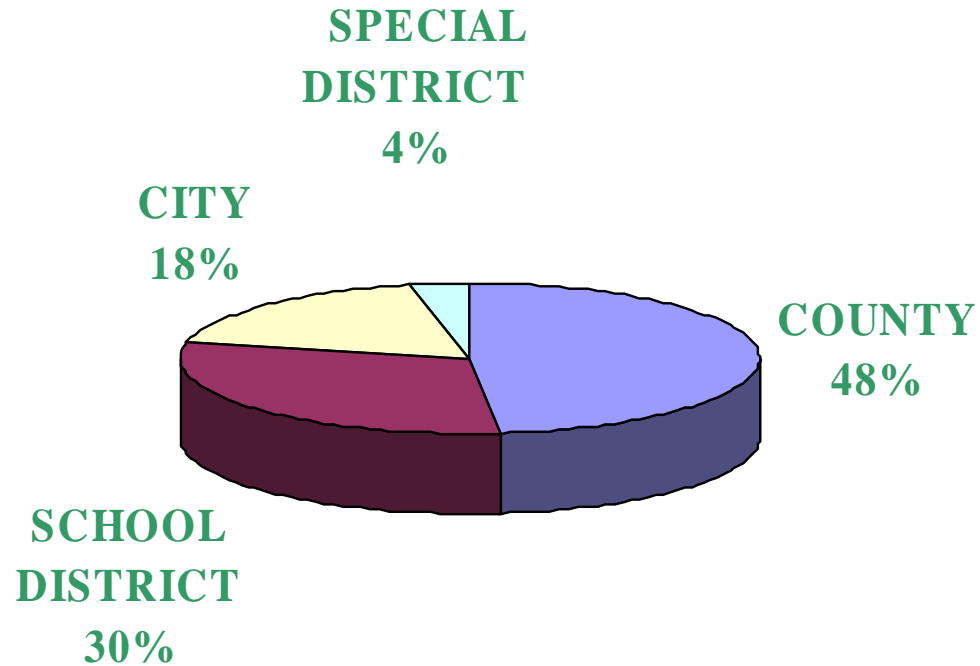
	2004	2005	2006	2007
TRANSFER	\$135,676.00	\$204,315.00	\$229,832.00	\$161,337.00
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR		50.59%	12.49%	-29.80%

YEAR

2006 Property Tax Allocation



2007 Property Tax Allocation





Change in 2007 Total Property Taxes – 1290 Residential Properties

Decrease or \$0	268 properties	20.8%
\$1 - \$100	251 properties	19.5%
\$101 - \$200	248 properties	19.2%
\$201 - \$300	351 properties	27.2%
\$301 - \$400	115 properties	8.9%
\$401 - \$500	39 properties	3.0%
More than \$500	18 properties	1.4%

40.3% of properties will see an increase of \$100 or less in their total tax bills in 2007

2006 to 2007 Comparison for Property Taxes in Falcon Heights

Median Market Taxable Value Increased from \$249,700 TO \$269,000			
DESCRIPTION	PAY 2006	PAY 2007	DIFFERENCE
MEDIAN MARKET VALUE:	249,700	269,000	19,300
NET TAX CAPACITY*	2497.00	2690.00	193.00
X LOCAL TAX RATE ** :	88.796%	83.065%	
(1) NET TAX CAPACITY TAXES:	2217.24	2234.45	17.21
NET TAX CAPACITY	2497.00	2690.00	193.00
X HOMESTEAD CREDIT RATE: variable		variable	
(2) HOMESTEAD CREDIT AMOUNT:	-147.67	-130.30	25.29
TAXABLE MARKET VALUE OF HOME	249,700	269,000	19,300
X MARKET TAX RATE:	0.15115%	0.16927%	
(3) MARKET VALUE TAXES:	377.42	455.34	77.91
SUMMARY:			
(1) NET TAX CAPACITY TAXES:	2217.24	2234.45	17.21
(2) HOMESTEAD CREDIT AMOUNT:	-147.67	-130.30	17.37
(3) MARKET VALUE TAXES:	377.42	455.34	77.91
TOTAL TAXES DUE:	\$2,448	\$2,560	\$112
		4.6%	INCREASE
* Net Tax Capacity = Taxable Market Value x Class Rate			
** Local tax rate is composed of City, County, School District, and Special Taxing District taxes			
*** Maximum educational homestead credit of \$304.00 for 2005 at a home valued at \$76,000. deduct amount times .09%. For 2005 this totals \$174.76			

