



Spring 2006

The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

IN THIS ISSUE

Community Kiosk
page 2

2007 Budget
page 3

ICE Campaign
page 4

Protect Basements
page 5

Summer Construction
Page 5

Tree Planting Programs
page 6

Village Voices
page 7

Spring Cleanup
page 8

Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
www.villageofwinnetka.org

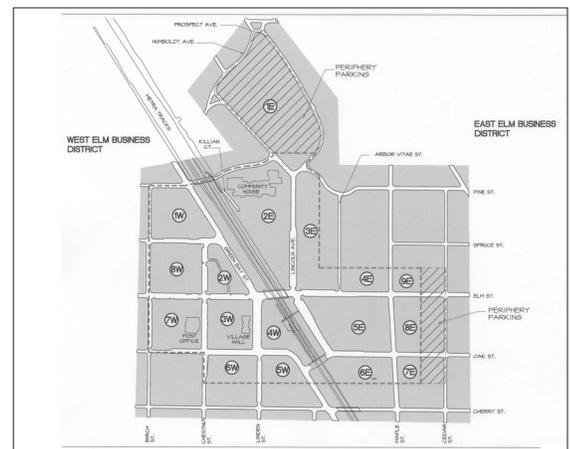
Village Council to Consider Parking Facility

Last summer the Village hired Rich & Associates (R&A), a nationally known and respected parking consultant, to perform a downtown parking study of the East and West Elm Street Business Districts. The scope of the study consisted of: (1) determining the number of parking spaces required to support each of these two business districts (both currently and after the Post Office Block is redeveloped); and (2) assessing the current number of available spaces to determine the current use and turnover of these spaces. This information was then combined and analyzed in order to determine whether parking in the area is sufficient to meet present and future needs. Their calculations indicate that the Village needs to provide an additional 296 spaces in the Elm Street Business Districts.

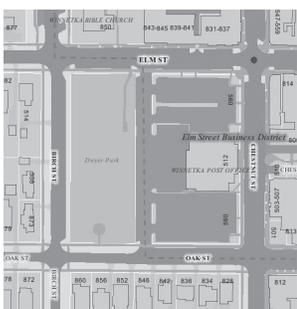
During the next few months, the Village Council will consider whether the Village should invest in the construction of a major parking facility in the West or East Elm Street Business District. The

Council will review the R&A report at the May 9 Study Session, at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers at Village Hall. All interested parties are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Copies of R&A's report are available from the Village Manager's office, or it can be downloaded at www.villageofwinnetka.org



Post Office Committee Reviews Use, Design, Parking Study



At last December's meeting, the Post Office Committee discussed the tentative use and design principles for the

proposed site, which will be tested and further refined as the Committee continues to analyze the economic, regulatory, and process issues associated with any reuse of the two-acre site.

The Committee sees the redevelopment of the Post Office site as intended to upgrade the use of this significant parcel of land in the West Elm Business District, with the objective of transforming the

area into a magnet attracting people day and evening on a year-round basis and creating gathering places for families and friends. It is anticipated that the site's redevelopment will serve as a catalyst for improvements to the uses, vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns, and streetscape in the West Elm Business District.

To achieve these objectives, the Committee sees the site being principally redeveloped with a combination of retail and residential uses. Office, service, and community or institutional uses may also be appropriate. In addition, the development should provide public open spaces that connect and integrate Dwyer Park with the West Elm Street Business District.

The highest importance will be placed on the quality of the architecture, the

design of structures on the site relative to surrounding uses, the attractiveness of open spaces and landscaping, and the contribution that the development makes to the community as a whole.

The Committee understands that parking and vehicular circulation are key to the success of the site's redevelopment and the overall vitality of the West Elm Business District. At its February and March meetings, the Committee reviewed and discussed the recent Commercial District Parking Study prepared in conjunction with the proposed redevelopment project and related issues.

Complete copies of the Use and Design Principles and the Parking Study can be obtained from the Village Manager's Office or by visiting the Village's web site: www.villageofwinnetka.org.



