



Property Tax Cut In Stroudsburg

By State Rep. Tarah Probst

Did you know that thanks to the school funding my House Democratic colleagues and I fought to include in the current state budget, homeowners in Stroudsburg School District will see a reduction in their school taxes?

We're also working with Gov. Josh Shapiro to include additional funding again for the 2025-26 school year, because homeowners in Monroe and Pike counties have been paying the highest local share of property taxes of all 500 school districts for too many years. It's past time for the state to step up.

Read the news story below

By Emily Kress

STROUDSBURG, Pa. — It's the first time in the history of the Stroudsburg Area School District that taxpayers are getting the news that their property taxes are set to come down.

"Every little bit helps right, every little bit helps, I'm happy for that. Very happy," said Joann Hughey, Stroudsburg.

"Any kind of savings is a help. I mean it would be nice if other stuff would go down, but who knows if that is going to happen. For people on a fixed incomes it is tough," said Gary Serfass, Stroudsburg. Superintendent Dr. Cosmas Curry says the drop is small at one-tenth of a mill.

Monroe County ranks number one in the state for property tax burden. The Stroudsburg Area School District has the second-highest tax burden out of the 500 districts in the Keystone State.

"It is something we are trying to remediate and fix by reducing these costs, which we do recognize is important," said Dr. Curry.

Area lawmakers say for decades, schools across the state received an equal amount of money, but now they've made changes to supplement underfunded schools.

"So when we put the budget through last year, we made sure that the schools who have been underfunded for decades got the bulk of the money. It just so happens that Monroe County schools were dead last. We were number 497, 498, 499, and 500," said Tarah Probst (D).

Under the tax equity supplement, Stroudsburg received \$2.5 million. Officials say there were a few options on how districts could spend that money... school board leaders say they opted to give it back to the taxpayers after years of financial strain...

"We are in a position where we have to look out for the students, the staff, and the taxpayers, so we have to manage everything, and it is nice that we are in a good place right now in Stroudsburg," said John Jakobsen, School Board President.

Officials say taxpayers will see how the change impacts their households when the tax bills go out on August 1.

Submit your I-80 comments to DEP

By State Rep. Tarah Probst

STROUDSBURG - The PA Department of Environmental Protection received a permit request from PennDOT for the I-80 expansion project in Stroud Township. They are requesting permission to fill wetlands, build a bridge, install or replace stormwater outfalls, and fill in floodways near tributaries to Pocono Creek,

The permit ran in the PA Bulletin on Saturday, June 7, triggering a 30-day public comment period. With past non-compliance and the scope of the I-80 expansion project, I am insisting on a public hearing ASAP! Our community deserves a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement to fully assess potential environmental risks of this \$935 million, 3.5-mile project.

Major concerns include stormwater runoff and erosion, increased flood risk, loss of forested wetlands, construction disruption, erosion and sedimentation runoff risks to Appenzell Creek and McMichael Creek, wetland mitigation being done in a different county 150 miles away, stormwater overload risks that could lead to potential flash flooding, risks to our excellent water quality, and more.

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I-80

Women's Expo
SATURDAY, JUNE 21
10 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
Stroudsburg High School Cafeteria
1100 W. Main St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360

State and County Services, LVHN Mobile Mammography Coach, Door Prizes, Light Refreshments

State Rep. Probst and State Rep. Madden and their staff will be available with information on state government-related programs and services. They can also assist you with any government-related problems you may have.

WMM WASTE MANAGEMENT Think Green!

THE DIRTY DOZEN
Keep These Items Out Of Your Curbside Recycling!

1. Plastic Bags	2. Propane Tanks	3. Ropes	4. Hoses
5. Foam	6. Tarp	7. String Lights	8. Pill Bottles
9. Electronics	10. Grills	11. Food	12. Liquids