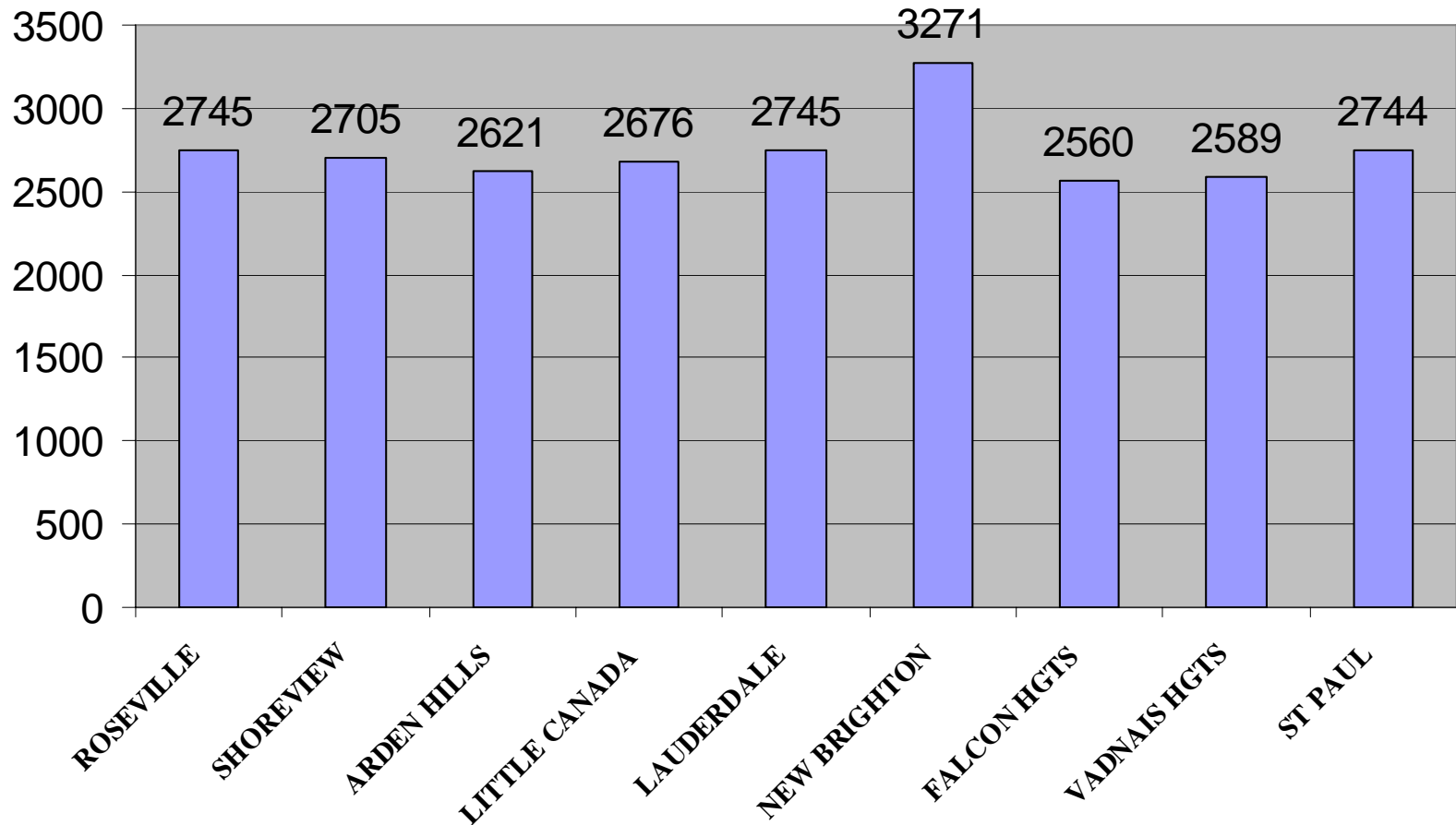
Where Did the Increases Occur?

		2007 MEDIAN VALUE HOME = \$269,000			
		2006 MEDIAN VALUE HOME = \$249,700			
		(7.73 % INCREASE FROM 2006)			
		2006		2007	\$ Diff.
		PROPERTY		PROPERTY	
		<u>TAXES</u>		<u>TAXES</u>	
COUNTY:		1142		1236	94
CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS:		449		471	22
SCHOOL DISTRICT		770		769	-1
METRO SPECIAL TAX DISTS:		71		68	-3
OTHER SPECIAL TAXING DISTS:		16		16	0
		2448		2560	112
	PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM 2006:			4.6%	
	DOLLAR INCREASE OVER 2006:			\$ 112	

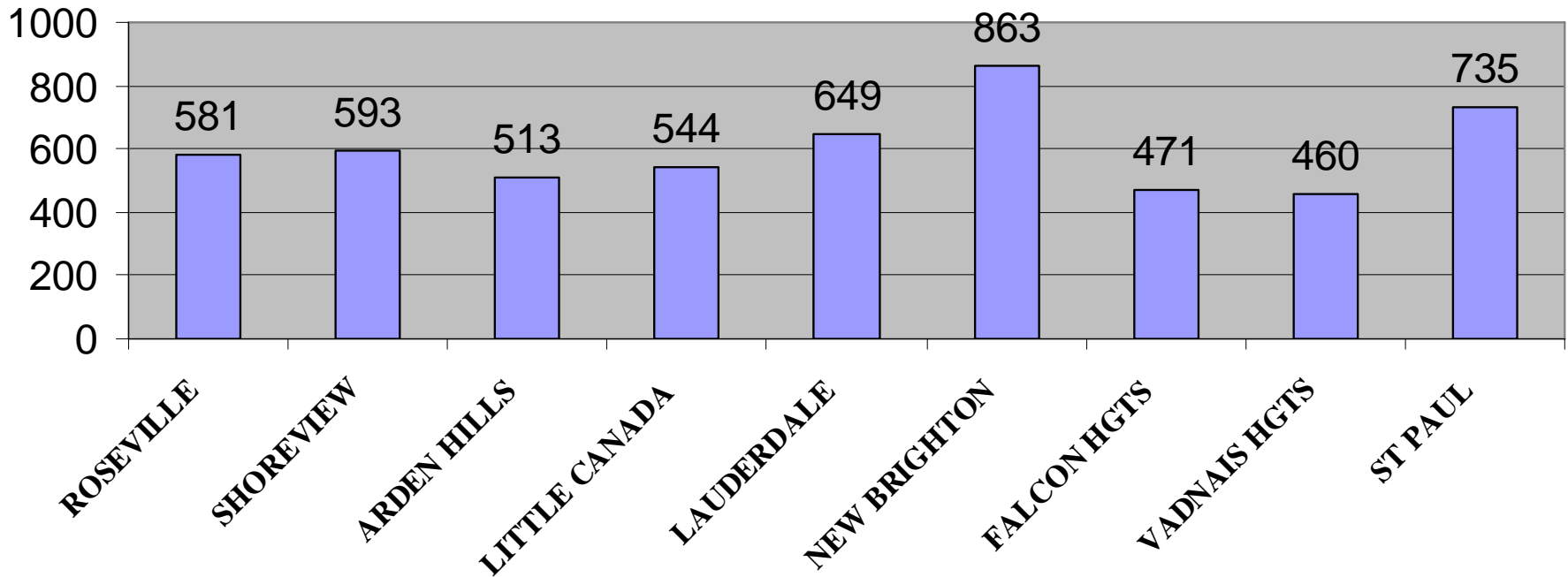
Estimated Percentage of Change in 2007 Property Tax On Median Value Single Family Homes (as of 10/31/06)

