



St. Louis Park Referendum

Proud Past. Prepared Future.



St. Louis Park
Public Schools

Thank You for Supporting SLP Schools



Your support has provided:

- All school kitchen renovation, classrooms and classroom furniture upgrades, cafeterias Media Center, The Link and student commons
- Central operations center
- Moving PSI to current location
- Central pool and locker rooms
- Track and field, stadium, HS tennis courts
- Aquila, PSI, Central Pre-K playgrounds
- Middle school parking lots
- Gender neutral restrooms
- New gymnastic gym

Overview

- District overview
- Financial overview
- Ballot question
- Questions



Mission & Core Values

St. Louis Park Public Schools sees, inspires, and empowers **EACH** student to **achieve academic excellence** and live their brilliance in a racially equitable learning environment that **centers student voice and experience** to energize and enhance the spirit of our community.

THE BRILLIANCE OF OURSELVES AND OTHERS



We believe everyone has the capacity and responsibility to inspire and nurture the growth and potential of our students and each other.

AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



We are collectively responsible for partnering with our staff, families, and communities to support and enhance each learner's growth and success.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS



We will raise the bar and build a legacy. We believe in setting and reaching achievement goals that help each student and staff achieve their full potential.

ADVOCACY FOR EQUITY



We stand for the dignity of each student and staff and actively work to remove barriers so everyone can succeed.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY



We collectively share the responsibility to create educational opportunities for each student by removing barriers to create an equitable and welcoming learning environment where everyone feels they belong.

PERSISTENT EFFORT



We are committed to building a cohesive, culturally responsive, data-driven educational system where all students and staff can thrive and adapt to the changing needs of learners and society.

RACIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCE



Recognizing and valuing our different backgrounds strengthens our ability to inspire and engage each student and staff member to reach their full academic potential and cultivate a sense of belonging.

Support for Our Schools

Our community believes:

90%

School is well-rounded and preparing their child(ren) for their future.

86%

Technology is important for student learning.

84%

Believe the district is working towards creating an environment that is culturally and racially inclusive for staff, students, and families.

Data from a 2026 statewide survey and districtwide parent climate survey

Proud of our Past.



1900: The first seniors (six girls and one boy) graduate from Lincoln High School.

1929: The first high school yearbook, *The Echowan*, is published, which is still the yearbook today!

1968: Park's Quiz Bowl team wins three contests.

1969: Senior Steve Saliterman builds a computer that adds, subtracts, multiplies, divides, and plays tic-tac-toe.

2005, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012: St. Louis Park is named one of the "100 Best Communities for Young People" by America's Promise, The only Minnesota community recognized for six years!

Prepared for our Future.

90% SLP High School graduation rate

“I want to be a good citizen who contributes good things to the world.” - High School Student

80% Elementary students say they are learning to listen to each of their classmates voices.

“I did not know how to do something in math, and people in my class helped me understand it.” - Elementary Student





Financial Overview

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Financial Responsibility



SLP Schools maintains and improves financial practices with audits, FAC and school board reviews.



Reduced spending and budget reductions have grown the fund balance.



Responsible steward of taxpayer funds, managing debt responsibly, and honoring our commitments to our community.

Financial Reality



Funding has not kept up with inflation.



Rising costs and increased salary and benefits have put increasing pressure on the budget.

