YOUR
PROPERTY
TAXES

A Report to the Citizens
of Lakewood, California

Lakewood, with its population of 74,733, was incorporated as a city on April 16, 1954. It has a net assessed valuation of $54,636,000, encompassing an area of seven square miles, with 135 miles of streets and service roads.

You will find your taxes listed by groups. One group lists the normal municipal functions. The other lists special functions—those over which the city has no control.

You will also find that taxes are shown as before incorporation (1953) as well as after incorporation.

The property tax rate for the normal municipal functions has been reduced considerably as the result of incorporation. The future promises an even further reduction. It is only in the area of special, or non-city, taxes that an increase has occurred.

CITY OF LAKewood
City Hall
Lakewood, California
YOUR TAXES

There is no one-sentence summary of local taxes. They come from
many places. Some property taxes are set by your Lakewood City
Council. In addition, however, other taxes are set by separate, indi-
vidual governing boards.

You receive one property tax bill from the County Tax Collector
and on this bill are listed all the property taxes that you will pay. The
tax levied by the City of Lakewood represents only 9% of your total
property tax bill. The remaining 91% is paid by you for schools, fire
protection, flood control, Los Angeles County general government, and
water supply.

The total property tax rate for your home or business depends
upon the area in which it is located. The difference in the tax rate is
generally caused by the varying school district taxes.

MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS

You will note in Group I of the accompanying chart, that between
1953 and 1957 there has been a drop of 25c in the property tax rate
for the normal municipal functions.

Immediately after incorporation, the County Road District tax
was automatically abolished. Also, the City Council reduced the prop-
erty tax rate by assuming street lighting obligations out of municipal
revenues, thus eliminating the rate pertaining to the Lighting Main-
tenance Districts.

All but a small section of the city has been served by the Lake-
wood Park, Recreation and Parkway District, which was dissolved by
public vote in June, 1957. This was a local, self-governing body estab-
lished in 1951, with the power of taxation. This district pioneered the
excellent landscaping of Lakewood’s parkway panels and growing park
and recreation program. The functions of this district were consol-
idated with the City on July 1, 1957, and the 1957 city tax rate of 69c
includes the tax for this district.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The City of Lakewood is served by three separate unified school
districts. All of them are entirely independent of the city government.
They are self-governing and set their own tax rate.

The Long Beach Unified School District (tax: $3.4695 per $100)
serves approximately 65% of the city. The increase of $.0571 over last
year is due to increased maintenance and operation costs such as in-
creased facilities, enrollment, teachers, salaries, debt service, etc.

The Bellflower Unified School District (tax: $4.5260) serves
about 25% of the city. The 1957 rate reflects a decrease of $.4711
from the 1956 rate of $4.9971.

The Paramount Unified School District (tax: $4.8189) serves
about 10% of the city. This district’s tax rate for 1957 reflects an
increase of $.1013 over the 1956 rate of $4.7176.
CITY OF LAKewood
COMPARATIVE PROPERTY TAX RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
<th>After</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Lakewood</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2.400</td>
<td>$6.900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting Maintenance District</td>
<td>.357</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Rates ranged from .23 to .31, but averaged .357)</td>
<td>.357</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>County Road District</td>
<td>.0334</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>County Public Library</td>
<td>.0765</td>
<td>.0895</td>
<td>.0962</td>
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<td>Consolidated Fire Protection District</td>
<td>.6118</td>
<td>.5606</td>
<td>.6263</td>
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<td>Lakewood Sewer Maintenance District</td>
<td>.0350</td>
<td>.0312</td>
<td>.0171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tax Rate for Normal Municipal Functions</td>
<td>$1.8431</td>
<td>$1.5496</td>
<td>$1.5939</td>
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Group II
NON-CITY FUNCTIONS

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Water District</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3.600</td>
<td>$3.300</td>
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<td>Los Angeles County General Government</td>
<td>$1.6988</td>
<td>$1.8322</td>
<td>$1.9246</td>
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<td>Flood Control</td>
<td>.3411</td>
<td>.2714</td>
<td>.2733</td>
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<td>Water Conservation—Zone 1</td>
<td>.0500</td>
<td>.0500</td>
<td>.0500</td>
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<td>Tax Rate for County Government</td>
<td>$2.0889</td>
<td>$2.1536</td>
<td>$2.2479</td>
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<td>Schools (Long Beach Unified School District)</td>
<td>$2.6723</td>
<td>$3.4124</td>
<td>$3.4695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tax Rate for Non-City Functions</td>
<td>$4.7622</td>
<td>$5.9200</td>
<td>$6.0474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combined Rate for Normal City and Non-City Functions</td>
<td>$6.6033</td>
<td>$7.4756</td>
<td>$7.6413</td>
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*Includes former Lakewood Park, Recreation and Parkway District rate.

§Obligation assumed by City of Lakewood.
TAX ASSESSING AND COLLECTING

The County of Los Angeles assesses the property and collects all property taxes for 57 of the 59 cities of the county, including Lakewood. Remember that the assessed value is not the same as the market value or selling price! For example, a house and lot worth $12,000 may be assessed at approximately $3,000. The tax rate shown on the accompanying chart, and also on the back of your tax bill, is the rate for each $100 of the assessed valuation of your property. This valuation is determined each year by the County Assessor and shown on the front of your tax bill. Your total annual tax may be computed by multiplying the tax rate by the net assessed valuation.

If you have any questions regarding your taxes, please call at City Hall, or phone METcalf 0-3115. Kindly address your questions either to the Director of Finance or to the City Administrator.

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CITY COUNCIL
ANGELO M. IACOBONI, Mayor
ROBERT W. BAKER GENE NEBEKER
WILLIAM J. BURNS GEORGE NYE, JR.

ADMINISTRATION
HENRY L. GOERLICK City Administrator
CARL J. ELLIS Asst. City Administrator
CARL J. ELLIS Director of Finance
JO BENNETT City Clerk
DONALD SINGER Admin. Assistant
JOHN TODD City Attorney
GUY HALFERTY Director of Public Relations

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Additional copies of this booklet may be obtained by writing to the

CITY OF LAKEWOOD
City Hall
Lakewood, California