

**NOTICE OF REFERENDUM  
ONEIDA COUNTY  
April 6, 2021**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the County of Oneida, on April 6, 2021 the following proposed Resolution of the County Board will be submitted to a vote of the people:

Resolution to place a binding referendum on the April 6th, 2021 ballot for raising the tax levy for purpose of funding road construction. Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Public Works Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat s. 66.0602 allows for a County to exceed levy limits only by referendum; and  
WHEREAS, Oneida County needs, at a minimum, an additional \$1 million dollars per year in order to maintain the County Trunk Highway system (roads and bridges) on a 25 year schedule; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the 2022 tax levy allowed to increase \$ 96,000, based on the last six year average of net new construction; and

WHEREAS, prior to 2005 the cost per mile of reconstructed highway was \$76,000 and the county was on a 15 year reconstruction replacement schedule or 11.43 miles per year; and

WHEREAS, by 2014 the cost per mile increased to \$180,000 per mile enabling only 4.3 miles per year or a 40 year reconstruction cycle; and

WHEREAS, currently the average cost of a mile of reconstructed highway costs \$200,000 per mile; and

WHEREAS, the county board added to the Highway Department Construction budget in the past but not enough to keep up with the inflation rate; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee approved forwarding a resolution to the county board recommending a binding referendum for the April 2021 election increasing the tax levy for the next ten years in the amount of \$500,000 for the purpose of addressing necessary road and bridge construction as follows;

2022 - \$500,000	2027 - \$500,000
2023 - \$500,000	2028 - \$500,000
2024 - \$500,000	2029 - \$500,000
2025 - \$500,000	2030 - \$500,000
2026 - \$500,000	2031 - \$500,000

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee recommends that this resolution rescinds resolution #93-2020 calling for \$1,000,000 increase for the next ten years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that a referendum for the purpose of addressing need road and bridge construction shall be on the April 6th, 2021 ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution supersedes resolution #93-2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

**THAT THE BALLOT QUESTION SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:**

QUESTION 1: "Under state law, the increase in the levy of the County of Oneida for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2022, is limited to 0.783%, which results in a levy of \$14,804,803. Shall the County of Oneida be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2022, for the purposes of addressing necessary road and bridge construction, by a total of 3.38% which results in a levy of \$15,304,803 and include the increase of \$500,000 for fiscal years 2023-2031.

Yes

No

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT & EFFECT OF VOTE:**

The referendum question being submitted is a binding referendum. A binding referendum requires that the County Board shall take action in conformity with referendum results for the fiscal years 2022 through 2031.

**A YES VOTE** on the question advises Oneida County that the voter approves of increasing the collected 2022-2031 County tax levy for the purpose of road and bridge construction in the following manner:

2022 - \$500,000	2027 - \$500,000
2023 - \$500,000	2028 - \$500,000
2024 - \$500,000	2029 - \$500,000
2025 - \$500,000	2030 - \$500,000
2026 - \$500,000	2031 - \$500,000

This approval will result in a property tax increase per parcel of approximately \$6.50 per \$100,000 of valuation for the 2022 budget. It is not possible to determine the increase for the remaining years.

**A NO VOTE** on the question advises Oneida County that the voter opposes increasing the collected 2022-2031 County tax levy for the purpose of road and bridge construction.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN**, that at an election to be held in the County of Oneida, on April 6, 2021 the following proposed Resolution of the County Board will also be submitted to a vote of the people:

Resolution to approve moving forward with an advisory referendum on the April 6th, 2021 ballot to cut \$500,000 in County programs and services to be applied to the County road and bridge construction budget. Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Public Works Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the County Board paid off the jail in 2007 and never removed the \$2,000,000 for debt service on that loan to build the jail from the tax levy; and

WHEREAS, with the \$2,000,000 in extra tax levy the County did not address infrastructure needs but added new services and programs; and

WHEREAS, Oneida County needs, at a minimum, an additional \$1 million dollars per year in order to maintain the 172.5 miles of County Trunk Highway system (roads and bridges) on a 25 year schedule; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the 2021 tax levy, collected in 2022 is allowed to increase according to the levy limits \$96,000, based on the last six year average of net new construction; and

WHEREAS, prior to 2005 the cost per mile of reconstructed highway was \$76,000 and the county was on a 15 year reconstruction replacement schedule or 11.43 miles per year; and

WHEREAS, by 2014 the cost per mile increased to \$180,000 per mile enabling only 4.3 miles per year or a 40 year reconstruction cycle; and

WHEREAS, currently the average cost of a mile of reconstructed highway costs \$200,000 per mile; and

WHEREAS, the County Board added to the Highway Department Construction budget in the past but not enough to keep up with the inflation rate; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee is recommending an advisory referendum be placed on the April 6th, 2021 ballot for cutting County programs and services in the 2022 budget by \$500,000 and applying that \$500,000 to the Highway road and bridge construction budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that an advisory referendum question for the purpose of cutting County programs and services in order to fund highway road and bridge construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

**THAT THE BALLOT QUESTION SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:**

Question 2: Should \$500,000 of County programs and services be cut from the 2022 Oneida County Budget and that \$500,000 be applied to the County highway road and bridge construction budget.

Yes

No

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT & EFFECT OF VOTE:**

The referendum question being submitted is an advisory referendum. An advisory referendum does not require that the County Board take action in conformity with referendum results.

**A YES VOTE** on the question advises Oneida County that the voter approves of cutting \$500,000 dollars of County programs and services in the 2022 Oneida County Budget and applying that \$500,000 to the County highway road and bridge construction budget.

**A NO VOTE** on the question advises the County Board that the voter disapproves of cutting \$500,000 dollars of County programs and services in the 2022 Oneida County Budget and applying that \$500,000 to the County highway road and bridge construction budget.

Done in the County of Oneida,  
On Friday, April 2, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracy Hartman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "H".

Tracy Hartman  
Oneida County Clerk