

# City of Kirkwood



## **A SUMMARY OF THE BETTER TOGETHER PROPOSAL**

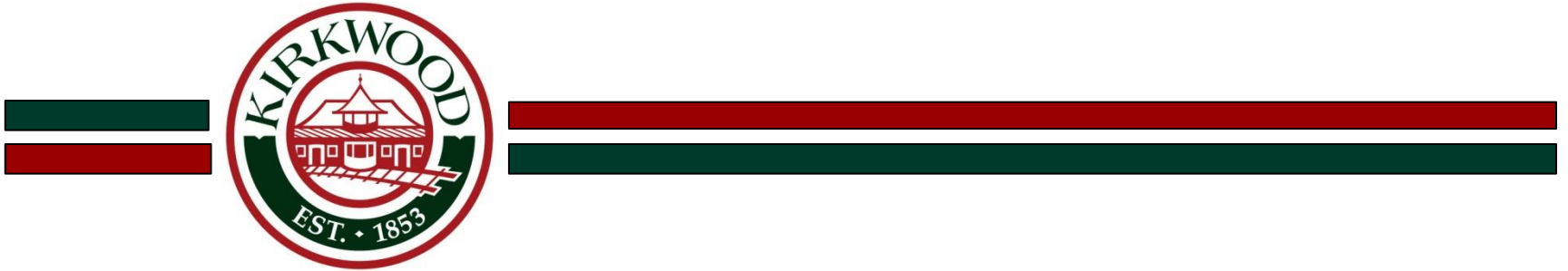
# City of Kirkwood



## Constitutional Amendment

- The Better Together Proposal is a proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution
- Would require a statewide vote
- The proposed amendment would repeal constitutional provisions currently in place that provide a mechanism to merge St. Louis County and St. Louis City *without* the need for a statewide vote

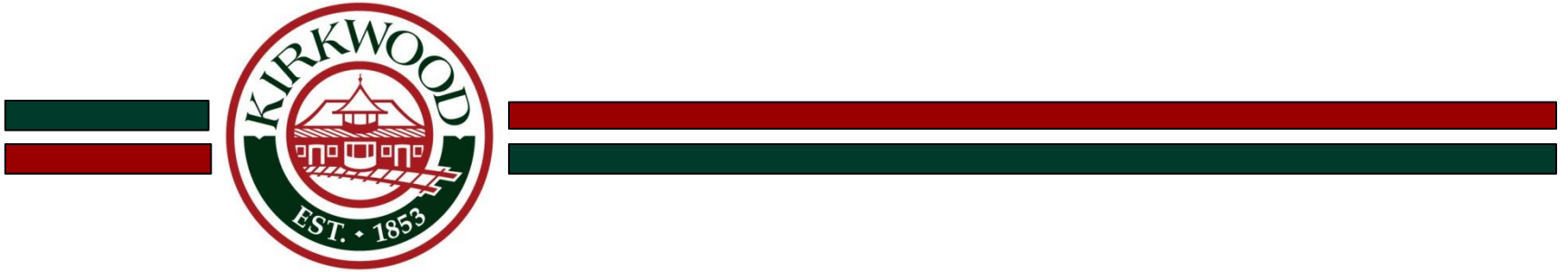
# City of Kirkwood



## Critical Dates

- **November 3, 2020**: Submission of the constitutional amendment to voters statewide
- **January 1, 2021**: Date of merger, if approved by Missouri voters
- **January 1, 2021 – January 1, 2023**: Transition Period
- **November 2022**: First general election for the new mayor of the Metro City and for Metro City Council

# City of Kirkwood



## Duties, Services, and Functions of the new Metro City

- The Metro City will perform all “General District Services” for the Metro City and for all Municipal Districts within St. Louis County, which include:
  - Public health, safety, and general welfare
  - Police, law enforcement, and municipal court
  - Planning and Zoning
  - Licensing, taxing, and regulation of businesses, occupations, professions, activities, and things

# City of Kirkwood



## Duties, Services, and Functions of the new Metro City

- The Metro City will perform all “General District Services” for the Metro City and for all Municipal Districts within St. Louis County, which include:
  - Transportation, infrastructure, and public works
  - Economic development
- The Kirkwood Municipal District (and all other “cities”) will be prohibited from providing these services once the Metro City begins providing them

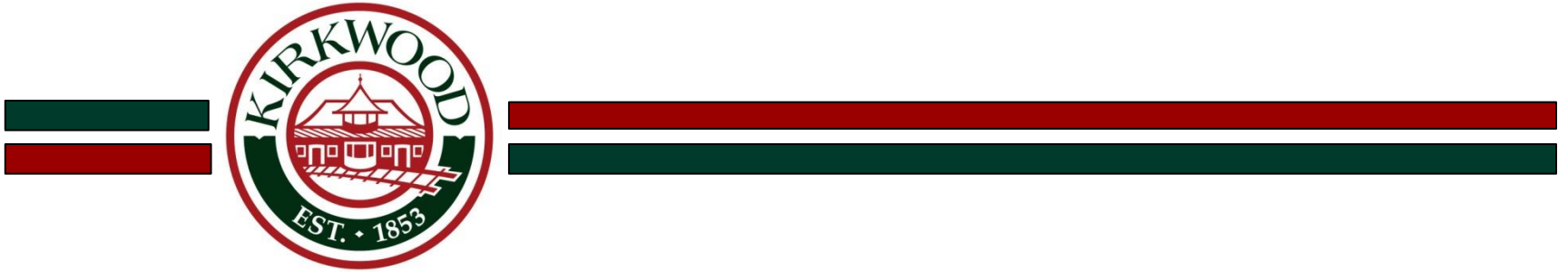
# City of Kirkwood



## Duties, Services, and Functions of the Kirkwood Municipal District

- The duties, services, and functions retained by the Kirkwood Municipal District are:
  - Fire protection and emergency medical services
  - Parks and recreation
  - Trash and Recycling?
  - Proprietary and enterprise functions (electric and water)
  - Administration

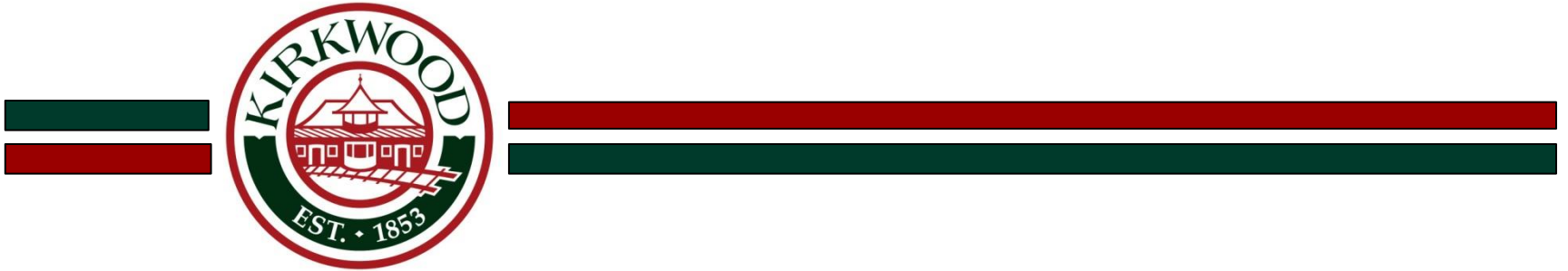
# City of Kirkwood



## The Kirkwood Charter

Current Kirkwood charter provisions become ordinances of the Metro City until repealed, modified, or amended by the Metro City

# City of Kirkwood



## The Metro City Charter

- Initial charter of the Metro City shall be the St. Louis County charter

**EXCEPT** for any provision of the charter that is inconsistent with the proposed constitutional amendment **AND ONLY** until a plan is prepared by Stenger and Krewson that will supersede the existing St. Louis County charter (unless the plan is disapproved by a resolution adopted by two-thirds of all members of the Metro Council voting in the affirmative)



