



City of Rochelle

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November 9, 2015

Governor Bruce Rauner
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Rauner,

The City of Rochelle has become increasingly concerned that the state budget impasse is preventing the distribution of several sources of critical local revenues. We respectfully request that immediate action be taken to distribute these funds that are otherwise payable to municipalities during the 2016 State Fiscal Year.

Funds withheld to date include revenues associated with the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT), video gaming fees, Use Tax, and 9-1-1 service fees. It is significant to note that none of the aforementioned funds constitute state general fund revenues. Consequently, the distribution of these funds will have no impact on the state budget. These dollars are collected by the state and accumulated in special funds for the specific purpose of distribution to local governments and local programs.

The failure to distribute these funds is creating unnecessary hardships for local governments and their constituents. Without these anticipated revenues, municipalities may be compelled to close emerging budget holes through program cuts, tax and/or fee increases, increased borrowing, or a combination of these actions. None of these actions, all of which negatively affect local taxpayers, will be required if the state were to simply distribute the local revenues presently accumulating in various state funds.

Once again, we urge state leaders to release these non-general fund revenues that municipalities rely upon for essential services.

Respectfully,

Mayor Chet Olson

cc: Comptroller Leslie Munger
325 West Adams
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Senate President John Cullerton
327 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno
309G Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

House Speaker Michael Madigan
300 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin
316 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Brad Cole, Executive Director
Illinois Municipal League
Post Office Box 5180
Springfield, IL 62705

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Date Passed: November 9, 2015

A Resolution Urging Illinois State Leaders to Release Non-General Fund Revenues Payable to Local Governments

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has been operating without a Fiscal Year 2016 state budget since July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a budget has resulted in the state withholding over \$150 million in revenue owed to municipal governments for lack of appropriation authority; and

WHEREAS, critical local services, such as road construction, maintenance, and repair will remain underfunded until state leaders take action to release local Motor Fuel Tax funds to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities rely on state distributions of local revenue to fund their 9-1-1 service centers and, without these funds, the effectiveness of emergency services to reach citizens will be in peril; and

WHEREAS, municipal budgets and basic services will be negatively impacted without the release of local Use Tax, video gaming fees, and casino fees.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Rochelle that we call upon the Governor and General Assembly to take action to immediately release all non-general fund revenues owed to local governments. These funds include revenues from the Motor Fuel Tax, Wireless Service Emergency Fund, Use Tax, Local Government Video Gaming Distributive Fund, and casino gaming;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, Comptroller, Senate President, Senate Minority Leader, House Speaker, House Minority Leader, local legislators, and the Illinois Municipal League.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9th day of November 2015.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor