



Village of  
**Elmwood Park**

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## **City of Chicago water rates increase again in 2014**

*Village rates adjusted to absorb Chicago increase and fund flood mitigation project*

ELMWOOD PARK – Elmwood Park water rates will increase this month in response to the latest increase from the City of Chicago. Village residents receive water from the City, which raised rates by 70 percent over a four year period beginning in 2012. As a result, the Village Board passed a series of annual increase in 2011.

“The City of Chicago continues to hit the suburbs with these enormous water rate hikes,” Village President Angelo "Skip" Saviano. “We understand the burden this places on our residents.”

The Village is also in the process of implementing an extensive flood mitigation plan. As has always been the case, the local Water Fund helps provide revenue for these and other similar types of projects. Some Elmwood Park water mains and sewers are more than 75 years old and are being replaced as well. The Village will use its rate increase to pay for the Chicago rate hikes and for the debt service on the flood mitigation project.

“Unfortunately, we simply cannot absorb the increase from Chicago, keep our system in good repair, and pay for the flood mitigation project without adjusting our rates ,” Saviano said.

The Village has joined with the West Central Municipal Conference to continue to fight Chicago’s water rate increase, including exploring possible legislation in Springfield. “We are legally required to pay Chicago,” Saviano said. “We also need to pay for the flood mitigation project which will bring great benefit to the Village. We will continue to look for ways to fully maintain our water and sewer system without placing unnecessary burdens on our taxpayers.”

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