



Dear Village Resident,

Enclosed is your 2008 property tax bill. Your Village Board, committees and staff worked hard to maintain our high standard of services and conservative budgeting. Under the direction of the Village Board, the 2008 budget was developed by reviewing service areas and activities for possible reductions in an attempt to provide a tax levy of less than a 2% increase. In accordance with this direction the budget was developed and approved with a 0.63% increase. This has resulted in some minor service level changes but does not affect any of the Village's core services. A 0.63% levy increase generates \$39,541 in additional revenue for the Village and means that a Village resident will pay \$5.84 per \$1,000 of assessed value which is up from \$5.75 last year, in part due to the annual reassessment and slightly lower property values.

The Village faced a challenging budget due to the same economic conditions that are affecting everyone as individuals and businesses. The loss of revenue from investments and declining shared revenue was significant. This year's budget was also more difficult than previous ones due to the significant increases in utility and fuel costs as well as some contractual services which are tied to the consumer price index which was near 5% at the time the budget was prepared..

On the back are charts that breakout by general category Village operations. The Village portion of your tax bill represents only 34% of the total tax due. The additional amounts are collected by the Village for the Elmbrook Schools, Waukesha County, Waukesha County Technical College and the State of Wisconsin. The total tax rate per \$1,000 for all jurisdictions is \$17.24 which represents a 2.87% increase over last year's rate. An example of the tax calculation and the levies of the other taxing entities are on the back of this letter. Also included on the back are charts depicting the taxing entities percentages.

There are always many exciting programs and projects ongoing in the Village of Elm Grove and I strongly encourage everyone to participate in the discussions and processes whenever possible. We will continue to update our web page to provide you with current information so please visit us often at [www.elmgrovi.org](http://www.elmgrovi.org).

On behalf of the Village Board and Staff, best wishes to you and your family for a joyous holiday season and upcoming New Year.

Sincerely,

David De Angelis  
Village Manager