



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Windsor Residents Voted Overwhelmingly for Change in Governance**  
*Town of Windsor to Become Village of Windsor*

(Windsor, Wis.) Town of Windsor residents voted today to become the Village of Windsor in a historic referendum on the topic. 97% of votes cast in the election were in favor of becoming a village making it a landslide victory for Incorporation. The Municipal Board of Canvassers will certify the results of the referendum on November 9th, and then Windsor officially becomes a Village. The Clerk will file the results with the Secretary of the Department of Administration and obtain an official certificate of Incorporation.

“Windsor residents spoke resoundingly today through their participation in the oldest known form of democracy, the ballot box,” said Bob Wipperfurth, Windsor Town Chairman. “This historic vote marks the end of a long period of study and analysis by the Windsor Board and residents and the beginning of a new era for the Village of Windsor.”

The results of the referendum serve as punctuation to a comprehensive two-year process in which Windsor residents examined whether to remain a town, merge with another village, or incorporate as a new village. In response to requests from residents, Town of Windsor officials initiated discussions on whether to incorporate in early-2014. Town officials held numerous listening sessions and completed a fiscal analysis before authorizing the referendum at its August 20, 2015 Board meeting.

“This has been a resident-driven process from its beginning,” said Wipperfurth. “The results of the referendum reflect that.” Wipperfurth added, “We have been very deliberative in examining all of the governance options available to us. We think we’ve asked all the right questions, and gathered all the right data leading up to the referendum.”

The 2014 fiscal analysis developed by Ehlers, the Town’s financial advisor, revealed that it would be more cost-effective to incorporate independently as a village. In addition, the study found that incorporating as a village would protect valuable land from annexation. “Pursuing incorporation has always been about protecting our taxpayers,” said Wipperfurth. “Preserving our identity and protecting our land from annexation are important byproducts of incorporation.”

As the Village of Windsor, officials will also be able to streamline zoning and permitting processes and will have more tools available to them to support economic development activities.

“All we see is opportunity,” said Wipperfurth. “We don’t see any downside.”