



Village of  
**HOWARD**  
 WISCONSIN

**PUBLIC SAFETY  
 REFERENDUM**

**VOTE**  
 TUESDAY, APRIL 4

**Cast An Informed Vote on April 4, 2023**

**The Village Seeks Voter Consideration for Increased Police & Fire Protection and Fire-Based Emergency Medical Services for the Howard Community**

With an increased population and higher demands for services, the Village of Howard has an urgent need for additional police and fire protection and rescue/ambulance services to provide faster response times and a high level of service that our residents expect.

► As a result, the Village is proposing a referendum to increase the existing levy by \$765,000 per year to fill state and federal funding gaps, allow for increased staffing, and provide high-quality public safety services to all Howard residents. An approved referendum would allow the Village of Howard to provide the following:



**Additional Police Protection: Staffing a Second 24/7 Patrol Car**

An approved referendum would allow the Village to increase its contract with the Brown County Sheriff’s Office to staff a second patrol car full-time

► Ultimately, this would allow the Village’s three community officers to spend more of their time providing proactive, high-quality, and community-focused law enforcement support to our residents.

 **2 fully-staffed Patrol Cars**  
 (3 shifts per day, 365 days per year)



**Village-Operated, Fire-Based Emergency Medical Services**

The Village contracts a private service to provide a 24/7 paramedic service to Howard residents. This contract ends in 2023. An approved referendum would fund a village-operated, fire-based paramedic service to Howard residents.

► A cross-trained, fire-based crew will have the ability to respond to fire and rescue calls, from a central location, reducing lengthy response times.

 **7 On-site, Cross-Trained, Full-time Firefighter-Paramedics** 



**Enhanced 24/7 Fire Rescue Department**

Howard Fire Rescue is understaffed by nearly 26%. As a result, there are no on-site firefighters at the station from 6 PM - 6 AM. Response to emergency calls are from paid-on-call staff coming from off-site locations.

► If approved, the seven full-time firefighter/paramedic crew would allow for better staffing and a quicker response to emergency scenes at night to provide immediate rescue and lifesaving care.

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## What is the Ballot Question?

Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Village of Howard for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2024, is limited to 2.0%, which results in a levy of approximately \$8,208,200. Shall the Village of Howard be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2024, for the purpose of additional police and fire protection and rescue/ambulance services, by a total of 9.3%, which would result in a levy of \$8,973,200, and on an ongoing basis, including the increase of \$765,000 for each fiscal year going forward.

- **Your 'YES' Vote:** you approve an increase to the levy for the purpose of additional police and fire protection and rescue/ambulance services.
- **Your 'NO' Vote:** you do NOT approve the request to increase the levy for the purpose of additional police and fire protection and rescue/ambulance services.

**VOTE**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 4

## Every Vote Matters!

All eligible village voters may cast their ballot on election day. Polls are open 7 AM - 8 PM.

- **Bring Your ID:** Voters are required to provide photo identification at polling locations.
- **In-Person Early Voting:** Begins the week before the election at Village Hall, 2456 Glendale Ave., from 9 AM - 5 PM, Monday - Friday.

Learn more about your voting options at:  
**myvote.wi.gov**




## Meeting the Needs of Howard Residents

Funding for public safety is a shared responsibility between federal and state funding and local property taxpayers. An increasing population often results in an increased need for public safety services; however, in recent years, the Village's shared revenue funding has decreased by 29% - despite a 35% increase in population.



## Tax Impact of an Approved Referendum

The estimated tax impact of an approved referendum is an approximate 33 cent increase to the Village mill rate.

	\$100,000 Property Value	\$200,000 Property Value	\$300,000 Property Value
Tax Impact of an Approved Referendum	\$33.24	\$66.48	\$99.72

## Howard's Fiscally Sound Spending

The Village of Howard prides itself on providing quality services to residents, while maintaining a fiscally responsible approach to spending. The Village of Howard's spending is significantly less than the State average (Wisconsin Policy Forum).

