Final

Information regarding the Dues Increase


- The Council took this action with a progressive look toward the future, to address both financial challenges and the need to improve service to clubs.
- 9 out of 10 Rotarians have asked Rotary to provide more services, but it was clear to the Council that without the dues increase, service to clubs and districts would have to be decreased.

The $4 dues increase was needed because:

- World financial markets have been very volatile and Rotary, like other organizations, has experienced investment losses.
- A $4 increase will result in sufficient funding to maintain existing services and will provide a small surplus of revenues, over and above basic operating expenses and reserve targets. This additional funding can be invested in Rotary's future.
- An updated five-year forecast of Rotary's finances indicates the following outcomes for a dues increase of less than $4:
  - A $1 increase would result in only a 1.8% increase in revenues -- less than the 2.5% impact of global inflation -- and large cuts in services would be needed each year to balance the budget;
  - A $1 increase would result in reserve levels falling below the Board target by 2018, requiring Rotary to spend our convention and investment reserves to fund daily operations;
  - A $2 increase would result in reserve levels falling below the Board target by 2019, and a $3 increase would result in reserve levels only marginally above the target by 2018.

The additional funding will enable Rotary to begin to:

- Improve the functionality of our website, including better search capabilities.
- Improve and simplify reporting for clubs and districts, including easier reporting of membership, officer appointments, and other information.
- Invest in membership initiatives, including the regional membership officers and tools for clubs and districts (such as retention assessment).
- Bring Rotaractors into the fold, by allowing them access to online tools, thereby engaging our future Rotarians sooner.

... and complete projects to:

- Improve the performance and usability for Rotary Club Central.
- Improve access to contribution data for timelier online reporting to clubs and individuals.
- Provide infrastructure and updated tools needed to ensure compliance with changing regulations in the countries where Rotary operates.
Although additional funding is needed, Rotary has taken measures to reduce the amount and rate of growth of expenses, including:

- Nearly $3 million savings per year by moving our data processing and software development to India.
- $400,000 savings per year by outsourcing the printing, storage and mailing of publications.
- $250,000 savings per year through the new club invoicing system.
- $100,000 savings per year through Rotary’s continued move to digital publications and reduction in printed materials.

Rotary is well-positioned for the future

- The world’s foremost membership and service organization, Rotary has remained strong through careful investment in our clubs and districts, while other membership organizations have failed or are contracting.
- The $4 annual dues increase – less than 8 cents a week – combined with good stewardship, will enable Rotary to deliver to the clubs and districts what they have requested, along with providing the tools needed to attract new members and support new clubs.
- Supported by the Council’s action, Rotary will have the necessary resources and capacity to prepare for and achieve a strong future.