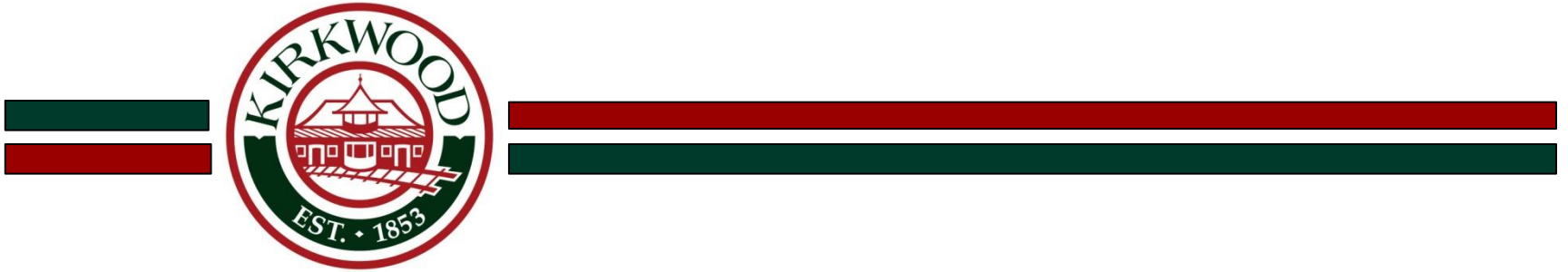
# City of Kirkwood



## Metro Council

- Election 2022, Consists of 33 Members
- Members of Metro Council shall be elected from districts created by members of the faculty of universities. Those members will be jointly appointed by Stenger and Krewson before April 1, 2021. The plan created by the faculty members shall be submitted before September 1, 2021 to the county council and governing body of the St. Louis Municipal District. If both fail to adopt Dec 2021, Plan is deemed approved.

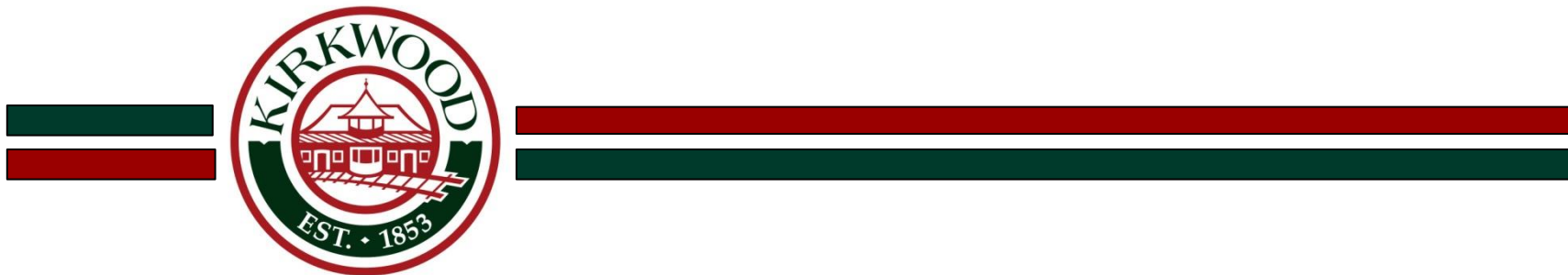
# City of Kirkwood



## Administration of the Kirkwood Municipal District

- If the amendment is adopted, Kirkwood will continue to exist as a “municipal district” and the Kirkwood City Council (and Chief Administrative Officer) will administer the affairs of the Kirkwood Municipal District from January 1, 2021 – January 1, 2023 (the Transition Period)

