

3/5/2015
3/18/2015

32-R-15

A RESOLUTION

Urging the Governor and General Assembly to Protect Funding of Local Government Distributive Fund Revenues

WHEREAS, municipalities are front-line providers of government services to citizens and these services include police and fire protection, parks, infrastructure, water, sewer and utility services, and snow removal; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Distributive Fund ("LGDF") is a state fund into which a portion of state income tax revenue is deposited annually for cities and counties throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, since 1969, Illinois municipalities have partnered with the State to fund core municipal services such as police, fire, public works, roads and sidewalks and this funding partnership is made possible by revenue from the LGDF; and

WHEREAS, in addition to funding core everyday services, LGDF distributions play a role in keeping the local tax burden low; and

WHEREAS, a reduction to the LGDF would place an undue burden on the City to address the State's budget challenges; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have fewer options to raise significant revenue and rely on the full amount of revenue that the State collects on their behalf in order to fund the essential quality-of-life services expected and relied upon by community residents; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly increased the State income tax without providing any of the new revenues to municipalities and this loss of revenue has left the municipal share at levels collected during the Great Recession; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of income tax collections deposited in the LGDF was reduced in 2011 from 10% to 6% and was then increased to 8% as of January 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council are concerned that without LGDF, the City may have to explore an increase in local taxes, and

WHEREAS, the Governor proposed a 50 percent reduction in the local share of the income tax during his FY2016 Budget Address, reducing local revenues by over \$600 million; and

WHEREAS, the City of Evanston could lose \$3,750,228 which would result in elimination of jobs, local tax increases, program and service cuts, and could increase debt burdens that would be felt by all citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1: The foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2: That the City of Evanston urges the Governor and the General Assembly to protect funding of the Local Government Distributive Fund and other revenue sources that allow local governments to provide for the health, safety and general welfare of their residents.

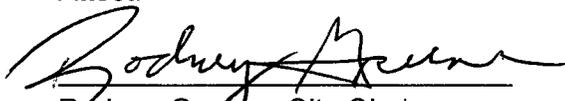
SECTION 3: Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Illinois and the General Assembly.

SECTION 4: This Resolution 32-R-15 shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.



Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor

Attest:



Rodney Greene, City Clerk

Adopted: March 16, 2015