

STATE OF ILLINOIS                    )  
  ) SS.  
COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN            )

The undersigned, Katie Good, Secretary of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District of Champaign County, Illinois, and of its Board of Trustees, hereby certifies that the attached is a true and exact copy of the Tax Levy Ordinance adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District at a regular meeting of the Board on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.

WITNESS the hand and seal of my office this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.



Katie M. Good, Secretary of the Champaign-Urbana  
Mass Transit District and of its Board of Trustees



FILED  
DEC 17 2025  
Champaign County Clerk  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CLERK

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-6  
GENERAL TAX LEVY ORDINANCE OF THE  
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025  
AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026

WHEREAS, the current fiscal year of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District Champaign County, Illinois, begins July 1, 2025 and ends on June 30, 2026, and the said District is required by law to adopt its Budget and Appropriation Ordinance prior to or in the first quarter of such fiscal year, and the Board of Trustees has adopted such Ordinance after due notice and public hearing as required by law on June 25, 2025, and

WHEREAS, said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance appropriated a total amount of money in the amount of Eighty-Four Million Seven Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$84,782,000), all as detailed and set forth therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT, Champaign County, Illinois, that:

Section 1. For the following corporate purposes of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District and in the stated amounts, to wit:

	AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	AMOUNT LEVIED
General Fund	\$77,869,000	\$9,618,223
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	2,865,000	1,791,000
Audit	36,000	36,000
Liability Insurance	1,300,000	791,000
Social Security	2,110,000	1,147,000
Unemployment Insurance	92,000	53,000
Workers Compensation	510,000	122,000
Total	<u>\$84,782,000</u>	<u>\$13,558,223</u>

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There is hereby levied in the aggregate, a general tax upon all taxable property within the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District, Champaign County, Illinois, as the same is assessed and equalized for State and County purposes for the year 2025 to be levied and assessed in the year 2026, the aggregate sum of Thirteen Million Five Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Three and No/100 Dollars (\$13,558,223), comprised as follows:

a. For general corporate purposes, the sum of Nine Million Six Hundred Eighteen Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Three and No/100 Dollars (\$9,618,223).

b. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes and exclusive of and in addition to the amount of taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Ninety-One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,791,000) for the purpose of providing monies for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District's contributions required for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund contributions.

c. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of Thirty-Six Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$36,000) for auditing.

d. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of Seven Hundred Ninety-One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$791,000) for liability insurance, claims service and claims.

e. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of One Million One Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,147,000) for the purpose of providing monies for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District's contribution required for Social Security System contributions.

f. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of Fifty-Three Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$53,000) for unemployment insurance.

g. There is further levied, in addition to all other taxes levied for general purposes, the amount of One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$122,000) for protection of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District under the Worker's Compensation Act.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage.

Section 3. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees is directed to file a certified copy of this ordinance with the County Clerk of Champaign County, Illinois.

This Ordinance is hereby passed by the affirmative vote, the "Ayes" and "Nays" being called, of a majority of the members of the Board of Trustees of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District, at a duly called regular meeting of the said Board of Trustees on the 10th day of December, 2025.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

BY: *Dick Barnes*

Chair, Board of Trustees

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District this 10th day of December, 2025.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

BY: *[Signature]*

Secretary

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DEC 17 2025  
*[Signature]*  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CLERK

921 CU MASS TRANSIT

**SUMMARY SHEET OF  
2025 TAX LEVY PAYABLE IN 2026**

RATE LIMIT		FUND	LEVY AMOUNT
.2500	1	GENERAL	\$9,618,223
	5	IMRF	\$1,791,000
.0050	27	AUDIT	\$36,000
	35	LIABILITY INS	\$791,000
	47	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$1,147,000
	60	UNEMPLOY INS	\$53,000
	62	WORKERS COMP	\$122,000

FILED

DEC 17 2024

*Christina Thomas*  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CLERK

## Truth in Taxation Certificate of Compliance (Tax Year 2025 Levy)

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that that I am the presiding officer of the

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District

and as such presiding officer I certify that the levy ordinance, a copy of which is attached, was adopted pursuant to, and in all respects in compliance with the provisions of Section 18-60 through 18-85 of the Truth in Taxation law.