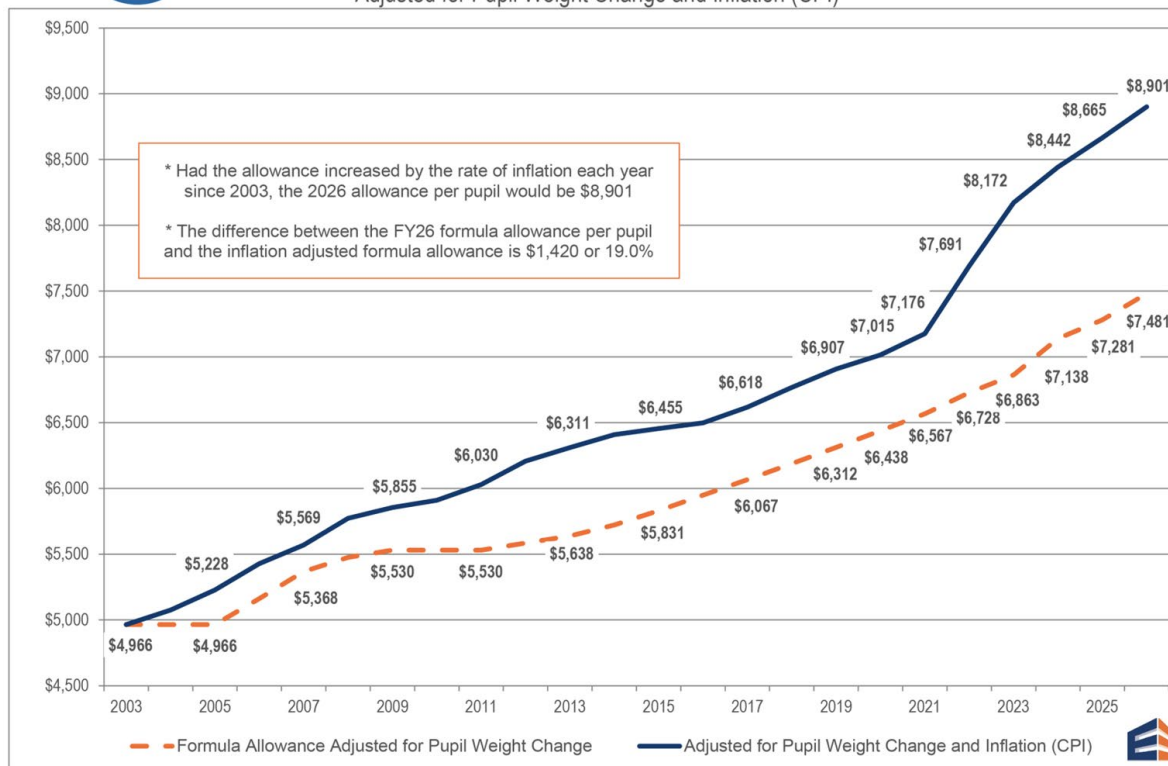


Budget cuts, cost containment, and other work to increase operational efficiency have brought some stability to the fund balance, but continued instability at the federal and state level coupled with long standing funding gaps have created a situation where expenses continue to outpace revenue.

