

CITY OF EVANSTON PRESS RELEASE:

From: Martin Lyons, Finance Director  
To: Residential Homeowners in Special Service Area (SSA) #4  
Subject: SSA#4 Residential Rebate Status

To briefly summarize the situation currently at hand, for property tax year 2007, residential units/homeowners in Special Service Area #4 were erroneously levied an SSA#4 tax on their 2<sup>nd</sup> installment, 2007 property tax bills. In addition, the SSA#4 amounts erroneously levied on residential units created an under-assessment on the commercial owners in Special Service Area #4.

While the City of Evanston does not believe it was at fault for this error, in order to make residential unit owners whole as quickly as possible on the over-taxed residential parcels in SSA#4, City of Evanston Council has agreed that reimbursements/rebates will be best handled through the City rather than Cook County. The City has levied an additional amount on the commercial parcels in SSA#4 for tax year 2008 to offset the rebates it intends to issue to the residential owners.

Prior to the reimbursements being issued by the City, the City must obtain from the County Assessor's Office and the County Treasurer the necessary reports listing all residential parcel/pin numbers in SSA#4, including owner names and addresses for each parcel as well as the SSA#4 amount levied for each residential parcel. In addition, prior to issuing reimbursements, the City must confirm with the County Treasurer that each property tax bill has been paid in full. Per City discussions with the County, the complete set of reports which provide all this information will most likely not be available to the City until this Spring, 2009.

Once the City receives the necessary reports from the County and it has been confirmed by parcel that the 2007 taxes have been paid in full, the City shall immediately begin issuing refunds based on the 2007 parcel ownership information as provided by the County. It is estimated that the entire process should be completed no later than June, 2009.

If you have any additional questions regarding this issue, please contact the City of Evanston's Finance Department at (847) 866-2934.