



Vehicle Registration Fee & Utility Fees as Special Assessments Replacement

January, 2024



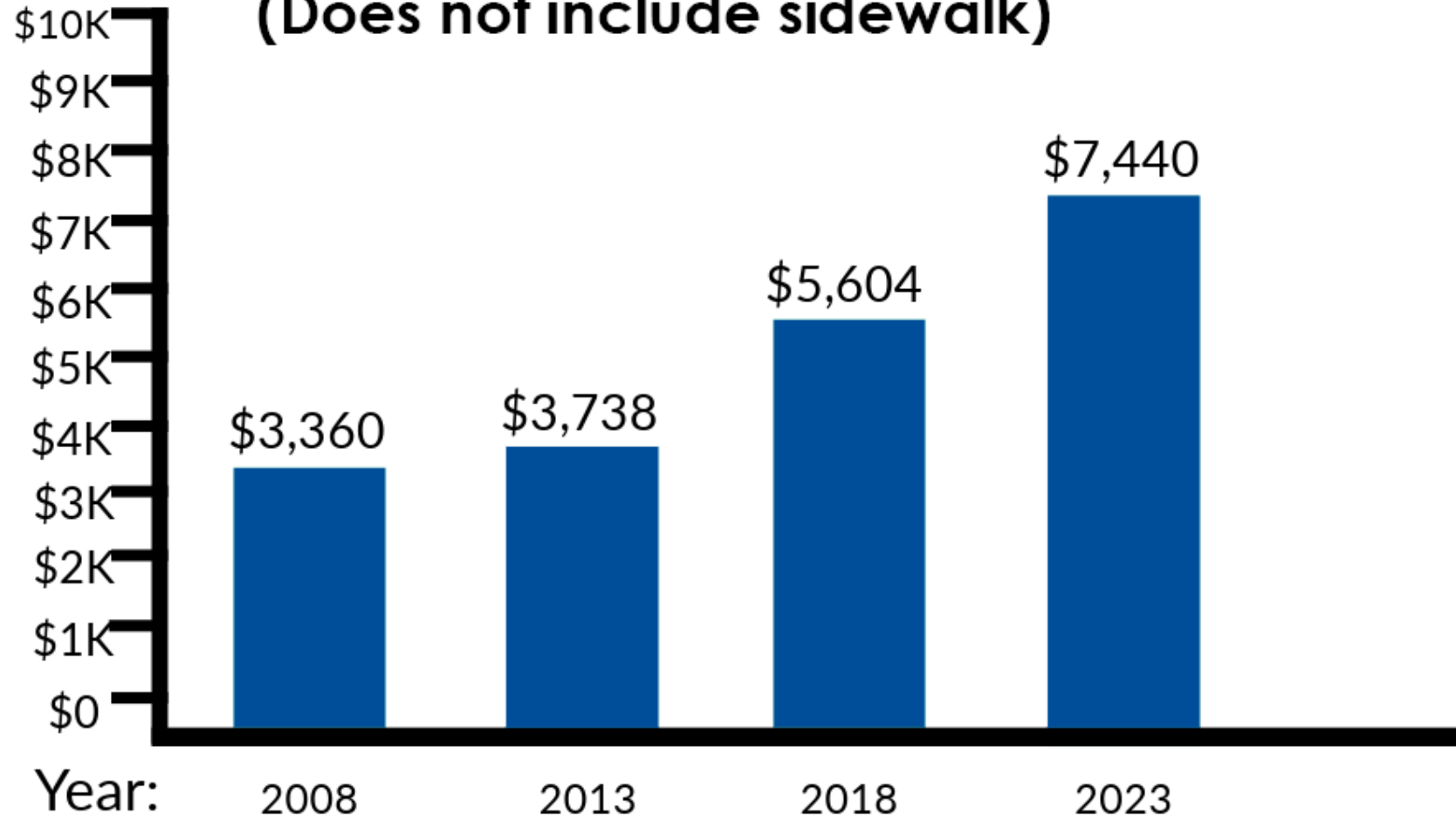
What's the Issue?

- Cost of capital improvements have been rising faster than the rate of inflation.
- Impact of special assessments for households has been increasing.
- A combination of funding methods appears to be the most fair approach to re-allocate these costs.



Street Paving Cost

(Does not include sidewalk)