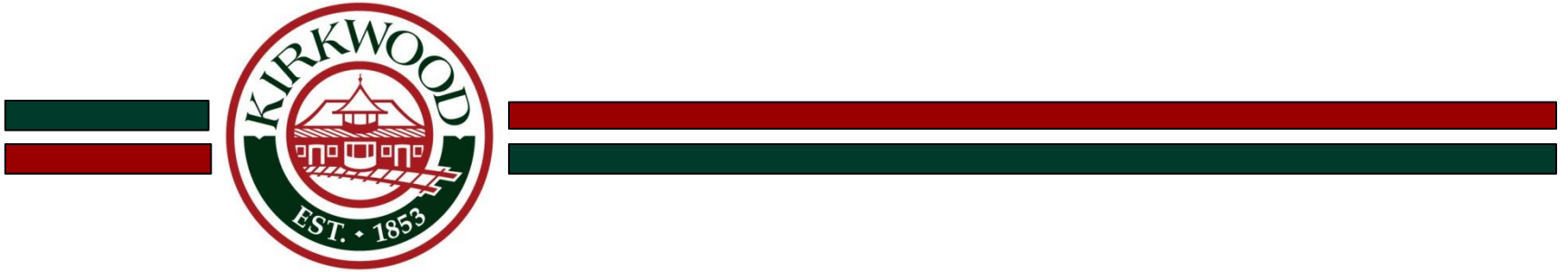
# City of Kirkwood



## Administration of Kirkwood Municipal District

- Cannot take any acts during this time that will incur any new obligations extending beyond January 1, 2023 with respect to General District Services, unless approved by Stenger and Krewson
- Cannot dispose of any property during this time unless required by contract or approved by Stenger and Krewson

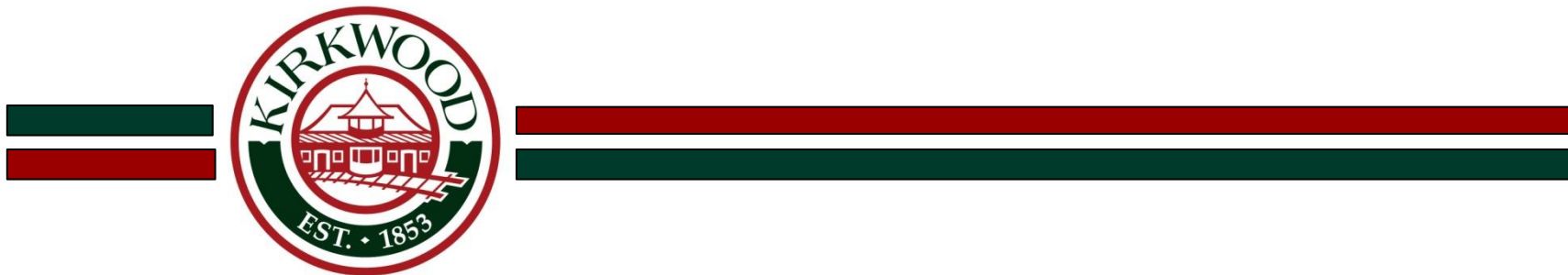
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## Administration of the Kirkwood Municipal District

- After the Transition Period, the Kirkwood City Council shall exercise such powers necessary to effectuate the provisions of the constitutional amendment, including serving the function of a planning commission and board of adjustment and providing Municipal District Services