Check One of the Choices Below:

- ☒ 1) The levy did exceed 105 percent of the prior year's extension. Therefore, the district published a notice in the newspaper and conducted a hearing. Notice is attached.
- ☐ 2) The levy did not exceed 105 percent of the prior year's extension. Therefore, a notice and hearing were not necessary.
- ☐ 3) The proposed levy did not exceed 105 percent of the prior year's extension. Therefore, a hearing was not held. However, the adopted levy exceeded 105 percent of the prior year's extension and a notice was published within 15 days of its adoption. Notice is attached.
- ☐ 4) The adopted levy exceeded the amount stated in the initial published notice. A second notice was published within 15 days of the adoption. Notice is attached.

Presiding Officer: Dick Barnes

Name: Dick Barnes

Title: Chair, Board of Trustees

Phone: 217-384-8188

Email: Board@mtd.org

Date: December 10, 2025

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DEC 17 2025  
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35 ILCS 200/18-90: Along with their tax levy, EVERY taxing district is required to file a certification by the presiding officer of the district certifying compliance with or inapplicability to the provisions of Truth in Taxation law.

## NATION / WORLD

STRIKES ON ALLEGED DRUG BOATS

# WHITE HOUSE DENIES WAR-CRIME ACCUSATION

Defense secretary allegedly ordered 2nd strike on defenseless survivors

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said Monday that a Navy admiral acted "within his authority and the law" when he ordered a second, follow-up strike on an alleged drug boat in the Caribbean Sea in a September U.S. military operation that has come under bipartisan scrutiny.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt offered the justification for the Sept. 2 strike after lawmakers from both parties on Sunday announced support for congressional reviews of U.S. military strikes against vessels suspected of smuggling drugs in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean, citing a published report that Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth issued a verbal order for a second strike that killed survivors on the boat in that incident.

Leavitt in her comments to reporters on Monday did not dispute a Washington Post report that there were survivors after the initial strike in the incident. Her explanation came after President Donald Trump a day earlier said that he "wouldn't have wanted that — not a second strike" when asked about the incident.

"Secretary Hegseth authorized Admiral Bradley to conduct these kinetic strikes," said Leavitt, referring to U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Frank Bradley, who at the time was the commander of Joint Special Operations Command. "Admiral Bradley worked well within his authority and the law, directing the engagement to ensure the boat was destroyed and the threat to the United States of



The USS Gravelly, a U.S. Navy warship, departs the Port of Spain on Oct. 30. The U.S. warship arrived in Trinidad and Tobago on Oct. 26 for joint exercises near the coast of Venezuela, as Washington ratcheted up pressure on drug traffickers and Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro.

America was eliminated."

The lawmakers said they did not know whether last week's Post report was true, and some Republicans were skeptical. Still, they said the reports of attacking survivors of an initial missile strike posed serious legal concerns and merited further scrutiny.

"This rises to the level of a war crime if it's true," said Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va.

Rep. Mike Turner, R-Ohio, when asked about a follow-up strike aimed at people no longer able to fight, said Congress does not have information that happened. He noted that leaders of the Armed Services Committee in both the House and Senate have opened investigations.

"Obviously, if that occurred, that would be

very serious and I agree that that would be an illegal act," Turner said. Trump on Sunday vigorously defended Hegseth.

"Pete said he did not order the death of those two men," Trump said. He added, "And I believe him."

Leavitt said Hegseth has spoken with members of Congress who may have expressed some concerns about the reports over the weekend.

Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also spoke over the weekend with the four bipartisan lawmakers leading the Senate and House Armed Services Committees in which he reiterated "his trust and confidence in the experienced commanders at every echelon." Caine's office said in a statement.

The statement added that the call focused on "addressing the intent and legality of missions

to disrupt illicit trafficking networks which threaten the security and stability of the Western Hemisphere."

After the Post's report, Hegseth said Friday on X that "fake news is delivering more fabricated, inflammatory, and derogatory reporting to discredit our incredible warriors fighting to protect the homeland."

