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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public information sessions planned for special assessment replacement Oshkosh is proposing a new method to fund road-related improvements

OSHKOSH, Wis., January 25, 2024 – Special assessments, the funding mechanism for road and sidewalk reconstruction, has seen a rise in cost faster than the rate of inflation. The impact on individual households receiving special assessments has been significant. The city of Oshkosh is considering a new, balanced method of funding to replace road-related special assessments.

The new sustainable approach includes a combination of funding sources. One is the implementation of a Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) of \$35 per vehicle. The other is charging a portion of street improvements to the city's water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer utilities. This would result in an annual increase of 0.25% - 0.50% to each utility bill. Altogether, these funding sources would provide the needed \$3.75 million annually for road and sidewalk reconstruction.

As this is a major change in the method of funding road and sidewalk reconstruction, several public information sessions are scheduled for residents:

- Tuesday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 406 of City Hall
- Wednesday, January 31 at 2:00 p.m. (Live Q&A on City of Oshkosh Government Facebook page and Oshkosh Media Gov TV platforms)
- Thursday, February 1 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 406 of City Hall

Additional information, including a FAQ sheet and presentation materials, can be found in the "Hot Topics" section of the city of Oshkosh website at <u>www.OshkoshWI.gov</u>. Comments and questions may be submitted for the Live Q&A session by sending an email to <u>VRFcomments@oshkoshwi.gov</u>.

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