City	School	Payable 2006 City Median Taxable Value	Payable 2007 City Median Taxable Value	% Change In Median Value	Estimated % Change in Tax on Median Valued Home					Estimated Change From 2006 Total Tax
					County	City	School	Other	Total	
Arden Hills	621	\$263,600	\$281,500	6.8%	3.6%	7.8%	2.8%	18.2%	5.1%	\$141
	623	"	"	"	3.4%	7.6%	-0.9%	18.0%	3.9%	104
Falcon Heights	623	249,700	269,000	7.7%	4.5%	4.7%	0.2%	28.7%	4.6%	112
Gem Lake	624	234,500	269,700	15.0%	14.5%	157.5%	9.2%	45.0%	49.3%	1,201
Lauderdale	623	164,200	188,800	15.0%	13.9%	22.0%	8.7%	40.3%	15.5%	244
Little Canada	623	213,500	245,500	15.0%	13.1%	17.7%	7.8%	31.0%	13.7%	290
	624	"	"	"	13.4%	18.1%	8.5%	31.5%	14.2%	299
Maplewood	622	204,600	220,100	7.6%	4.5%	8.6%	3.0%	21.2%	6.2%	147
	623	"	"	"	4.4%	8.4%	0.3%	21.0%	5.5%	125
	624	"	"	"	4.7%	8.8%	0.8%	21.4%	5.9%	134
Mounds View	621	186,500	199,100	6.8%	3.6%	2.4%	2.7%	19.4%	4.0%	91
New Brighton	282	218,900	233,600	6.7%	3.4%	5.8%	-6.0%	18.0%	1.6%	44
	621	"	"	"	3.5%	5.9%	2.7%	18.1%	4.8%	122
North Oaks	621	570,300	607,000	6.4%	3.6%	3.7%	2.9%	31.3%	5.0%	280
	624	"	"	"	3.6%	3.7%	0.2%	31.3%	4.1%	221
North St. Paul	622	188,700	203,700	7.9%	5.2%	3.4%	3.6%	41.9%	6.7%	135
Roseville	621	216,900	234,300	8.0%	5.3%	7.2%	4.3%	51.5%	7.8%	181
	623	"	"	"	5.0%	6.9%	0.8%	51.2%	6.7%	149
St. Anthony	282	176,500	203,000	15.0%	13.1%	17.3%	2.0%	27.2%	11.7%	273
St. Paul	625	152,000	174,800	15.0%	13.9%	17.2%	-17.0%	36.1%	5.5%	86
Shoreview	621	238,250	257,600	8.1%	5.1%	6.3%	4.2%	19.9%	6.0%	153
	623	"	"	"	4.9%	6.0%	0.6%	19.7%	4.8%	118
Spring Lake Park	621	178,900	191,450	7.0%	3.7%	-0.7%	2.9%	19.6%	2.9%	68
Vadnais Heights	621	216,250	237,500	9.8%	7.3%	6.1%	6.2%	35.9%	8.1%	174
	624	"	"	"	7.3%	6.2%	3.1%	24.4%	7.1%	148
White Bear Lake	624	201,300	220,500	9.5%	7.2%	6.2%	2.8%	24.2%	6.9%	133
White Bear Town	624	239,500	260,000	8.6%	5.8%	11.1%	1.8%	22.7%	6.8%	159

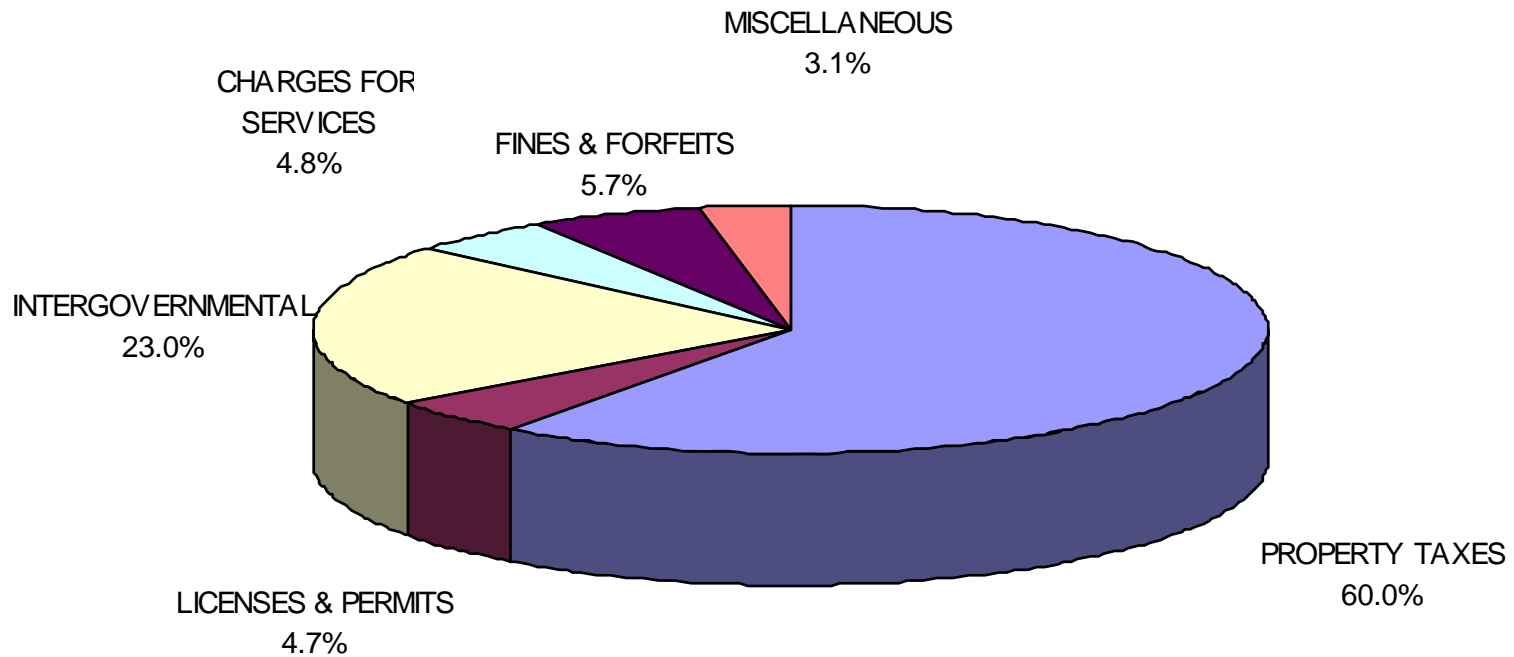
2007 Total Taxes on a Median Value Home in Ramsey County



