

Talking Points for County Treasurer Budget Hearing

22/23

- The 2022 Recommended Budget is approximately **\$5.1 million**, including **\$2.4 million** from the General Fund; there are 7 vacancies currently; **\$7 million** is earmarked for the County Land Bank.

Program Information:

- **\$2.8 Billion** collected in First and Second Half collection of Tax Year 2020- a 6.3% increase over Tax Year 2019; Current Collection rate is 92%
- **Approximately 26,807 (ACH 14,757; coupons 12,050) parcels pay taxes in advance utilizing EasyPay program via ACH or coupons**
- We launched a community outreach effort this year to inform and educate taxpayers regarding EasyPay. Since June 2021, 1,260 new participants have joined EasyPay.
- We have addressed the COVID barriers to our collection efforts by:
 - ✓ Processing foreclosure pay offs in-person/mail - \$8 million + collected thus far
 - ✓ Establishing contract arrangements via phone/mail
 - ✓ Establishing a street level lock box for 24-hour collection (**12,575 payments since inception; 8,878 thru August 2021**)
 - ✓ Promoting the “contactless” Ways To Pay (85.2% of total collections thru non-contact)
- Total delinquencies - **54,904** parcels at **\$464 million as of 10.5.21 (31,913 over \$1K)**; 25% of Total Delinquency is Special Assessments
 - ✓ Foreclosure Update: 31,913 (58.1%) of these parcels are in either forfeiture status, title research, perfecting service, awaiting hearing, awaiting sale, slated for landbanks, received delinquency notices, or decreed.
 - ✓ DLQ Contract Status: 6,244 parcels (**19.6% of targeted delinquencies**).
 - ✓ Establishing an Uncollectible Taxes List to better inform collection efforts.
 - ✓ Targeted foreclosure of “zombie” properties.
- We are not preparing for a tax lien certificate sale this year, but here is a brief scorecard
 - ✓ Since 2011, the County has collected \$96.5 million from prior certificate sales.
 - ✓ Since 2015, \$40.5 million was collected.
 - ✓ 79% of liens purchased by Tax Ease have been redeemed.