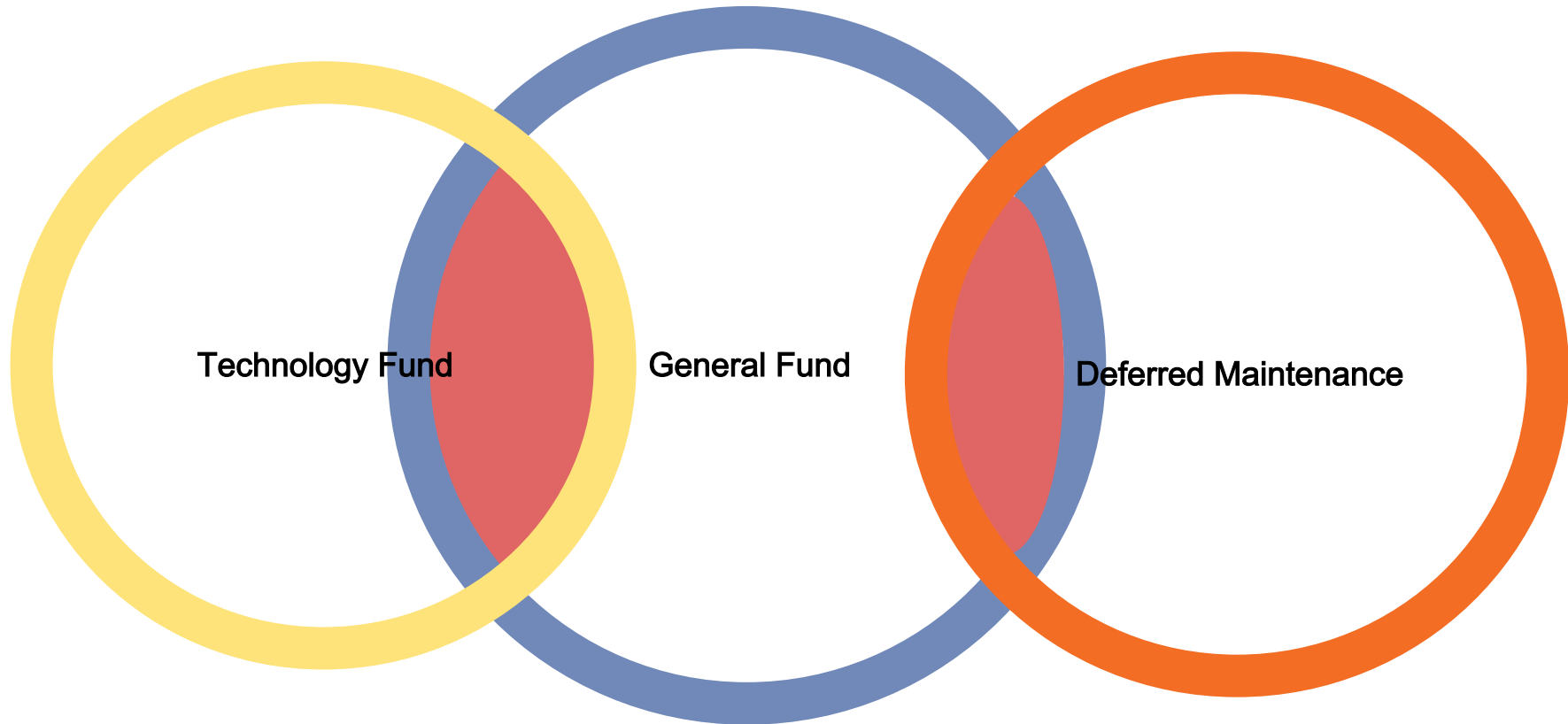


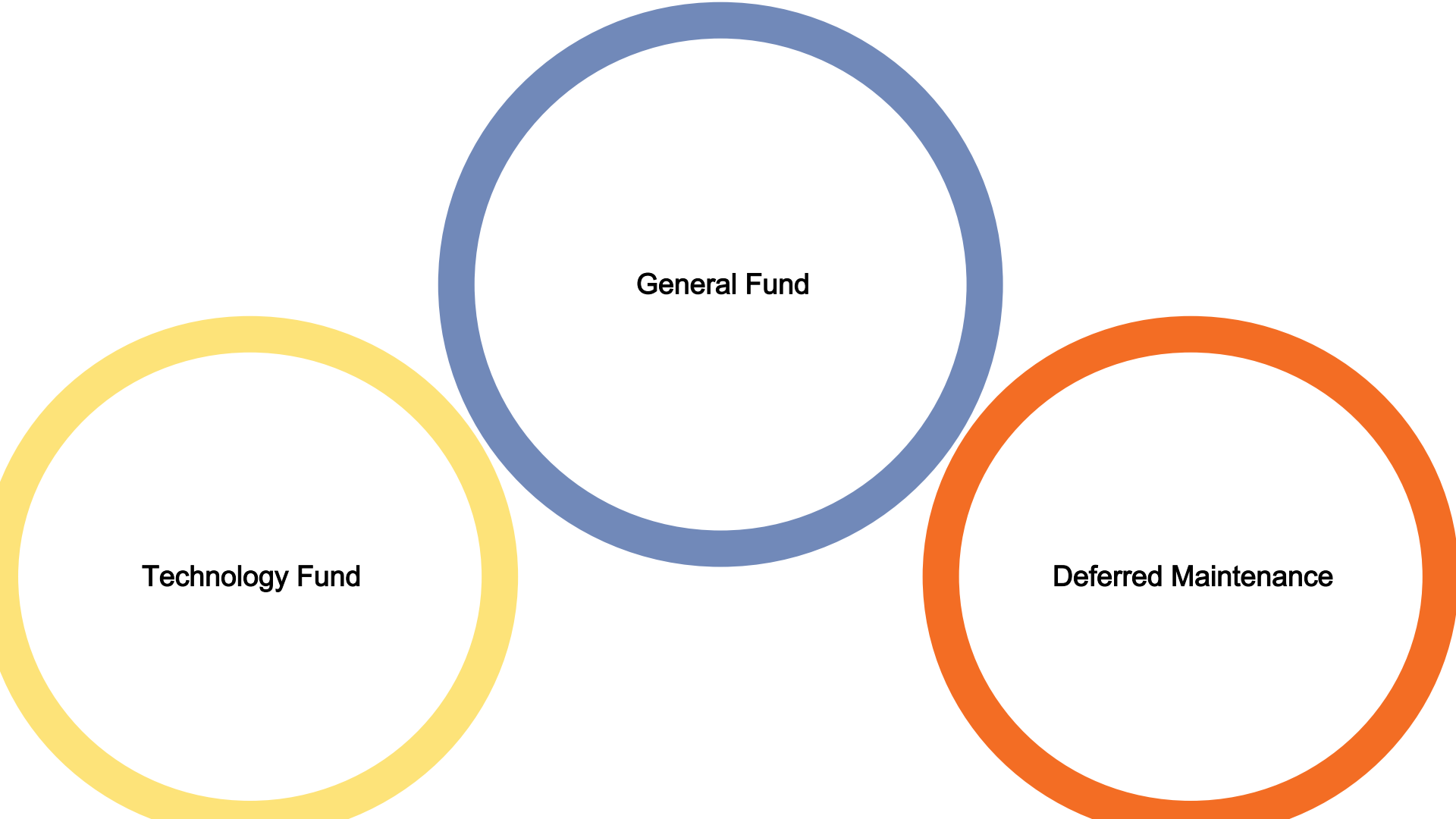
General Education Formula Allowance, 2003-2026

Adjusted for Pupil Weight Change and Inflation (CPI)



- 2025-26 funding formula was adjusted, but not to the level of inflation.
- Difference is \$1,420 per student.
- Safe Schools and Local Optional Revenue are still frozen





General Fund

Technology Fund

Deferred Maintenance



Part I - Maintenance

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What is Deferred Maintenance?



- Postponed maintenance projects
- Regular maintenance gets rescheduled as emergency items arise and to align with available funding

Funded Deferred Maintenance

Lenox Community Center Elevator (NEWLY ADDED!)	\$500,000	Funded ✓
PSI Boiler	\$6,000,000	Funded ✓
PH Boiler	\$5,000,000	Funded ✓
MS hot water heaters	\$500,000	Funded ✓
District wide painting	\$500,000	Funded ✓
Parking lot and Sidewalk	\$750,000	Funded ✓
Roof repairs/Brick tuckpoint	\$1,000,000	Funded ✓
District wide bathroom upgrades	\$2,500,000	Funded ✓
HS irrigation	\$250,000	Funded ✓
MS irrigation	\$500,000	Funded ✓
MS tennis court resurfacing	\$300,000	Funded ✓
Equipment	\$500,000	Funded ✓
Field striper	\$75,000	Funded ✓
District wide fence repair/replacement	\$250,000	Funded ✓

Additional Deferred Maintenance

HS Boiler/piping replacement	\$30,000,000	Additional Funds Needed ✗
MS Boiler/piping replacement	\$20,000,000	Additional Funds Needed ✗
Total	\$50,000,000	



