

Facilities Facts

To help inform the Elmbrook community on high school facilities topics.

Referendum Questions & Costs Explained

At its regular public meeting held on Tuesday, January 23, 2007, the Elmbrook Board of Education voted to place two referendum questions on the April 3, 2007 general election ballot.

Question 1:

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Elmbrook, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$99,300,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of renovating and adding to Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High Schools; making related site improvements; and acquiring related equipment.

THE COST FOR QUESTION 1: Approval of this question would result in an increase of \$164 in 2007 over the 2006 tax bill for an average Brookfield home valued at \$335,000. The amount of taxes needed to be collected for debt service purposes would remain at that level for the next ten years, and decline thereafter until the debt is paid off in 2026. Use the calculator page at <http://www.elmbrookschoools.org/facilities/ReferendumTaxCalculator.nws> to easily calculate the annual tax increase to pay for this debt for your own home. Over the life of the 20-year bonds, the total average annual cost on a \$335,000 home for Question 1 would be \$312, which totals a 20-year investment in the renovation of both high schools of \$6,240.

Question 2:

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Elmbrook, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,500,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of adding a field house to both Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High Schools and acquiring related equipment.

THE COST FOR QUESTION 2: Approval of this question would result in an increase of \$27 in 2007 over the 2006 tax bill for an average Brookfield home valued at \$335,000. The amount of taxes needed to be collected for debt service purposes would remain at that level for the next ten years, and decline thereafter until the debt is paid off in 2026. Use the calculator page at <http://www.elmbrookschoools.org/facilities/ReferendumTaxCalculator.nws> to easily calculate the annual tax increase to pay for this debt for your own home for Question 2. Over the life of the 20-year bonds, the total average annual cost on a \$335,000 home for Question 2 would be \$30, which totals a 20-year investment in the fieldhouses at the two high schools of \$600.

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Background on Question 2

Four-station field houses (four basketball courts side-by-side) with a walking/running track around the perimeter were projected in the specifications for two new high schools. To reduce costs, these field houses were replaced in the April 3 Referendum Question 1 with:

- Minor remodeling of the large gymnasium and major remodeling of the small gymnasium at Brookfield Central; and
- Minor remodeling of the only gymnasium and construction of a new two-station gymnasium at Brookfield East.

While these components of referendum Question 1 address the most pressing gymnasium needs at Brookfield East, they do not add to the gymnasium capacity at Brookfield Central.

Referendum Question 2 would add two gym stations at each school in a location that creates a fieldhouse (four basketball courts side-by-side) with a walking/running track around the perimeter. The advantages of this additional space are an indoor walking/running track, earlier practice schedules in the afternoon/evenings for student athletes, greater capacity for community recreation and walking programs, and less cost to add the space now than in the future. The disadvantage is the added cost at this juncture, which prompted Question 2 as a separate question.

At-A-Glance Costs			
Projected Increases from 2006 tax bill to pay off the debt incurred			
Home Value Est. Fair Market Value (from 2006 tax bill)	Question 1 \$99.3M (\$.49/1000)	Question 2 \$9.5M (\$.08/1000)	Total \$108.8M (\$.57/1000)
\$200,000	\$ 98.00	\$16.00	\$114.00/yr
\$300,000	\$147.00	\$24.00	\$171.00/yr
(Average) \$335,000	\$164.00	\$27.00	\$191.00/yr
\$400,000	\$196.00	\$32.00	\$228.00/yr
\$500,000	\$245.00	\$40.00	\$285.00/yr

The above tax increases are projected to hold constant for the first ten years then decline for the last ten years of the repayment schedule.

Calculate your home's specific tax for the two referendum questions at:
<http://www.elmbrookschoools.org/facilities/ReferendumTaxCalculator.nws>