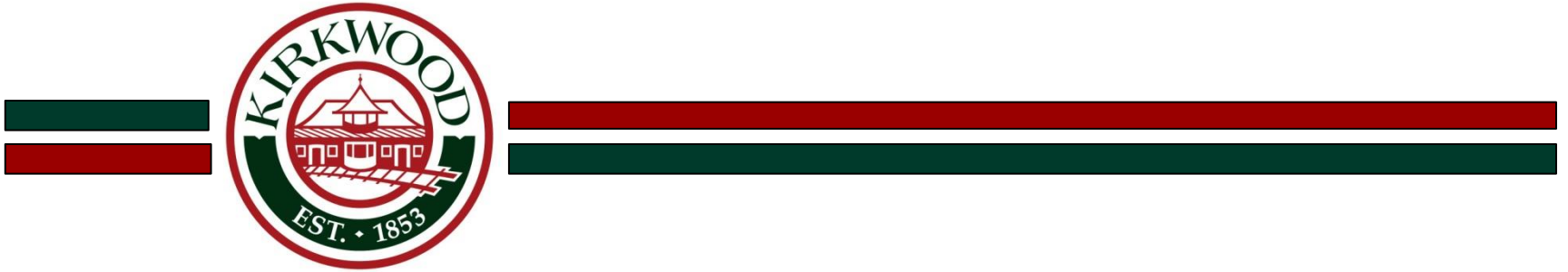
# City of Kirkwood



## Administration of the Kirkwood Municipal District

- Boards and commissions shall continue to operate until otherwise provided by the Kirkwood Municipal District or by the Metro City
- The boundaries of Kirkwood shall not be altered *except* as approved by ordinance of the Metro City

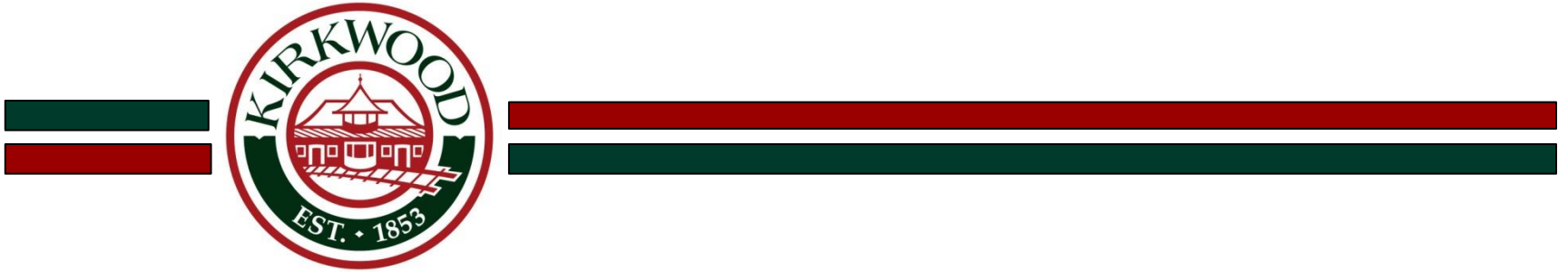
# City of Kirkwood



## Administration of the Kirkwood Municipal District

- After January 1, 2023, the Kirkwood Municipal District may merge or consolidate with one or more other municipal districts *or may be dissolved by ordinance of the Metro City*

# City of Kirkwood



## Finances

- Outstanding financial obligations of the Kirkwood Municipal District will continue to exist and will be financed from revenues collected within the Kirkwood Municipal District. Municipal District services also must be financed from funds generated within the Kirkwood Municipal District

# City of Kirkwood

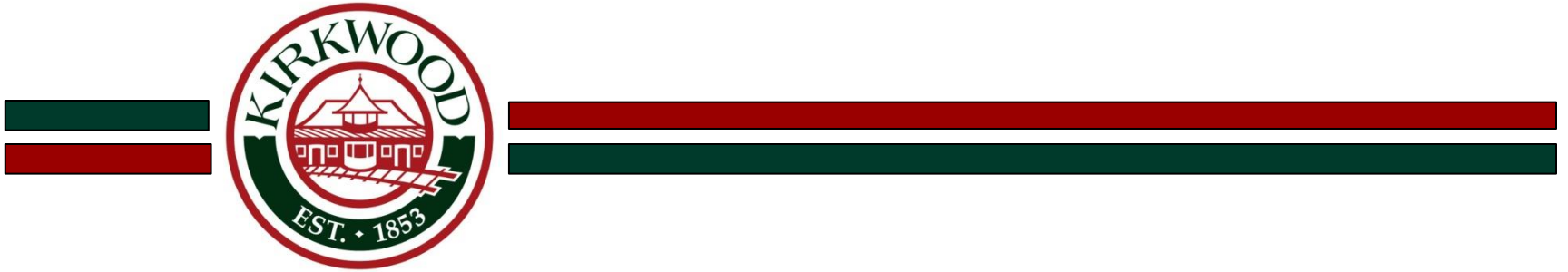


## Finances

- General District Services and outstanding obligations of the Metro City are to be financed from funds generated throughout Metro City, including within the territory of Municipal Districts (such as Kirkwood)
- The current tax structure, tax rates, and level of services as of January 1, 2021 are to be maintained by continuing all taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments imposed, until modified by the Metro City



