BUSINESS DISTRICTS 101

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & REDEVELOPMENT TAX





Disclaimer: This PowerPoint presentation is provided for general informational purposes only. The information contained in this presentation should not be construed as legal advice from the Illinois Department of Revenue or the presenter for any purpose, including but not limited to the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights, nor is it intended to be a substitute for legal counsel on any subject matter. IDOR advises that audience members pursue appropriate legal or other professional advice when seeking guidance, based upon their particular facts and circumstances.



- The tax is designed to fund the development or redevelopment of designated areas within a municipality.
- The proposed business district must be:
 - Contiguous
 - Blighted, as defined in the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-74.3-5
- The tax may be imposed in quarter percent increments with a maximum rate of 1.00%.
- There can be more than one district in a municipality, you don't have to include the whole municipality in one district.
- Filing Deadlines:
 - April 1 to become effective July 1 of the same year, or
 - October 1 to become effective January 1 of the following year.



- The tax is NOT imposed on:
 - Items that are titled or registered with an Illinois state agency
 - Qualifying food, drugs, and medical appliances
- Businesses that will NOT charge the BDST:
 - Businesses participating in special events
 - Dealerships selling vehicles, trailers, RVs, mobile homes, aircraft, or watercraft, etc.
 - Service businesses that do not sell or transfer merchandise



- Documents that must be sent to the Local Tax Allocation Division (LTAD) by the filing deadline:
 - Certified ordinance imposing the Business District Retailers' and Service Occupation Taxes (sample ordinance is available on our website),
 - Detailed map of the business district boundaries,
 - Copy of the development or redevelopment plan for the business district, and
 - Detailed list of each address, registered with the United States Postal Service, that is located within the business district's boundaries. ALL addresses within the boundaries MUST be included.



- How are business districts processed?
 - LTAD will verify the receipt of the ordinance, detailed map, development/redevelopment plan, and the list of addresses.
 - A copy of the ordinance is sent to our Legal Division for review and approval.
- What does the Legal Division look for when reviewing these ordinances?
 - Was there a finding of blight?
 - Is the tax properly imposed?
 - Are all of the required elements in the ordinance?
 (65 ILCS 5/11-74.3-6(b) and (c))



- What does the Legal Division look for when reviewing these ordinances? (Continued from the previous page)
 - Does it impose both a Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Service Occupation Tax?
 - Are both taxes imposed at the same rate?
 - Does it provide for the Department's administration of the Business District Sales Tax?
 - Does it clearly state the Department does not administer the Business District Hotel Tax, if a hotel tax is imposed?



- What does the Legal Division look for when reviewing these ordinances? (Continued from the previous page)
 - Does it require the Clerk to file it on time?
 - Does it have a proper effective date?
 - Was the effective date clearly stated?
 - Was the effective date generic?
 - Was the ordinance filed timely?
 - Sunset Date The statute provides that the tax terminates after 23 years. The termination ordinance must be filed. (65 ILCS 5/11-74.3-6 (f)).
- A sample ordinance can be found on our website.
- Contact the Legal Division for questions directly related to the business district ordinances at (217) 782-2844.



- After Legal approval, the business district is created in our system and addresses are added.
- A letter, with the addresses, is sent to the municipality for address approval.
- Once approval is received, our system flips the site locations to business district locations.
- A business district taxpayer listing is sent to the municipality for verification.
- All correspondence will be sent to the municipality, not a consultant or other third party hired to establish the business district.



- Affected taxpayers are notified of the rate change and the effective date.
 - If they file electronically, they will be notified by IDOR through their MyTax account.
 - If they file paper returns, the notification will be mailed to them.
 - If there is a new business added to the district, but no change in the rate for the district as a whole, a letter will only be sent to the impacted business or businesses.
 - IDOR will send a copy of the rate change bulletin to the impacted municipalities through MyLocalTax, so you have a copy to share with your businesses if they contact you. It will also be posted to the IDOR website.



- To change an existing business district:
 - Add, change, or delete addresses
 - Rate changes
 - Boundary changes
- Provide the following, if applicable:
 - An updated detailed map of business district boundaries
 - A revised development or redevelopment plan
 - Additional addresses located within the new boundaries
 - A certified ordinance
- Changes must be reported by the same April 1/October 1 deadlines



- Tips to ensure all intended addresses are added to the business district
 - Business Districts are based on addresses, not business names or PINs
 - Example: Your list should provide 101 N. First Street, not McDonald's
 - Verify all work done by a 3rd party, you know your municipality, they might not
 - Order a taxpayer listing through the MyLocalTax portal monthly
 - This listing provides a spreadsheet with all retail businesses within the municipality
 - Compare your business district list to this taxpayer listing to verify all businesses have been added

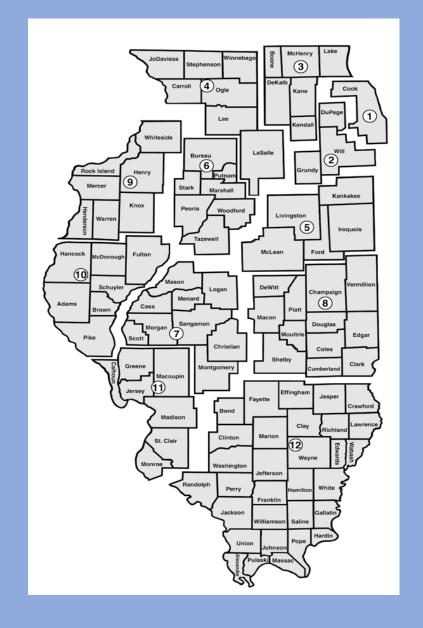


- Tips to ensure all intended addresses are added to the business district
 - Refer to the annual taxpayer listing
 - This file is now provided through MyLocalTax (MLT) according to the schedule on the following page. If you aren't using MLT, you must request this from LTAD.
 - Use this listing in the same manner as the taxpayer listing above
 - Make sure the business's address is correct and updated
 - Example: 100 State Route 5, USPS address is 100 W. Main Street
 - A simple abbreviation could cause the address to not match USPS. Please use the USPS address.
 - Example: Street and St.



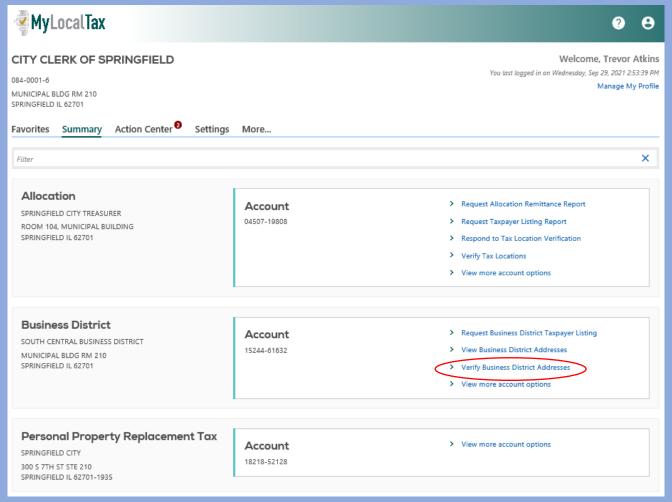
Annual Taxpayer Location Address List Schedule

- Zone 1 August
- Zone 2 September
- Zone 3 October
- Zone 4 November
- Zone 5 December
- Zone 6 January
- Zone 7 February
- Zone 8 March
- Zone 9 April
- Zone 10 May
- Zone 11 June
- Zone 12 July

