



LFP Gov Watch

April 30, 2011

Dear Neighbor,

We need your feedback.

Last year you were one of the early and strong supporters of the “No on Prop 1” campaign that led 78% of Lake Forest park voters to reject the property tax levy proposed by the present LFP City Council. We are contacting you in the hope that, like us, you are interested in a viable Lake Forest Park community, and want to continue to help shape the future of our City.

Some of our campaign members attended City Council Meetings during the recent budget deliberations and talked with Council members in an effort to influence how the City will spend our tax dollars in 2011 and 2012. We think the final budget is more reasonable because we were there. Our experiences convinced us that our City government will benefit from continued citizen oversight. As a result we have formed LFP GOV WATCH, an organization of residents dedicated to that purpose.

LFP GOV WATCH IS DEDICATED TO ENSURING THAT THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK REMAINS LIVEABLE, AFFORDABLE, AND SUSTAINABLE BY ENCOURAGING, SUPPORTING, AND PROMOTING A RESPONSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE CITY GOVERNMENT.

To succeed, GOV WATCH needs and seeks your feedback, your support, and your participation.

If you would like to further the benefits achieved with the “No on Prop 1” campaign, the following is the best way to support LFP GOV WATCH and to help move Lake Forest Park forward: please answer the brief survey on page 2, and return it in the enclosed envelope.

What we set in motion with our historic vote last fall must not be wasted. Now is the time to safeguard the present and ensure a better future in Lake Forest Park for every resident. Let us know where you stand now. Please continue as a responsible, active citizen in whatever way you can.

Please send your response in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible. We appreciate your supplying your own stamp.

We are eager to hear from you.

Steve Plusch, Chair, Lake Forest Park Government Watch (GOV WATCH), and
Members of the GOV WATCH Committee of Residents, including:

Miriam Doyle, John Foy, Tom French, Myra Gamburg, Gini Hebron, Linda Holman, Tony Holman,
Alan Kiest, Margaret Marshall, Allison Reagan, GERALYN Shreve, Jack Tonkin, Tod Turner, Jean Thomas

LFP GOV WATCH SURVEY:

1. For which of these reasons did you vote NO on Prop 1? (check any that apply)

- A 6-year levy was too long
- 36% increase within the first year was too high
- In 6 years the property tax base would have been higher and the budget still in crisis
- Administrative salaries too high
- We are not receiving enough value for our tax dollar
- I lack confidence in the Council's fiscal decisions
- The City should live within the means of a residential community
- All of the above

2. What is your chief reason for voting no? _____

3. Other concerns: _____

4. Are you willing and able to participate in facilitating responsible city government?
If your answer is yes, check any that apply:

- I can attend Council Meetings occasionally
- Telephone
- Host a coffee
- Doorbell
- Help with mailings

I'd consider running for an LFP City office this year or in the future:

- City Council
- Mayor

I'd like to suggest someone who'd make a great candidate for:

- Mayor _____
- City Council _____

I'd like to support LFP GOV WATCH in its resident-based, nonpartisan oversight of our local government (including a website, mailings, and election efforts) with the enclosed check for:

- \$200
- \$150
- \$100
- \$75
- \$50
- \$25
- other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Employer (for donations of \$100 or more) _____