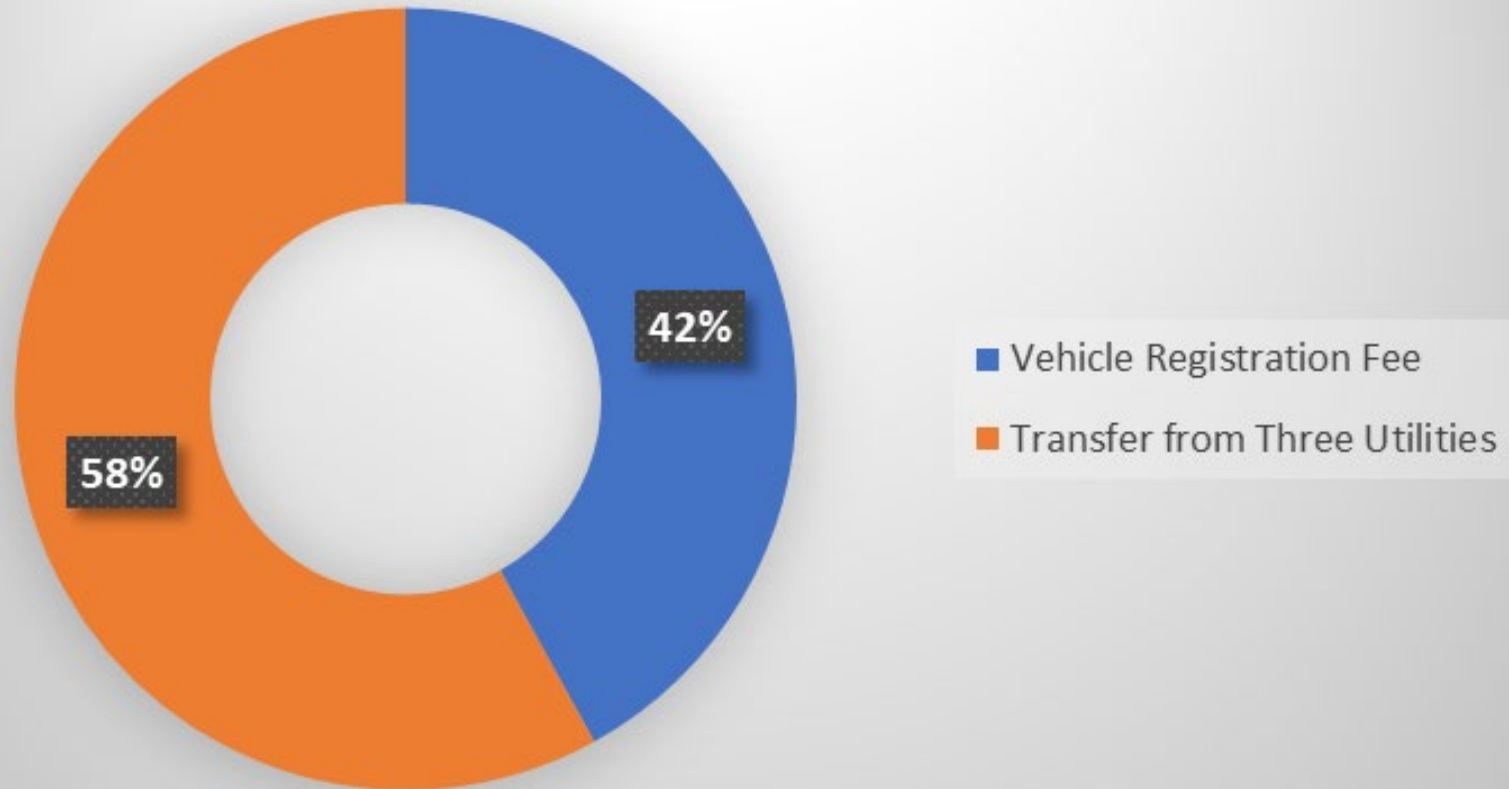
Based on 60-foot lot frontage, 32' wide street



New Funding Approach

- Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) = \$1.5 million annually
- Water Utility = \$750,000 annually
- Sanitary Sewer Utility = \$750,000 annually
- Storm Sewer Utility = \$750,000 annually
- **TOTAL = \$3.75 million annually to fund road & sidewalk reconstruction**

New Funding





Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF)

- Must be used for transportation purposes
- Fee added on to annual vehicle registration
- Permitted for vehicles up to 8,000 lbs.
- Larger vehicles (i.e. commercial) are exempt
- Estimate 46,772 vehicles qualify for VRF
- The proposed VRF for Oshkosh residents would be \$35 annually



Vehicle Registration Fees In Wisconsin

- 38 Municipalities (\$10 - \$40)
- 8 in NE Wisconsin
- 13 Counties (\$10 - \$30)



Vehicle Registration Fee Comparison

- Appleton (\$20)
- Eau Claire (\$24)
- Green Bay (\$20)
- Janesville (\$40)
- Kaukauna (\$10)
- Manitowoc (\$20)
- Sheboygan (\$20)



Utility Fees

- Water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer utilities would each be charged the amount necessary to restore roads after these utilities have been replaced.
- The annual increase needed for special assessment relief would be an annual increase in utility rates of between **0.25% and 0.5%**.
- The impact on a \$100 monthly utility bill will average between **\$0.25 and \$0.50 per month**.



What items are covered under this new proposed method?

- Road and Sidewalk reconstruction would be paid for by this new funding method.
- Sidewalk rehabilitation would be funded.



What items will continue to receive a Special Assessment?

- New developments and new utility construction will continue to be special assessed.
- Water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer laterals to a property will also still receive a special assessment.



When will this new funding method take effect?

- This special assessment relief will take effect for projects that begin on or after January 1, 2024.
- The vehicle registration fee will begin appearing on vehicle registration renewals sometime after July 1, 2024.



What about those who recently paid a Special Assessment?

- The City will be unable to refund previously paid special assessments that were approved, charged, or collected under the previous method.
- This new approach seeks to establish a sustainable funding source that will move Oshkosh forward from the present time.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit www.OshkoshWI.gov “Hot Topics” for a FAQ sheet, this presentation, and more.

Comments: VRFcomments@oshkoshwi.gov