SLP HIGH SCHOOL

Replacement HS & MS Boilers



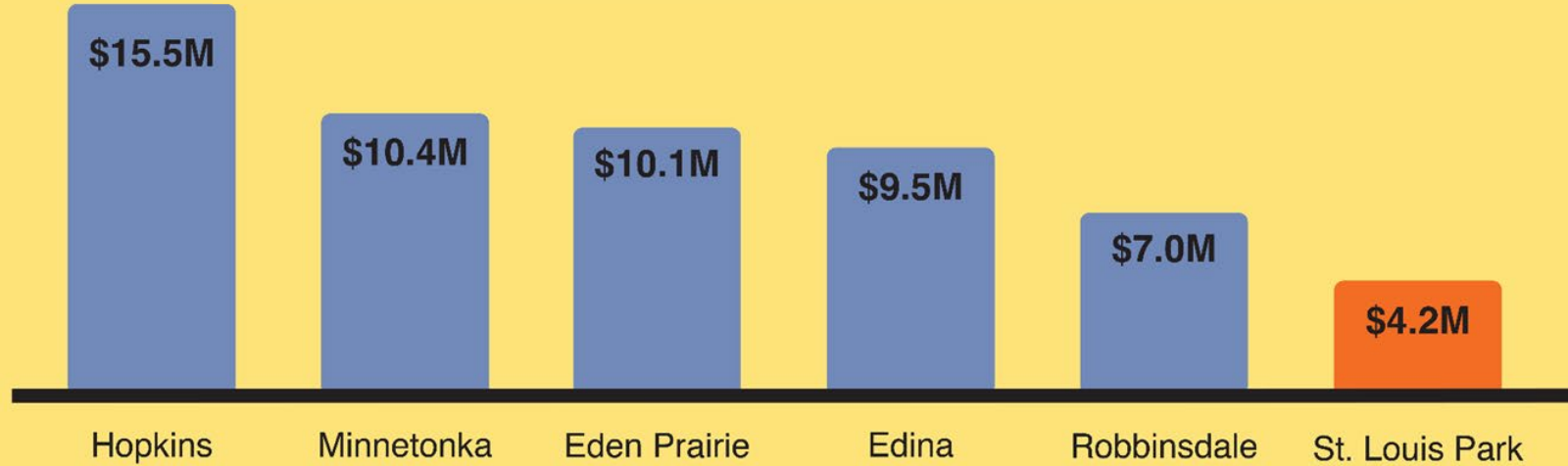
- High efficient hot water condensing boilers
- Life expectancy is 20 - 25 years
- Annual estimated maintenance = \$1,500 per boiler
- Replacing all heating piping throughout the buildings accounts for 60 -70% of total project cost
- Remove old underground fuel oil tanks - a potential large scale environmental hazard



Part II - Technology

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Annual Capital Projects Levy Funding



\$270 less
than nearby districts

\$270 less
than nearby districts

\$891

\$1,161

Average

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue (Bar)	Specific Source Revenue (Line)
FY2026	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000
FY2027	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
FY2028	\$7,500,000	\$10,500,000
FY2029	\$8,000,000	\$10,800,000

- Capital Projects Levy Limit
- Visitor Management/Radios
- Physical Facility Security
- Cybersecurity
- Current Costs
- Internet/Locate Service
- Facilities Maintenance
- Online Learning
- Enterprise Systems Support



What's on the Ballot?

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St. Louis Park
Public Schools

ONE Question

Bond Issuance: \$50 million

- Replace five boilers at the middle and high school
- Replace pipes
- Remove underground fuel tanks

Capital Projects Levy: Revoke existing (4.287%) and Replace with New (10.127%)

- Provide technology for network security, infrastructure and student safety





One Question on the Ballot:

The board of Independent School District No. 283 (St. Louis Park Public Schools), Minnesota has proposed **to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000,000** to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, deferred capital maintenance projects and related capital improvements at various District facilities. The board of Independent School District No. 283 (St. Louis Park Public Schools), Minnesota has also proposed to **revoke its existing capital project levy authorization of 4.287% times the net tax capacity of the school district and to replace that authorization with a new authorization in the maximum amount of 10.127% times the net tax capacity of the school district.** The proposed new authorization will raise approximately \$9,860,228 for taxes first levied in 2026, payable in 2027, and will be authorized for ten (10) years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$98,602,280. The proposed authorization will provide funds for the acquisition, installation, support and maintenance of software, technology, technology systems and infrastructure, to pay the costs of technology related personnel and training, and security equipment. The projects to be funded have received a positive review and comment from the Commissioner of Education.

