

# Lowndes County Board of Commissioners

Public Hearing on the Millage  
August 22, 2017



# What is the Millage?

- The tax levied by a county for county purposes
- The tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed property value
- Determined by dividing the budgeted tax revenues by the total digest and subtracting any rollbacks

# Taxpayers Bill of Rights

- Requires –
  - Rollback of millage when there is “significant net-value added reassessment”
  - Use of a state mandated formula which computes the tax revenue increase from reassessments as a percentage
  - When not rolled back to the computed millage –
    - Advertisement of a tax increase as a percentage
    - Three public hearings to set the millage

# Taxpayers Bill of Rights

- Significant net-value added reassessment –
  - Calculate the millage equivalent of the Reassessed Value Added
  - The difference is the rollback millage
  - Applies to existing real property

# Rollback Millage Example

Net Value-Added Reassessment (RVA)	\$100,000,000
Current Year Digest (CYD)	\$2,000,000,000
Prior Year Millage (PYM)	11.224
Millage Equivalent of RVA ( $RVA/CYD * PYM$ )	0.561
Rollback Millage for Current Year (Difference)	10.663
Current Year Millage (CYM)	11.224
Percentage of Tax Increase to Advertise	5.26%

In the example above, the millage rate for the current year remains the same as the prior year. However, because of the required calculations, the County would have to advertise a tax increase of 5.26% and hold three public hearings to keep the millage rate the same.

# Actual Rollback Calculation

Net Value-Added Reassessment (RVA)	\$(2,830,352)
2017 Year Digest (CYD)	\$2,950,585,713
2016 Millage Rate (PYM)	11.224
Millage Equivalent of RVA ( $RVA/CYD * PYM$ )	(0.011)
Rollback Millage for 2017 (Difference)	11.235
2017 Millage Rate (CYM)	11.224
Percentage of Tax Increase to Advertise	(0.10)%

# Millage Formulas

$$\text{Gross Millage} = \frac{(\text{Budgeted Property Tax} + \text{Budgeted Local Option Sales Tax})}{(\text{Total Digest})}$$

$$\text{LOST Rollback} = \frac{(\text{Budgeted Local Option Sales Tax})}{(\text{Total Digest})}$$

$$\text{Net Millage} = \text{Gross Millage} - \text{LOST Rollback}$$

# Local Option Sales Tax



State of Georgia

SPLOST – Split between  
County and municipalities  
(Capital improvements)

EdSPLOST – Split between  
school systems (Capital  
improvements)

LOST – Split between County  
and municipalities (Property tax  
relief)





# Millage Calculation

	Prior Year	100%	95%
Total County Digest	\$2,948,100,398	\$2,950,585,713	\$2,803,056,427
Budgeted Property Tax (County)	\$26,455,000	\$26,480,000	\$25,155,000
Parks & Recreation	\$3,685,125	\$3,688,232	\$3,503,821
Development Authority	\$2,948,100	\$2,950,586	\$2,803,056
Budgeted LOST	\$12,000,000	\$11,500,000	\$11,500,000
Total Budgeted Taxes	\$45,088,226	\$44,618,818	\$42,961,877
Gross Millage Before Rollbacks	15.294	15.122	15.327
LOST Rollback	(4.070)	(3.898)	(4.103)
Net Millage	11.224	11.224	11.224
Total County Assessment	\$33,089,479	\$33,117,374	\$31,461,505

# Property Tax Example

	City of Valdosta Resident	Unincorporated Resident
Property Value	\$200,000	\$200,000
Assessed Value (40%)	\$80,000	\$80,000
Homestead Exemption	\$(6,000)	\$(6,000)
Net Taxable Base	\$74,000	\$74,000
Tax Calculation:		
Lowndes County – 8.974 <i>PY 8.974</i>	\$664	\$664
Development Authority – 1.00	\$74	\$74
Parks & Recreation Authority – 1.25	\$93	\$93
Lowndes County Schools – 16.839 <i>PY 16.911</i>		\$1,246
City of Valdosta – 8.001 <i>PY 7.950</i>	\$592	
Valdosta City Schools – 16.980	\$1,257	
Total Estimated Taxes	\$2,680	\$2,077