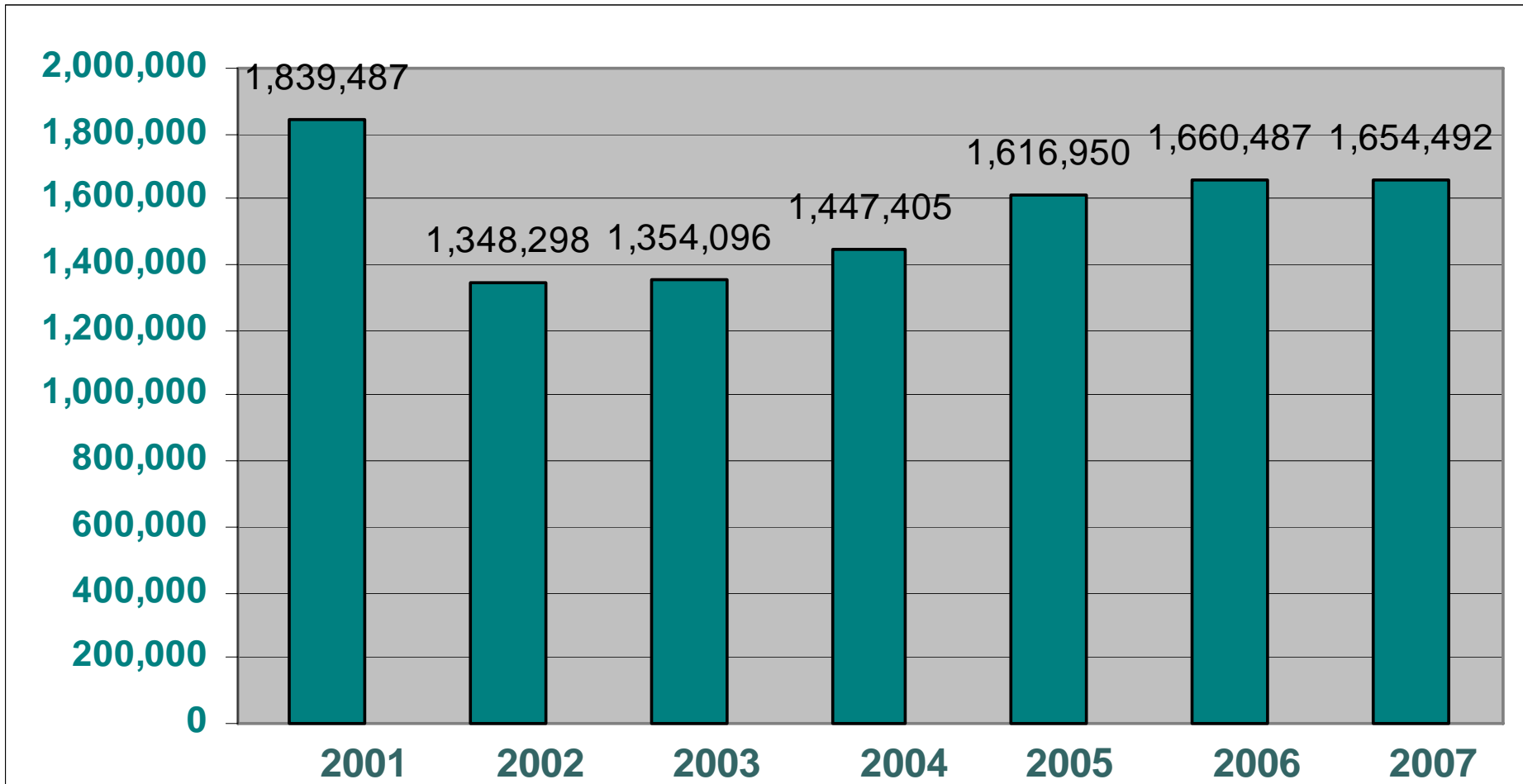
2007 City Portion of Property Taxes on a Median Value Home in Ramsey County