Shall the issuance of the general obligation school building bonds, revocation of the existing capital project levy authorization, and the new capital project levy authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 283 (St. Louis Park Public Schools), Minnesota be approved?

☐ Yes

☐ No

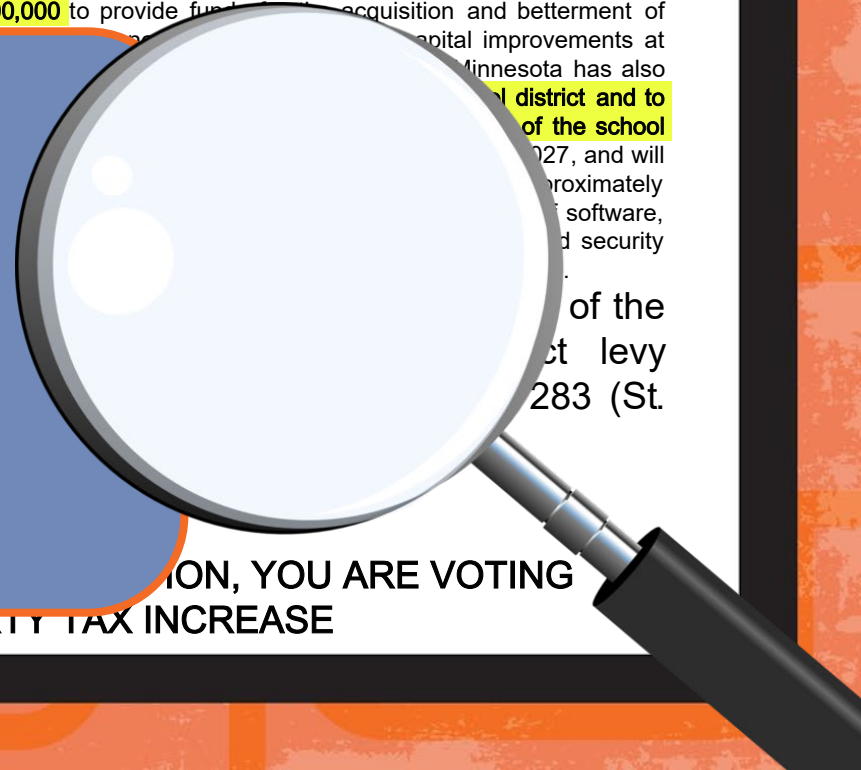
**BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING
FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**



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capital improvements at
Minnesota has also
of the school
2027, and will
approximately
software,
and security
of the
ct levy
283 (St.

ION, YOU ARE VOTING
FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

View Tax Impact Calculator

\$400,000 Home



Residential Homestead	Annual	Monthly
\$500,000	\$462	\$39
\$450,000	\$411	\$34
\$350,000	\$310	\$26
\$300,000	\$260	\$22
\$250,000	\$209	\$17



Scan to view how it will impact you!





St. Louis Park
Public Schools

The plan would:

- Replace aging boilers and related systems at St. Louis Park Middle School and St. Louis Park High School
- Provide ongoing funding for technology, safety, and facility needs through a capital projects levy





St. Louis Park
Public Schools



Find out more at slpschools.org/referendum

2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030

End of session Update

City of St. Louis Park

2026 Outcomes & 2027 Horizon · July 6, 2026

State Legislative Overview

Senate: 34 - 33

- 34–33 DFL majority; Murphy and Johnson continue to lead.
- 2025 cycle was marked by special elections.
- High volume of retirements and shifting seats.

House: 67 - 67

- 67–67 DFL/GOP tie — only prior occurrence was 1979.
- Hortman and Demuth elected to lead; Stephenson elected by DFL.
- Co-chair governance model used for the 2025–26 sessions.
- Significant retirements and shifting seats.

Regular session ran Feb 17 – May 18, 2026, following the 2025 special session that concluded the budget.