"Our current operations in the Caribbean are lawful under both U.S. and international law, with all activities in compliance with the law of armed conflict — and approved by the best military and civilian lawyers, up and down the chain of command," Hegseth wrote.

Leavitt also confirmed that Trump later on Monday would be holding a meeting with his national security team to discuss the ongoing operations in the Caribbean Sea and potential next steps against Venezuela.



Mourners lay flowers as they pay their respects for victims at a makeshift memorial Monday outside the Wang Fuk Court apartment blocks in the aftermath of the deadly Nov. 26 fire in Hong Kong's Tai Po district.

MASSIVE HONG KONG FIRE

## Substandard netting appears to have helped spread blaze

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong officials said Monday that their investigation into a deadly blaze that killed at least 151 has revealed some of the netting that covered scaffolding used in renovations was not up to fire-safety codes, as a wave of public sympathy and support was met by government moves to stifle criticism.

Wednesday's blaze, which took until Friday to fully extinguish, started on the lower-level netting covering bamboo scaffolding around one building in the high-rise Wang Fuk Court complex. It then swept inside as foam panels placed over windows caught fire and blew out the glass. Winds carried flames from building to building that all were covered in scaffolding and netting, until seven of eight were ablaze.

Initial tests of the netting showed it was up to code, but subsequently investigators collected 20 samples from all areas, including higher floors, and found seven failed safety standards, suggesting contractors skimmed to make greater profits, said Eric Chan, Hong Kong's Chief Secretary.

"They just wanted to make money at the expense of people's lives," he told reporters.

Donations for survivors of the fire had reached \$115 million as of Monday, authorities said, as a steady stream of people placed flowers, cards and other tributes at a makeshift memorial near the burned out block of buildings.

"When something happens, we come out to help each other," said Loretta Loh, after paying her regards at the site. "I have a heavy heart."

Some 4,600 people lived in the Wang Fuk Court complex in the suburb of Tai Po.

Hong Kong police Disaster Victim Identification Unit staff had searched five of the burned buildings but only made partial progress through the remaining two, said Tsang Shuk-yin, head of the police casualty enquiry unit. Teams were assessing the safety of the other buildings, including the one that caught fire first and suffered the worst damage.

On Monday they recovered another eight bodies, including three that firefighters found earlier but could not retrieve. Dozens of people remain unaccounted for, but some are likely among the 39 bodies not yet identified, Tsang said.

"We will have to wait until we get through all seven blocks before we can make a final report," she said.

Private donations and \$38.5 million in start-up capital from the government will be used to help victims rebuild their homes and provide long-term support, local officials said. The government has also given survivors cash subsidies to help with expenses, including funerals, and is working to find them housing.

By Monday, 683 residents had found places in local hotels and hostels, and another 1,144 moved into transitional housing units. Two emergency shelters remained open for others, authorities said.

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### Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District for 2025 will be held on December 10, 2025 at 3:00 pm at Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign, Illinois.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2024 were \$12,325,657. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2025 are \$13,558,223. This represents a 10% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2024 were \$0. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2025 are \$0. This represents a 0% increase over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2024 were \$12,325,657. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2025 are \$13,558,223. This represents a 10% increase over the previous year.

### Traveling for the Holidays?

 <b>CarryOn Power Chair</b> 74 lbs	 <b>Journey So Lite C2</b> 24 lbs	 <b>Cricket Electric Wheelchair</b> 39 lbs	 <b>CarryOn Scooter</b> 65 lbs
 <b>MedServ</b> Equipment Corp In Lincoln Square Mall 217-365-7971 Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM Sat, 9AM-1PM			

DEC 17 2025

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CLERK

AFFP

Black Box Notice

## Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ILLINOIS }  
COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN } SS

Paul Barrett, being duly sworn, says:

That he is Publisher of the News-Gazette, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Champaign, Champaign County, Illinois; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

December 02, 2025



, Authorized Agent, Champaign County, Illinois

99225376 01174679

CU MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT  
1101 E UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
URBANA, IL 61802-2009

DEC 17 2025

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