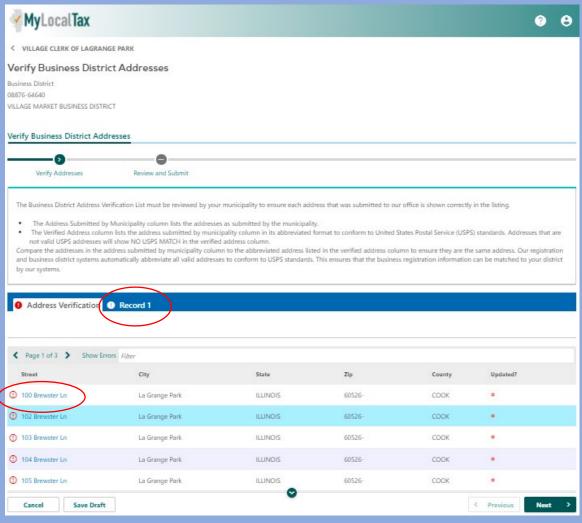




MyLocalTax Instructions for Business Districts

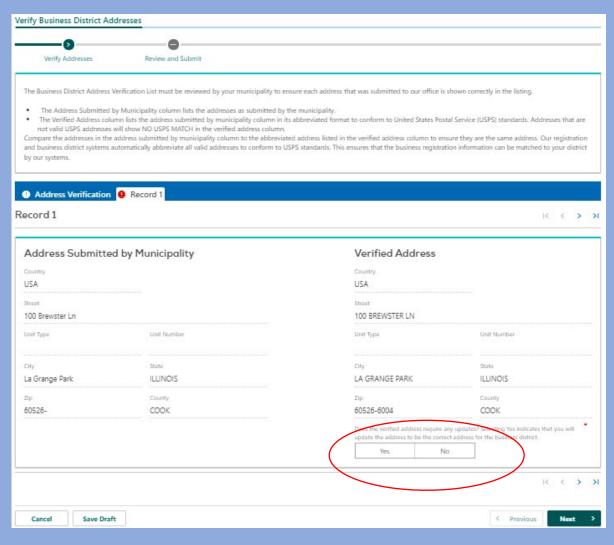






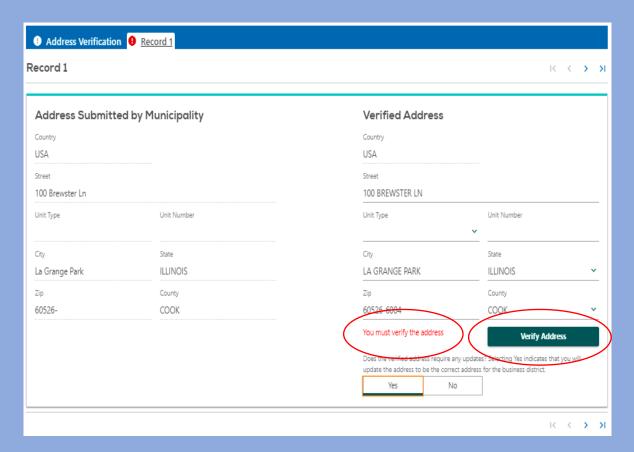
- This screen lists all records that need to be verified for the business district
- These addresses are entered exactly as they have been submitted to LTAD by your municipality
- Select a record or select the address hyperlink





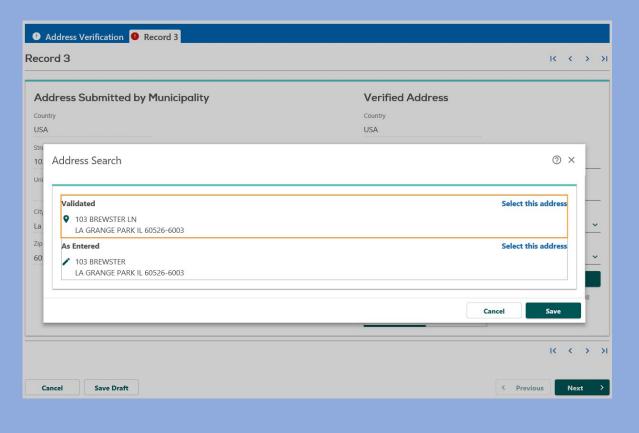
- The address you submitted is on the left.
 The USPS address is on the right.
- Indicate whether the verified address requires updates.
- If you select no when there is no USPS match on the verified address, you'll receive an error message:
 - You must select
 Yes if the original
 address submitted
 by the
 municipality does
 not have a U.S.
 Postal Service
 Match.





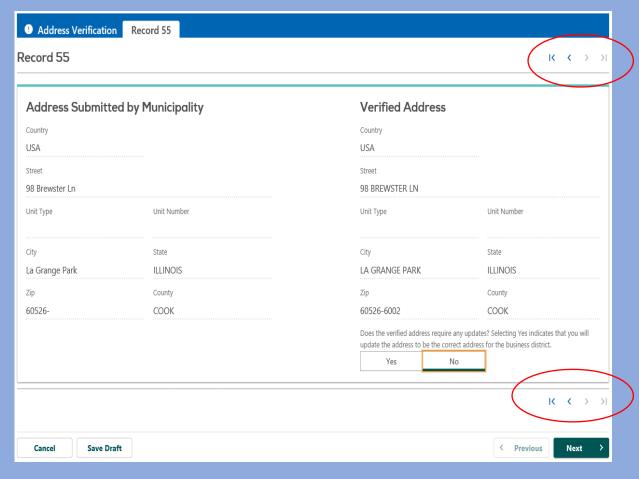
- If you Select Yes, you are required to verify the address that you enter.
- Enter the address and select the "Verify Address" button.





