

**Lake County 2017-18 Tax Change
Homeowner Questions / Concerns**

Ref#	Question / Concern	Answered By	Answer / Reply
1	Is each TRIM line item valid? Should some be dropped? (ex Ambulance & Hospital) Some some be added?		All Items on the TRIM Notice were valid
2	How is each rate calculated? The only rate that went up was City of Mt Dora. All the other rates either remained the same or dropped. What causes a rate to increase? Some of the City Council had suggested the Mt Dora mill rate NOT exceed 6.5.		Rates are calculated by taking the expenses that are covered by the assessment / taxing authority and backing into the available Taxable Value citywide to set the required millage rate.
3	How is "Taxable Value" calculated? Is it a % of Market Value? Why is the Taxable Value for school tax greater than all the others?		Taxable value is calculated by the Property Assessor. School Board Taxable value is not subject to the 2nd Homestead exemption.
4	Why does the TRIM Notice include columns 5 & 6, knowing that a Budget Change will always be needed?		In accordance with F.S. 200.065
5	How is a Community Redevelopment Agency work? How is it created? Why is it for so many years? Who manages it? How is its success measured?		Created by F.S. 163 and the Citizens and Council of Mount Dora. For a CRA to create the tax increment to fund projects it takes a minimum of 10 years to build available resources. It is managed by an advisory board and the City Council. Success of a CRA is determined by the property owners and Council
6	Why are Budget Revenue Sources different from year to year? FY 2016-2017 Budget has 8 line items. FY 2017-18 (per 5/11/17 City Council Meeting) has 13 line items and is missing 3 that appear in FY 2016-17)		Budgeted revenues change yearly based on projects from Federal/State/Local revenue strings. Revenues are determined by Charges for Services and Taxable Value to name a few.

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7	When will the Final FY 2017-18 Budget be published on City of Mt Dora website? Will the Final Budget be approved and published before the last Public Hearing?		Final Budget as approved by Council has been on the website since before the first public hearing. The final adopted budget will be posted to the Website within 3 days after the November 21, 2017 meeting.
8	What are the Specific Projects that caused the FY 2017-18 Budget to increase in comparison to the FY 2016-17 Budget?		The projects are set during the budget workshops and various Council meetings. They vary year to year and the various needs of city infrastructure and other users of city facilities.
9	Are all Lake County cities taxed the same? What are the city tax rates in Lake County by city?		Each city is independently run and I can not provide their methodology. Tax Rates can be found at each City's website or at http://www.lakecopropappr.com/millage-rates.aspx
10	How does the 3% Cap work?		This is set by State Statutue but information can be found at http://www.lakecopropappr.com/index.aspx
11	Is the following a complete list of the Florida Property Tax Exemptions? 1) First Responder Fallen Hero 2) Widow / Widowers 3) Disability 4) Blind 5) Ex-Service Member 6) Senior Citizen		This is set by State Statutue but information can be found at http://www.lakecopropappr.com/index.aspx
12	Can the Public Hearings be combined so that fewer meetings are held?		This is set by State Statutue in accordance with F.S. 200.065.
13	What is the cost (by Position) of County/City employees? Example; City Manager (per City Council Agenda Packet - 8/15/17) = \$286,497. Per Google, average City manager Salary in FL = \$105,000. Is the \$286,497 City Manager \$\$ = City Manager Department?		This will require additional time and the City Clerk can provide based on Public Records law.
14	Based on the Full Time Equivalent Employees - By Function / Program (2017 vs 2018) = 16.5 additional FTE's. Why is it necessary to increase FTE?		Required additional employees are discussed during the budget workshops and various Council meetings. They vary year to year based on current requirements.