State Budget & Federal Headwinds

State Fiscal Outlook

- 2025 budget left incomplete; 2026 focused on policy and bonding.
- Structural deficit eliminated — but HR1 impacts remain unknown.
- \$377M projected balance for FY 2028–29.
- Uncertainty remains from federal shifts and data gaps.

HR1 / OBBBA Impacts

- Cuts to Medicaid, SNAP, health insurance, and provider taxes.
- New work requirements; state pays SNAP costs above the error rate starting FY28.
- End of IRA clean-energy tax incentives.
- Implementation now trickling down to state and local governments.

St. Louis Park Priorities

Bonding

- \$5.1M Secured for Oxford & Louisiana Infrastructure

Congregate Care

- Municipal Notification
- Commissioner directed inspections to municipalities
- Colocation of adjacent properties not allowed
- MDH & DHS interagency agreement

Priorities advanced but stalled in the end:

- Housing/Land Use & Zoning
- Emergency Medical Services
- City/County Assessing resolution
- Housing TIF Modifications
- LRT Public Safety
- Modifications to PFML
- Municipal aid to cities following Federal Enforcement

Federal Legislative Overview

217–212

U.S. House (R–D)

53–47

U.S. Senate (R–D)

75 days

DHS shutdown, Feb–Apr

-
- 119th Congress seated a Republican trifecta across the executive and legislative branches.
 - 2025: the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (HR1) passed via reconciliation — DHS funding, Medicaid cuts, expanded tax credits.
 - 2026: HR1 implementation is now trickling down to state and local governments.
 - The Feb–Apr DHS shutdown mainly hit TSA and airport operations, with no significant direct impact to the city.

Federal Funding Opportunities

FY2026 · Confirmed

Oxford–Louisiana (“Oxford Lou”)

\$250,000 secured through Congressionally Directed Spending with Rep. Omar’s office; confirmed when Congress passed continuing-resolution funding for the fiscal year.

CONFIRMED

FY2027 · Pending

Oxford Lou + Minnetonka Blvd

Applied for additional Oxford Lou funding and the Minnetonka Blvd project, advanced by Rep. Omar and Sen. Klobuchar. Results still pending.

PENDING

USDOT · Pending

BUILD Grant — Oxford Lou

Submitted a BUILD grant application to the Dept. of Transportation. All congressional offices submitted letters of support.

PENDING

Advocacy & Operation Metro Surge

No city delegation traveled to D.C. this year. The team met with the Minnesota-based staff of Rep. Omar, Sen. Smith, and Sen. Klobuchar to discuss CDS projects and the impacts of Operation Metro Surge on the city.

Conversation focus areas

Direct impacts to city operations and staff

Local business impacts

Employee challenges

Resident housing-security concerns

At the state level

Operation Metro Surge Business Relief and HF 4428 (Medical Assistance community-engagement requirements) were both introduced but did not pass.

2026 Election Preview

22%

of the Legislature is running for
other office or retiring

Primary: August 11

DFL — Governor

Sen. Amy Klobuchar is running for Governor.

GOP — Governor Primary

A primary between Kendall Qualls, Lisa Demuth, and Mike Lindell.

A Preview Into 2027

These priorities cleared committee but were removed in partisan negotiations. They are expected to return as 2027 campaign issues.

Public Safety & Community

- Gun violence prevention
- Economic assistance for communities
- Statutory protections for faith / community spaces

Governance & Economy

- Direct appropriation reform
- Small business assistance
- Childcare financial supports

Health & Wellness

- Mental health reform accessibility
- Health insurance reform
- Funding for uncompensated care

Next Steps

- Monitor FY2027 federal appropriations — CDS outcomes for Oxford Lou & Minnetonka Blvd and the USDOT BUILD grant.
- Track HR1 / OBBBA implementation impacts on the city, residents, and state budget.
- Advance bonding and capital priorities into the 2027 cycle.
- Develop 2026 carryover items into 2027 legislative priorities.
- Continue city–state–federal alignment; monitor Operation Metro Surge and any business-relief revival.
- Watch the August 11 primary and the gubernatorial race.



q&a.

Thank you.