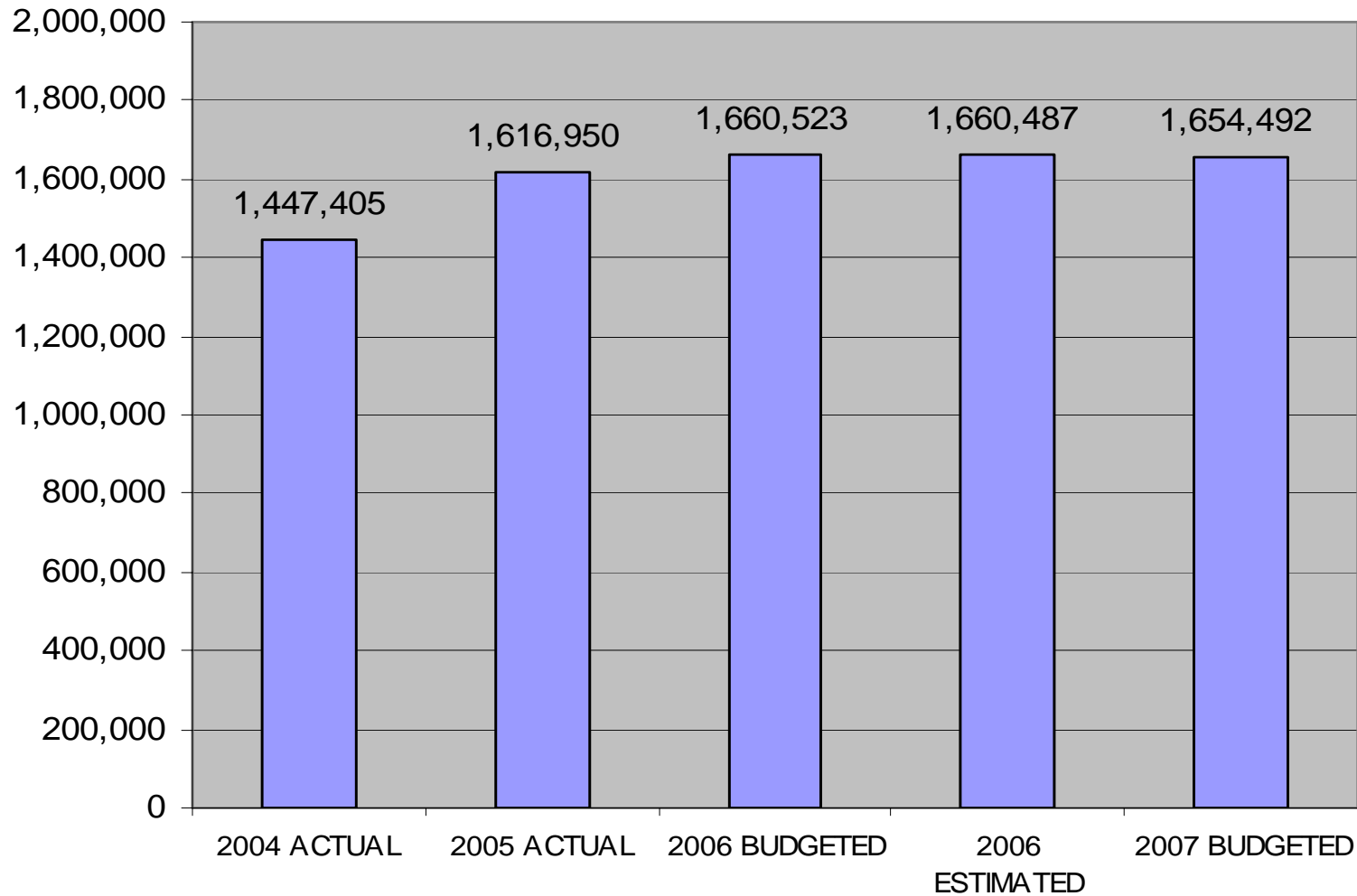
2007 General Fund Revenues



General Fund Budget Trends



General Fund Expenditure-- History





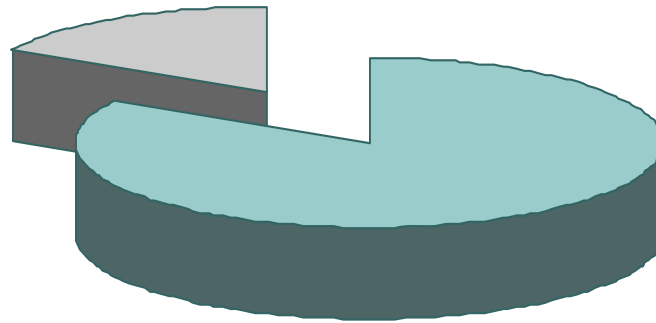
Factors That Affect Taxes

- Changes in the tax levy (or spending decision) made by the city, county, school, or special taxing authority
- Changes in the market value of your property
- Legislative changes to the class rates
- Legislative changes to state aid formulas
- New taxes approved by referendum are applied to market value (not tax capacity)



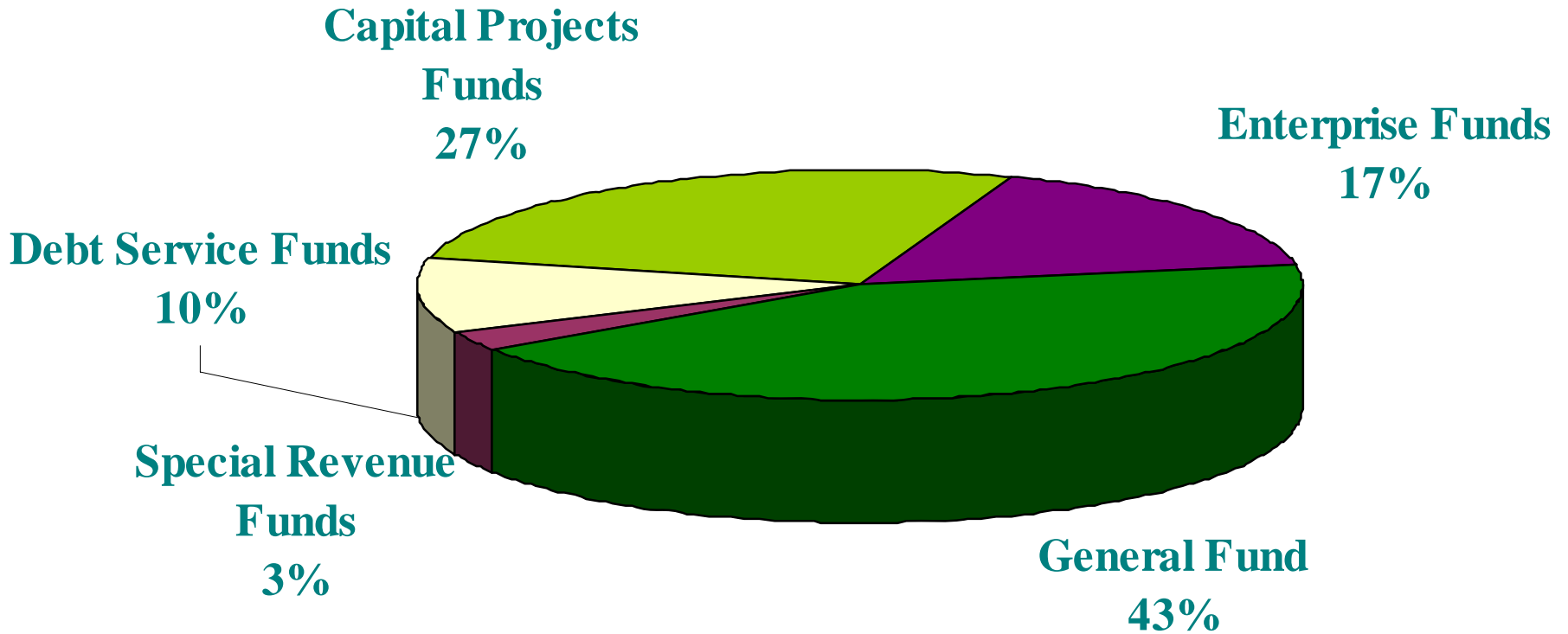
2007 Proposed Property Tax Levy of \$895,700

