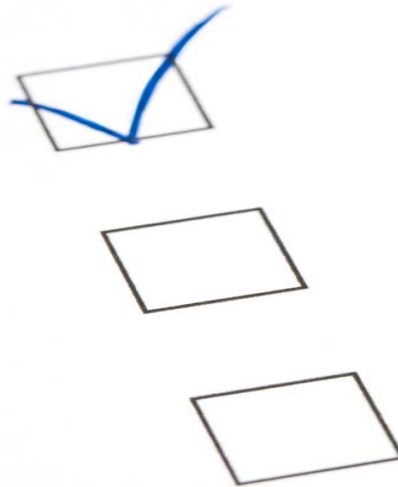


# Preparing for the Levy

**Yes for the Library**



**Presented by: Joyce M. Dodrill, Chief Legal Officer**

**February 23, 2013**



CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

# CPL Existing Levies

## 2003

- 3 mill replacement levy and 2.8 increase for 5 years (total 5.8)

## 2008

- 5.8 mill replacement levy for 5 years
- 2013 is the last collection year for the levy
- Last tax payment will be received in August, 2013



# Current 2013 Ballot Options For Levy

## August 6, 2013 Special Election:

- The Library Board must adopt its first resolution requesting the County Fiscal Officer to certify the tax valuation of the school district and the amount to be generated during the first year of the levy **as soon as possible before the March 21, 2013 Board Meeting. This would require a Special Meeting.**



- The Library Board would adopt its second resolution requesting that CMSD adopt a resolution submitting the levy to the electors at the **March 21, 2013 Board Meeting**.
- The CMSD Board must then adopt a resolution at its **April 23, 2013** meeting.
- CMSD must file its resolution with the Board of Elections by **May 8, 2013**.
- The Library will have to pay all the costs of the election, estimated by the Board of Elections to be **\$807,300 (\$2,300 x 351 precincts)**. As of the date of this presentation, no other entities have filed for the August election to share costs.



## **November 5, 2013 General Election:**

- The Library Board would pass its first Resolution requesting the County Fiscal Officer to certify the tax valuation of the school district and the amount to be generated during the first year of the levy at the **May 16, 2013 Board Meeting.**
- The Library Board would adopt its second resolution requesting that CMSD adopt a resolution submitting the levy to the electors by **June 20, 2013.**



- The CMSD Board must then adopt its Resolution at its **July** meeting (assuming they have one) and that resolution must be filed with the Board of Elections by **August 7, 2013**.
- The Library levy is not likely to be the only issue on the November 5, 2013 ballot for Cleveland voters. Cleveland will have its Mayoral race and some Council races on the ballot, and the Cleveland Metroparks is rumored to be placing a levy on the ballot. If so, the Library would only be charged with approximately one-third of the costs of the election.
- The risk in waiting until November: If the levy does not pass we will have to wait until February of 2014 to place the levy back on the ballot, and we will lose the entire year of tax income for 2013.



## Renewal Levy vs. Replacement Levy:

- **Renewal Levy:** A continuance of an existing levy with the collection rate at the same dollar amount as when the levy was originally approved. Must be for same term.
- **Replacement Levy:** A levy for same purpose as existing levy but with a different collection rate than the levy it replaces.



## **Recommendation:**

- Renewal levy for five years to be placed on the November, 2013 ballot.

### **Reasons:**

- Better turn out of voters for November election.
- Election expenses will be reduced in half or by a third.
- Library levy will be less conspicuous on ballot.
- Campaign can include “what if” scenarios.
- Housing valuations have gone down 30% in Cleveland so replacement levy not advisable.





# Citizens for the Cleveland Public Library

- US Bank account has current balance of \$17,812.18, which includes a deposit of \$5,000 from the Friends deposited on February 7, 2013.
- All campaign expenses must be paid from this fund, including campaign consultant.



- The only two current Trustees and Officers are Mark Batey of SS&G, Treasurer, and Anne Marie Warren of KeyBanc, Deputy Treasurer. Time to add more Trustees to Citizens Board?
- Fundraising needs to begin soon.
- Donations are not tax deductible. No contribution limits, except “cash”, e.g. paper currency and coins limited to \$100.
- Anonymous donations cannot be accepted.