New Community Events Kiosk at Oak and Linden

Last month the new kiosk was installed to replace the community events sign at the southwest corner of Oak and Linden. The Village Council has granted the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce permission to promote Winnetka business events that are open to the general public, in return for the Chamber contributing one-third of the cost of the kiosk.

The other two panels, which will be administered by Community Development staff, will be available for local not-for-profit organizations to communicate news about their events. Anyone interested in posting signs in one of the panels reserved for not-for-profit organizations should contact Brian Norkus at (847) 716-3520. Anyone interested in the Chamber of Commerce panel should contact Cicely Clarke Michalak at (847) 446-4451.



Document Destruction Event

Saturday, April 22
Wilmette Metra Lot

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) is providing a one-day document destruction event for residentially-generated paper, such as medical forms, bank statements, personal files, retired tax forms, etc. This event is open to any Winnetka resident because the Village is a member of SWANCC.

No materials from businesses, schools or institutions will be accepted.

The free event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Paper clips and staples do not need to be removed, but please remove binders. Also, please have your ID ready, as SWANCC Staff will be checking each vehicle.

Landmark Preservation Awards

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission recently honored seven Winnetka properties at the February 21st Village Council meeting. The awards paid tribute to those construction projects that have helped to preserve the history and character of the Village. The program has three categories of awards: Restoration, Rehabilitation, and New Construction. The following properties were presented awards:



650 Blackthorn
495 Ash
19 Warwick
903 Elm
822 Bryant
500 Maple
814 Boal Parkway

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission is currently accepting applications for next year's program. If you believe your recent improvement project helped to preserve the historic character of Winnetka, please apply. Applications are available from the Community Development Department at Village Hall or online at www.villageofwinnetka.org. Deadline for

Caucus SpringTown Meeting



Mark your calendars to attend the Caucus Spring Town Meeting, **Wednesday, May 31, at 7:30 p.m.**

in the Washburne School Little Theatre. Representatives from the Village Council and School, Library and Park District Boards will report on the status of the platforms approved at the January 5th Town Meeting.

This year, the Caucus will be soliciting, interviewing, and slating candidates for the Village Council and each of the Village boards. There are still openings for 2006 Caucus members. For information, please phone or e-mail co-chairs Ed Harney at 847.444.7540/edharney@comcast.net, or Joni Johnson at 847.446.0141/joni_johnson@post.harvard.edu.

Please visit the recently revamped Caucus website at www.winnetkacaucus.org, for a look at Caucus Surveys and Platforms and information about Caucus operations and procedures.



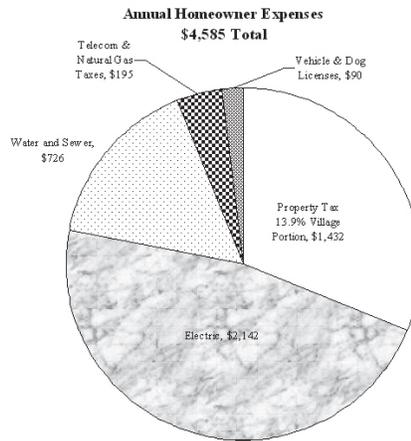
Village Council Adopts FY 2006 - 2007 Budget

Recently, the Village Council approved the 2006-07 budget which anticipates that the Village's cash operating expenses will increase by 5.1%, from \$38.7 million in 2006 to \$40.7 million in 2007. Revenues are projected to increase 5.9%, from \$45.3 million to \$48.0 million. The margin between total revenues and operating expenses is earmarked for capital improvements such as resurfacing streets, repairing bridges, installing new water mains, upgrading electric lines, and purchasing new vehicles and equipment.

Over the past few years, the number of full-time employees has been reduced to contain operating expenses. This year's budget shows a reduction of two full-time employees, bringing the number of employees providing services down to 162. The high water mark was 178 full-time employees in 1989. This reduction has been accomplished through improved efficiencies without appreciably altering Village services. Major policy items considered during the budget review were:

- A 3% increase in the property tax levy. (This represents a \$42 additional cost for a \$10,000 property tax bill.)
- No electric rate increase. (A typical homeowner pays \$2,142 per year of electricity.)
- A 5% sewer rate increase. (This represents \$9 additional annual cost for a typical \$196 of annual use.)
- No water rate increase. (A typical homeowner uses \$530 of water in a normal weather year.)
- No increase in the vehicle sticker cost.

