

QUESTION: 1) Where do any drivers or challenges overlap across government bodies?	
#1 ISSUE 55%	Sensitivity to tax fatigue and total costs to taxpayers
	- Synchronization of debt strategy across all bodies for the overall benefit of taxpayers while still meeting the individual needs of each body.
	- To facilitate the above, install a "look up" culture within each body to consider the impacts and synergies on/with the other taxing bodies when major initiatives are in the early planning stages.
	- Recognize the shared goal of economic development within the village to halt or reverse the increasing proportion of residential taxes among the total property taxes of Oak Park.
	- How do we stop or reverse that 69-75-88% (residential property tax) trend over the past three decades?
	- Property taxes
	- Timing of referendums
	- Fund balances vary in a big way
	- Each body makes decisions independent of other bodies but we all depend on the same taxpayers.
	- Evaluate overall levy, discussions about budgets and effect on levy
	- Fund balances
	- State and federal funding levels and their impact on local property tax
	- The unintentional consequences of the understandable community desire to have the highest quality services, programs, initiatives, etc. across taxing bodies, while also expecting those bodies to keep the tax burden reasonable for residential households and local businesses
#2 ISSUE 18%	Shared resources, i.e. infrastructure
	- Primary challenges/opportunities for Collaboration
	o Infrastructure
	o Capital Improvements
	o Q: How can we better coordinate infrastructure / capital improvements?
	o Usage Fees:
	o Q: Is there additional opportunity to utilize fees to offset increases in operating costs (e.g. Collaborative revenue generating facilities)
#3 ISSUE 14%	- Speak with a single voice on the Ike project (to IDOT, feds, etc.) since the project presents both risks and opportunities for all bodies.
	- Increase the amount of shared services, resources, and infrastructure, as well as purchasing where possible.
	- If all bodies were one in Village how would administrative staffing positions differ?
#4 ISSUE 9%	Village population growth; subgroups growth
	- Projected growth in student enrollment on D97, D200, Library and Park District operations.
	- Growth in the number of housing units will also have impacts on Senior, Mental Health and other social support organizations.
	- All organizations are looking to serve an expanded portion of the VOP population, with and expanding mix of services and programs.
	Impacts of state action
	- Senate Bill 16: Impact on D200 and D97
	- Pension issues
	Other misc.
	- Salary, benefit, and pension realities as major drivers in most local taxing body budgets

QUESTION: 1.5) How can these be leveraged?	
	- Debt Service - Debt Service across the various taxing bodies provides an opportunity for all taxing bodies. Many questions around how to best coordinate, track and manage.
	- Possible topic for a future IGOV meeting might be a review of Capital Improvement plans.
	- Better awareness of short and long term intergovernmental planning dependent on tax dollars
	- The long term benefit, advisability of an across all taxing bodies commitment to early childhood support and education as a way to reduce tax dollars expended in regards to education, mental health, etc. long term

QUESTION: 2) Where are any overlaps or differences that could possibly lead to conflict?	
#1 ISSUE 44%	Internal drivers that might preclude cooperation
	- Though the assembly made clear that the boards have a great many shared interests and goals, bringing these shared goals to the point of intergovernmental agreement and partnership, e.g. a shared administrative center, is difficult because each board is subject to unique circumstances such as timing and budget cycles
	- The reality that that all taxing bodies are in a sense "competing" for the same limited dollars
	- The increase in population (both in general and in the public school systems) and the increased demand for and expectation of diverse and enhanced services by that population
	- The competition for the limited space/land in our community
	- Timing and scheduling of infrastructure improvements and enhancements.
	- Timing and planning for future referendums / increases.
	- Collective Bargaining agreements and differences in labor agreements
	- Referendum and collective bargaining
#2 ISSUE (TIE) 17%	Not paying attention to what other taxing bodies are doing
	Debt Service: Failure to synchronize debt strategies, exacerbating taxpayer fatigue and resulting in inter-governmental competition and adverse referenda outcomes.
	Intergovernmental agreements – impact of agreements and the length of the agreements on current and future boards
#2 ISSUE (TIE) 17%	Haves vs. have nots
	- Differential in fund balances
	- Question about why some bodies (Parks, Township) can maintain more constant fund balances than schools and Village
	- Separate foundations