# City of Kirkwood



## Finances

- Funds generated from any tax, license, fee, or special assessment levied solely within the Kirkwood Municipal District must be distributed to the Kirkwood Municipal District for the satisfaction of outstanding obligations

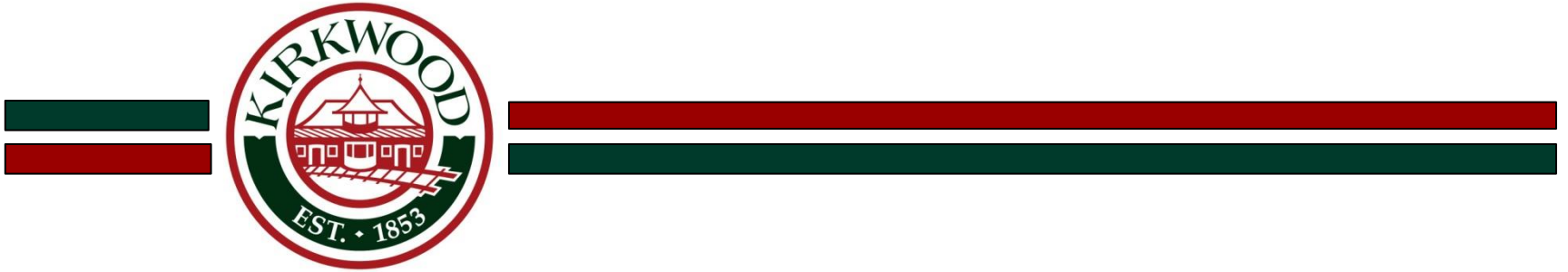
# City of Kirkwood



## Finances

- Any remaining funds from any *property tax or special assessment* levied solely within the Kirkwood Municipal District must be distributed to the Kirkwood Municipal District for Municipal District Services and for providing General District Services until they are provided by the Metro City

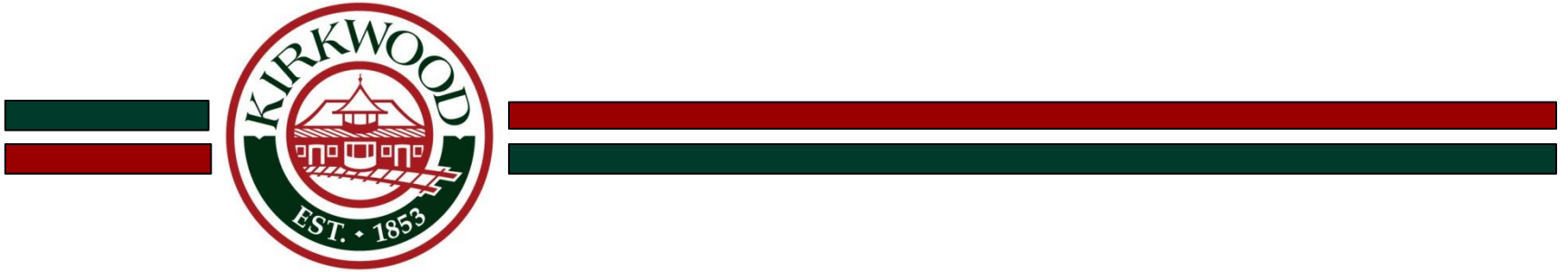
# City of Kirkwood



## Finances

- Any remaining funds from any *sales or use tax* levied solely within the Kirkwood Municipal District must be distributed to the Kirkwood Municipal District as necessary to provide Municipal District Services and General District Services until they are provided by the Metro City

# City of Kirkwood



Questions