**Fiscal
Disparities
17%**



**Ad Valorem
83%**

2007 Expenditures





2007 Proposed Budget

- Major factors influencing next year's budget
 - Increase of \$29,000 in police contract
 - Expected 15% increase in utility costs (fuel, electricity)
 - 11% increase in health insurance costs



2007 Proposed Budget

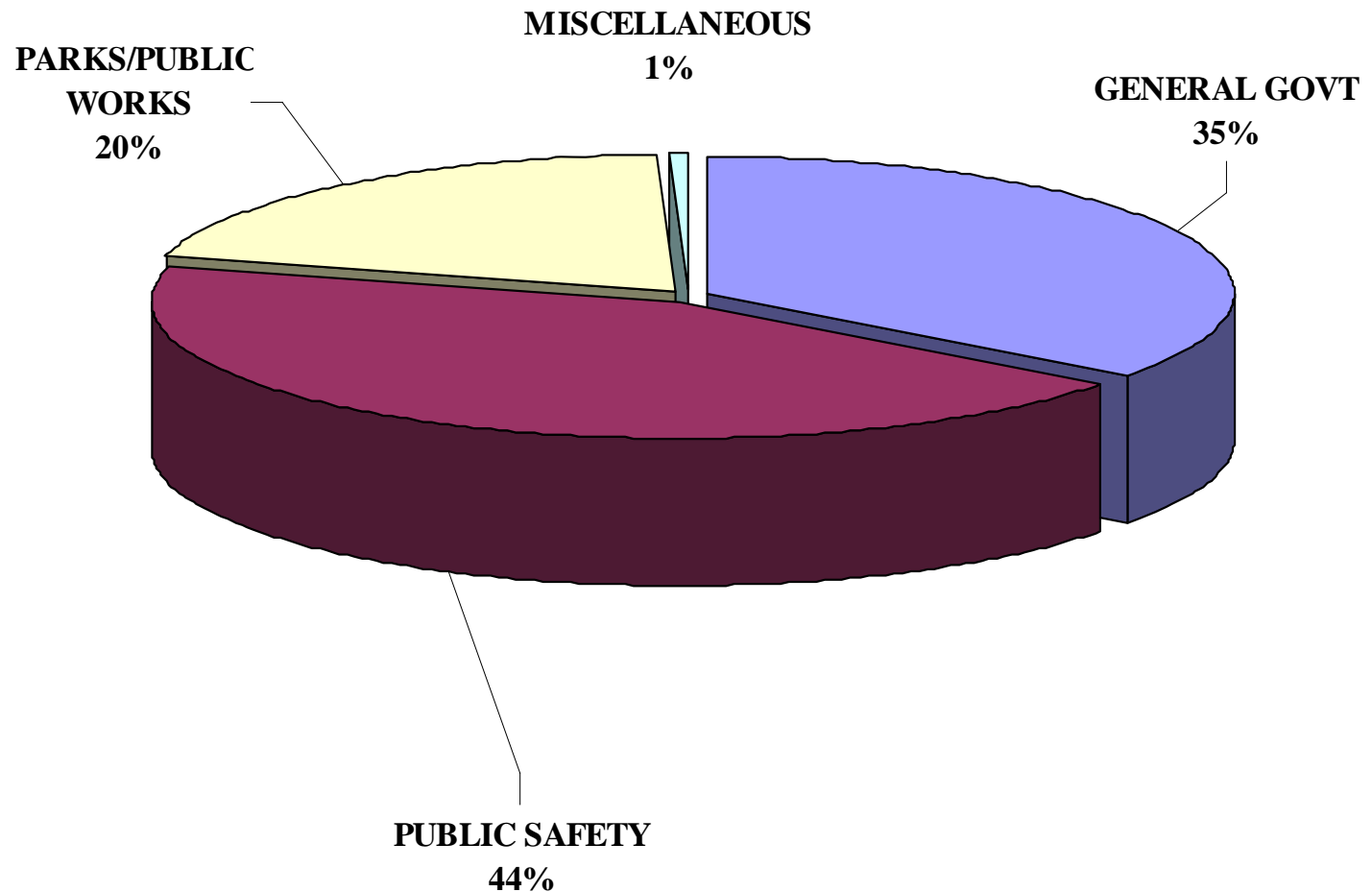
- No additional staff or programs are being proposed – service levels to remain the same as 2006
- Certain costs attributable to enterprise funds have been removed from the general fund and allocated to the appropriate funds
- Majority of forestry budget re-allocated to capital funds



