



BOROUGH OF HAWTHORNE

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Mayor

Richard S. Goldberg

July 6, 2018

Dear Resident,

With all the craziness in Trenton with the threatened government shut down and bizarre ways they put their hands in our pockets with increased taxes and even fees for a shopping bag, I hope you appreciate the financial stability in Hawthorne.

Once again, my administration has worked closely with the Borough Council to produce a fiscally-responsible budget with a modest tax increase. I am pleased to announce that the 2018 tax increase of 1.90% for municipal services, including the Library, is the fourth consecutive year that the increase has been below 2%. For the average homeowner, it amounts to \$42 more as compared to last year.

The municipal portion of the tax bill, including the amount for the Library, represents the smallest share of the total, just 21.3%. Passaic County accounts for 24.3% of the total, and the local schools, 54.4%.

In addition to producing a modest tax increase this year, the budget provides for the pre-payment of \$2,680,000 in municipal debt, which will save the Borough \$609,000 in interest in future years.

Two construction projects funded in previous years are near completion. New bathrooms by the band shell, funded primarily with County Open Space funds, should be usable before the end of this summer's band shell schedule, as well as for the 10th annual Hawthorne Day on September 22 and recreational activities at Little Franklin Field.

Phase II of the downtown streetscape project will be under construction this summer, installing stamped concrete sidewalks on Lafayette Avenue where new decorative streetlights were installed during Phase I. The Borough will be submitting a grant application to fund Phase III of this project, which will extend the lights and sidewalks a block east on Diamond Bridge Avenue to Forest, and a block west to Arlington as we continue to improve the appearance of Hawthorne's central business district.

We continue to strive for smart development and add to our ratable base without causing additional infrastructure problems or costs. We are encouraging green development, and our Environmental Commission received a \$20,000 grant to further their good work.

My staff and I are committed to improved service and communication and look forward to serving our residents. My door is always open.

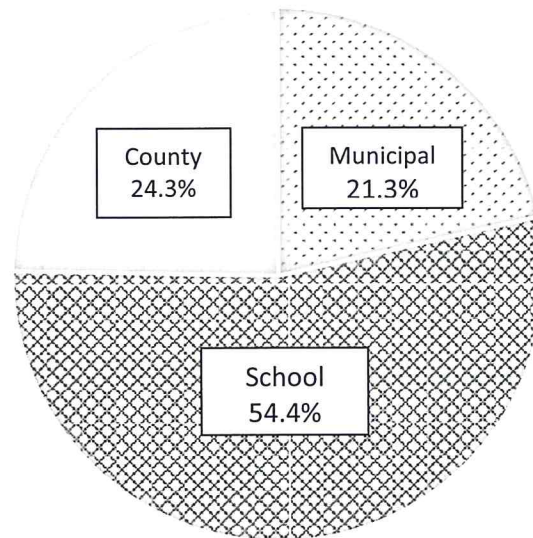
Sincerely,

Richard S. Goldberg
Mayor

RSG/emb

YOUR 2018 TAXES AND HOW THEY'RE SPENT

ALLOCATION OF TAXES



WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR MUNICIPAL TAX DOLLARS:

Police

Library

Garbage, Recycling, Yard Waste & Leaf Pick-up

Sewer Service

Roads: Cleaning, Snow Plowing, Traffic Lights, Street Lights & Shade Trees

Budget Supports Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Services

Recreation: Pool, Summer Recreation & Youth Sports

Zoning & Code Enforcement