



TAXPAYER'S INFORMATION 2016

Dear Secaucus Taxpayer:

Enclosed you will find your 2016/2017 tax bill. The governing body has worked very hard on this year's budget in an effort to keep the tax rate stable. Despite the economic climate and the challenges we have had to deal with, which included the historically large blizzard, we have been able to accomplish this without any impact on services by careful management of the Town's income and expenses. In preparing the budget, the Chief Financial Officer and Town Finance Committee conducted a line-by-line review to ensure that every revenue source pays its proper share and each municipal department allocates its resources wisely.

Some of the major increases in expenses the administration faced in 2016 included the above referenced costs associated with the blizzard (\$120,000), as well as an increase in pension and social security contributions (\$200,000). In addition, we increased the budget for the Department of Recreation for the first time in several years to continue to provide opportunities for our youth.

Conversely, on the revenue side, we have seen a marked increase as a result of our burgeoning ratable base, which has increased by \$92 million. Because of this increase, we were able to absorb a 4.1% increase in County taxes and a 2% increase in School Board taxes, and at the same time keep the overall tax rate stable. We are extremely proud of that fact and that the Town's tax rate continues to be the lowest in Hudson County.

In addition to good governance and careful oversight, as you may be aware, the Town was relieved from its obligation to the Meadowlands Commission tax sharing. Since taking office, this administration tirelessly advocated for relief from the burden that our residents face when having to send these payments to the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission. With the help of Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto in bringing our case to Trenton, we have been successful in eliminating these payments. As a result of this relief, we were able to fully fund almost \$1,100,000 worth of public safety and recreation projects instead of bonding for them.

The deadline for 3rd Quarter 2016 tax payments is Monday, August 29, 2016. Payments after that date will accrue interest back to the August 1, 2016 due date.

Payments should be mailed to the Town of Secaucus, Attention: Tax Collector, 1203 Paterson Plank Road, Secaucus, New Jersey 07094. Please remember, the Tax Collector's Office **cannot** accept cash payments. Kindly utilize personal checks, bank checks or money orders for payments. Residents can also pay their taxes online. Residents can look up their property tax records any time by visiting www.secaucusnj.gov and by clicking on "Look Up Your Property Tax Info." Please note that applications for the Veteran/Widow of Veteran

deduction and the Senior/ Disabled deduction are available at the Tax Assessor's Office.

Mayor Michael J. Gonnelli &
Town Council