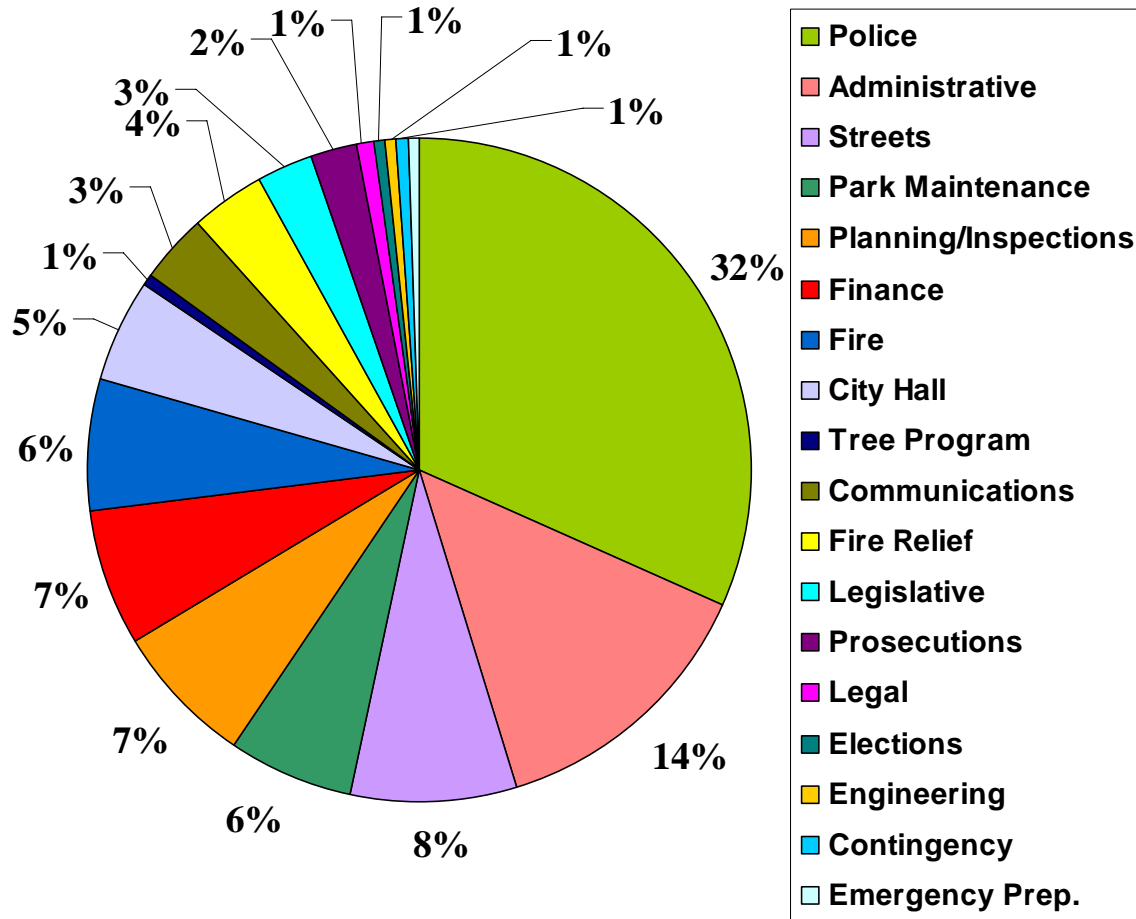
Non-Property Tax Revenues

- Increase of \$29,575 in Local Government Aid
- Proposed increase in building permit fees (unchanged since at least 1997)
- All fees to be reviewed annually to ensure that we are covering costs and that the rates remain competitive with similar cities

2007 Budgeted General Fund Expenditures By Dept



2007 General Fund: Expenditures by Department





Additional Information

- Ramsey County TNT – Dec 12th – 6:00 pm – Arlington High School
- Roseville School District TNT – Dec. 7th – District Service Center
- State of Minnesota Property Tax Refund Programs
 - www.taxes.state.mn.us
 - Regular Refund – based on income
 - Circuit Breaker – if taxes increased over 12%
 - Senior Citizen Tax Deferral
- To contest your 2008 property valuation – watch for notices in the mail during March 2007



For More Information:

- Visit our website:
 - www.falconheights.org
- Or call Justin at 651/792-7600
- E-mail:
Justin.miller@falconheights.org

ITEM: Approve Hire of Tim Pittman as Parks and Public Works Director

SUBMITTED BY: Justin Miller, City Administrator

EXPLANATION:

When Greg Hoag resigned as our Parks and Public Works Director, staff immediately posted advertisements in local newspapers, government websites and other forums to solicit applications for his replacement. In total, we received 35 applications, and a staff panel of myself, Stacey Kreuser, Deb Jones, Roland Olson, and Lisa Abernathy interviewed five candidates. After these initial interviews, Mayor Gehrz, Deb Bloom and I conducted a second interview with the candidate who clearly rose to the top of our applicant pool.

Tim Pittman has been employed with the City of Mounds View for the past 24 years. Over this time, he has worked his way up from utility laborer and mechanic to his current position of public works supervisor. For a seven month period in 2002, Tim also served as interim director of public works.

In our interviews, it was clear that Tim's experience and personality would make him a great asset to our organization and the City of Falcon Heights. I am very excited to have Tim join our team and to introduce him to the community. Pending council approval, he has agreed to begin work on December 18, 2006.

Tim's starting salary will be \$63,500 and he will be eligible his first step increase in six months as is consistent with our personnel policy. Due to his years of service, he will begin accruing vacation at the rate of three weeks per year, and will be eligible for standard sick leave, insurance, and deferred compensation benefits.

ATTACHMENT:

Pittman cover letter, resume, and letters of recommendation.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Staff recommends that the Falcon Heights City Council appoint Tim Pittman as our next Parks and Public Works Director at the terms stated above.

msg
11/1
8:30

October 23, 2006

City of Falcon Heights
2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue
Falcon Heights, MN 55113

Personnel Office:

I am interested in pursuing a full-time position as a Public Works and Parks Director for the City of Falcon Heights. For your review, I have enclosed an employment application, resume, and letters of recommendation. I would appreciate your consideration for the position of Public Works and Parks Director.

I have over 12 years experience in managerial and supervisory work, and I have been responsible for all facets of management. In addition, I am accustomed to handling multiple jobs and projects simultaneously. I also enjoy a challenge and work hard to attain my goals. Furthermore, I have the ability to establish and maintain effective communication with peers, customers and management.