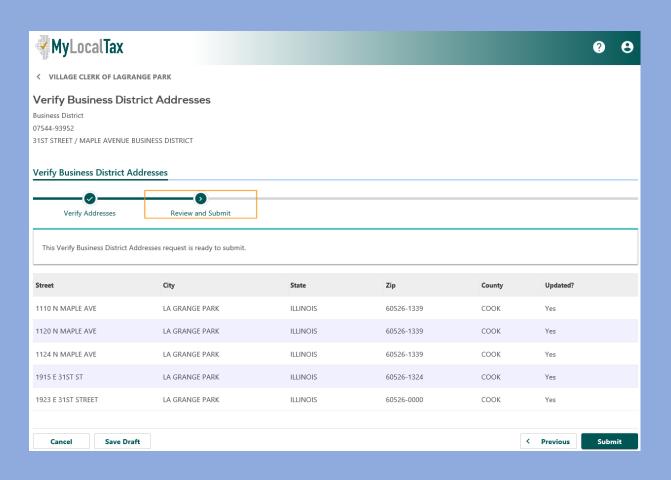
- Once you've entered the address and selected "Verify Address," you will be given at least one verified address to select if you have provided a valid USPS address.
- Select the address and select "Save."





- Select the next record to verify.
 - If you select next instead of selecting the next record, you'll receive an error message that says, "This step must be corrected or completed before moving on."
- In this case, the verified address does not require any updates and it is the last record. You will select "No," then "Next."

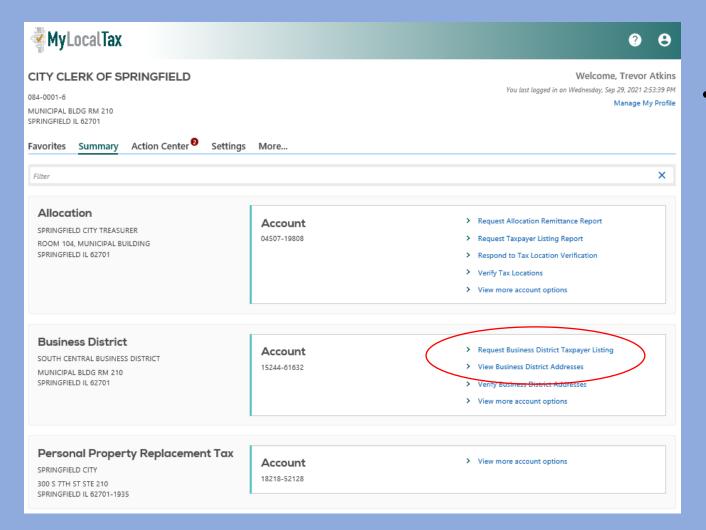




- You can then review the addresses that you verified.
- The updated column tells you if you made changes to the verified address.
- If you agree with the addresses on this screen, select "Submit." If you do not agree, select "Previous" and return to the record(s) that you need to correct.



MyLocalTax for Business Districts



You can also request a business district taxpayer listing and view business district addresses from your MyLocalTax account.



- After verifying your business district addresses, IDOR will send a business district taxpayer listing.
- It is very important to review this document closely, as any addresses that are omitted must be submitted to IDOR before the April 1/October 1 deadline, otherwise you must wait until the next deadline to add that address to your district.
- Once all of the intended addresses are included on your business district taxpayer listing, IDOR will finalize the business district process and notify the affected businesses.



- Other information to know about business districts
 - Individual sales tax data for the businesses in your business district is confidential. In order to view this data, your municipality must have a current information exchange agreement on file with the Department.
 - The sales tax allocation process is a four-month cycle.
 - If the effective date of your district is January 1, you will receive the first distribution of business district tax in April.
 - If the effective date of your district is July 1, you will receive the first distribution of business district tax in October.



- Upcoming Change
 - IDOR is developing an electronic submittal process.
 - No more manual entry, reducing the possibility of typos or other errors.
 - Huge time savings for the staff, allowing them to respond to questions and other correspondence quicker.
 - You won't be required to submit electronically.
 - Hopefully ready for the Fall 2022 submittal period.



- More information can be found on our website (www.tax.Illinois.gov).
- Questions can be directed to the Local Tax Allocation
 Division using the contact information on the next page.



LOCAL TAX ALLOCATION DIVISION 101 W. JEFFERSON ST. 3-500 SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702

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