#3 ISSUE	Citizens wanting cake and eating it too
11%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen expectations regarding services, programs, etc. provided by each of the local taxing bodies and the community's significant ability to advocate for those programs and services while expecting the taxing bodies to hold the line on taxes - Tension between tax level and level of services and amenities provided
	Other/Misc.
	<p>Unique Idea – can one taxing body lend money to another taxing body so that any interest is paid back to the tax payers of Oak Park?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some very similar functions (finance, HR) could seemingly be done by one overarching body (but differential in salaries and benefits are vast, as well as specialized knowledge).

QUESTION: 3) Today was focused on economic drivers and challenges. Do we need to do a similar exercise for social and/or environmental drivers and challenges?	
ISSUE #1	Yes, but continue or finish the job on the financial issues
27%	<p>Yes, the group all agreed the meeting was valuable and supported future meetings, especially if the meeting was focused on a specific topics (e.g., Financial Topic, How to do more with less).</p> <p>Yes, but only after today's topic of economic sustainability is given full development time, planning, and action.</p> <p>Yes, and annualize the activity (further comments from this group mentioned 2x/year). Focus should continue with economic issues; add social and environmental over time.</p>
	Other/Misc.
	<p>Yes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How do we look ahead to address social and environmental concerns into the future? - Impact of development on schools and parks e.g. consider impact fee. - Character of community e.g. diversity and inclusion - Education and needs of children, as well as seniors - Income/wealth gap issues - Environmental commitment across the community <p>Yes, homelessness, social economic matters, including issues at schools and in community.</p>

QUESTION: 4) Should there continue to be an Intergovernmental Committee and, if so, what should be its mission and boundaries?	
ISSUE #1	Yes; decide relevant topics of mutual importance
29%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics and future meetings need to be more focused and address issues that are important to the community. - Facilitate more of these types of events. Guide frequency, topics, etc. Make these events 2x per year. - Identify the topics that touch all of the taxing bodies <p>Redefined I-Gov. This meeting continues, is used to define specific topics for discussions, recommendations to be made to each board. Topics should include an overall discussion of the levy coordination, healthcare, pools, homeless kids on school holidays, teen activities.</p> <p>The annual group IGOV meeting should be used as a forum to drive the agenda for IGOV topics for the coming year.</p>
ISSUE #2	Yes; facilitate conversations
24%	<p>Yes, the intergovernmental committee should continue to function as an advisory representative body of the local taxing bodies. It should focus on facilitating conversations and meetings that initially address economic issues impact the taxing bodies and the community at large, and in time, social and environmental issues as well as continuing to function as a clearing house for communication and articulation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relationship building as value - Reporting board activities and identifying potential projects for two or more jurisdictions to collaborate - Continue as an advisory, not policy-making, committee
ISSUE 3	Yes, but get more focused
12%	<p>I-Gov – Focused discussion making recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anan – need accountability and outcomes for specific purpose e.g. commit to a joint project on environmental sustainability, including funding
	Other/misc.
	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes, the IGov interaction should continue. - Possibly be expanded to include a staff person to support and facilitate the actions of the IGov group. - Health care – this meeting defines topics; bring in other groups as needed. I Gov needs to involve hospitals, universities as needed. - Annual gathering such as this assembly <p>Work more closely with River Forest, work to form a “one community” viewpoint. River Forest's view is that they are unique when working in coalitions.</p>

QUESTION: 5) Specific recommendation for the next step:	
ISSUE #1	Bring feedback from event to respective boards; give time to digest
50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In general, all taxing bodies need to take the time to think through the slide implications and assembly feedback. - IGOV members should request respective board time to discuss the minutes of the October 25 assembly to look for commonality of interests, goals and think of ways to join forces to leverage their collective authority and duties to effect change where desired. - IGOV should meet to discuss the assembly and suggest next steps for consideration by the boards.
	Other/misc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Look for ways/mechanisms to increase intergovernmental communication especially when it comes to planning issues that may or will impact fellow taxing bodies. <p>Ensure that the slide presentations from this event are available to the public on line.</p> <p>Plan, schedule next event with target of two times per year.</p>