I believe my professional experience and standards would make me a valuable asset to your organization. Once my resume has been reviewed, please contact me to arrange an interview at your earliest convenience at 763-286-2062.

Sincerely,

Timothy Pittman

Enclosures

TIMOTHY PITTMAN

SUMMARY

Manager with demonstrated degree of initiative and judgment coupled with high level of motivation, efficiency, and incisive ability to meet objectives

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of Public Works *City of Mounds View* 1983-Present

Public Works Supervisor

2002-Present

- Oversaw coordination and delegation of all department projects
- Facilitated city project planning and progress reports
- Assisted budgeting department funding and assessed forecasted allocations
- Managed and trained team of 10 subordinates, in addition to, annually managing seasonal crew
- Demonstrated stability and responsiveness during emergency situations as department contact

Interim Director of Public Works

July 2002 – January 2003

- Represented department during council meetings, providing comprehensive department updates
- Supervised regulation of all department operations and projects
- Administered management of all department employees, supervising multiple layers of subordinates
- Authored department budget and oversaw the management of distributed funds

Foreman

1994-2002

- Administered maintenance procedures, providing scheduling and replacement recommendations.
- Managed, scheduled and trained team of nine subordinates.
- Demonstrated leadership ability, by promoting from within the department to management position

Mechanic

1992-1994

- Maintained accurate records for all city vehicles and equipment.
- Utilized mechanical expertise and knowledge to diagnose and repair wide range of vehicles and equipment

Utility Laborer

1983-1992

- Utilized trade skills, performing various tasks for departments of water, sewer, streets, and parks

E-5 Sergeant

United States Army 1977-1981

- Oversaw the motor pool department, and managed vehicle repairs

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Management Courses

Century Community College
White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Automotive Service Excellence Certified July 1995

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & MEMBERSHIPS

Certified member, American Public Works Association *APWA* 1983-Present
Certified member, Minnesota Streets Superintendent Association *MSSA* 1994-Present, *President 2000*



October 27, 2006

To Whom This May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Tim Pittman. I have known Tim for 20 years and have worked more with him at the management level since 1996.

Tim is a very dependable and motivated, detail oriented person. We have shared ideas and equipment between our Cities and helped each other trouble shoot problem issues when necessary.

Tim will be an invaluable asset to your team, and I highly recommend Tim for the Parks and Public Works Director position for the City of Falcon Heights. Please feel free to call me at 651-638-2112 if you'd like to discuss his qualities in more detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Al Bauer'.

Al Bauer
Public Works Superintendent
City of New Brighton

Nathan Benson
Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik, and Assoc.
2335 West Highway 36
St Paul, MN 55113
October 26, 2006

To Whom it May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Tim Pittman for a position with the City of Falcon Heights. I have known and worked with Tim for three years. I have worked with Tim during the development of various public improvements within the City of Mounds View, including preliminary investigation, design, and construction.

Tim has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility, motivation, and ambition. He is motivated to address issues as they arise in a timely manner, and has an attention for detail to ensure tasks are completed properly. He has also displayed his ability to effectively communicate with residents. His approach is always courteous and professional, regardless of the resident's temperament or mood.

He has shown his ability to manage and lead the public works staff that he works with, and is willing to put forth the effort required to complete his work.

Tim would be an asset to any organization that he is involved with, and I am happy to give him my endorsement.

If you would like additional information about Tim, you can contact me at 651-604-4778

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan M. Benson".

Nathan M. Benson, P.E.
Project Engineer



Minnesota Department of Transportation

Metropolitan Division

Waters Edge

1500 West County Road B2

Roseville, MN 55113

6/5/2006

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to express my experiences working with Tim Pittman, City of Mounds View, Public Works Supervisor.

As the regional Transportation Operations Supervisor for Mn/DOT, Tim and I have successfully worked together for many years, partnering on a wide variety of projects that affect both the state highway system and the cities adjoining the rights of way.

I have found Tim to be cooperative and customer oriented. He is ready to share his expertise and work together to accomplish a common goal.

Tim has shown that he has knowledge and integrity, two very important attributes.

I would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steve Harju', written over a large, loopy flourish.

Steve Harju
Mn/DOT Metro,
Transportation Operations Supervisor
Spring Lake Park
763-785-5684



Department of Public Works

Kenneth G. Haider, P.E., Director and County Engineer

1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive

Arden Hills, MN 55112-3933 • (651) 266-7100 • Fax (651) 266-7110

E-mail: Public.Works@co.ramsey.mn.us

June 6, 2006

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am a maintenance foreman for the Ramsey County Public Works Department and I have had the pleasure of working with Tim Pittman over the last 18 years. Tim performs as my counterpart within the City of Mounds View Public Works. We have worked well together sharing equipment and manpower in an effort to keep our costs down in these tough economic times.

I believe Tim would be a positive addition to you or any other department he chooses to work for. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at 651-266-7194.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Clepper
District Foreman

GLC:pkt



Blaine Public Works Facility

1801 - 101st Avenue N.E., Blaine, Minnesota 55449-4408

(763) 785-6165

FAX (763) 785-6160

June 5, 2006

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to provide you with an introduction to Tim Pittman. I have known Mr. Pittman for 17 years, all of which were associated with employment with the City of Mounds View. Tim progressed through the organization to the position of Public Works Supervisor, continually seeking more responsibility and leadership. Throughout Tim's public service career, he has continually developed his management skills with interpersonal involvement with employees and professional training. Tim's ability to work well with management staff as well as subordinates has enabled him to be a highly effective team member. Mr. Pittman has prided himself in quality performance in his duties, as well as his expectations for his fellow employees. Tim's knowledge and experience in all aspects of Public Works as well as project management has made him an exceptional leader within his department.

Tim's interpersonal skills, not only with his peers, but also with the public, contractors and subordinates enable him to be highly effectively in problem solving and dispute resolution. Tim would be a valuable asset to any community and it is with this, that I can provide him with the highest recommendation for employment with your organization.

Sincerely,

Michael Ulrich
Director of Public Works
City of Blaine