As a result of the changes in the new budget, a typical resident will pay a total of \$4,585 to the Village in 2007, an \$86 or 1.9% increase from last year. The following graph summarizes annual homeowner expenses for Village-provided services.



The new budget continues the policy of rebuilding the Village's decaying infrastructure and includes \$9.72 million for capital investments, including the following:

- \$2,070,000 for street, bridge, and traffic signal improvements, including the Pine and Eldorado bridges and the traffic signal at Green Bay Rd. and Winnetka Ave.
- \$1,786,000 for electrical system improvements.
- \$1,228,000 for Water Plant and watermain improvements.
- \$1,165,000 for improvements to Village facilities, including the parking garage in Hubbard Woods, Streetscaping, a Fire Training Tower, Village Hall, sidewalks, etc.
- \$588,000 for debt, capital transfers, and contingency.
- \$2,883,000 for vehicles, equipment, drainage, police dispatch, and contingency.

The Budget is available for review at Village Hall and the Public Library.

Illinois Department of Transportation Public Hearing

Many residents have expressed concerns about traffic conditions on Village Roads which are under the control of the Illinois Department of Transportation. While the Village Staff share these concerns, the Village has limited ability to address many of them without the consent and cooperation of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Winnetkans will have the opportunity to let their concerns be known at a Public Hearing scheduled for the Chicago area. The IDOT Division of Traffic Safety is promising to discuss traffic safety issues important to our area. The Public Hearing is scheduled as follows:

DATE: MAY 10, 2006
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Michael Bilandic Bldg.
 160 N. LaSalle
 Chicago, Illinois

For additional information, contact Melissa Schaive, IDOT at 217-557-0132.

Check the Village's website for updates:
www.villageofwinnetka.org

March Thru June is Tornado Season

Tornado season is here. Be prepared!

"Tornado Watch" means that conditions are right for a tornado. Stay alert and tuned to a radio (battery operated) or television for further developments.

"Tornado Warning" means the National Weather Service has sighted a tornado on radar. Take shelter -- tornadoes strike fast.

When Village staff become aware of the "Tornado Warning" for our area, the audible "Outdoor Warning Siren System" (OWSS) will be activated. This system uses three emergency sirens, one located east of the Public Safety Building at 428 Green Bay Road, one at the northeast corner of Tower and Green Bay Roads and one at the Winnetka Golf course on Hibbard Road.



In Case of Emergency -- Cell Phone “ICE” Campaign



In view of recent terrorist events, an “**In Case of Emergency (ICE)**” campaign has been launched worldwide.

The idea is to store the word “**ICE**” in the address book of mobile phones with the name and phone number of the person that should be contacted in the event that the cell phone owner is injured

and unable to communicate this information. For more than one contact name and priority, use ICE1, ICE2, ICE3, etc. It’s that simple.

Research shows that more than 75% of people carry no details of who they would like contacted following a serious accident. With “**ICE**” first responders and hospital staff will turn to a victim’s mobile phone address book and know immediately whom to contact. When seconds matter, this information may be vital. For example, the emergency contact may be able to provide critical information about the victim’s medical history. Research also suggests people may recover more quickly from the psychological effects of their loved one’s injury if they are involved at an earlier stage in the emergency.

Please think carefully about the “**ICE**” contact, especially when minors are involved, and the contact has to give consent for emergency treatment.

Don’t Meet your Neighbors by ACCIDENT

Police remind motorists to comply with traffic laws . . .



In response to concerns over motorists disregarding stop signs, the Winnetka Police Department will be enhancing its efforts towards this problem at selected locations.

Directed Enforcement Missions will be conducted throughout the Village. Additional signage will be installed on approach routes to stop sign controlled intersections, and portable **Directed Traffic Enforcement Zone** signs will also

be placed as a reminder.

Winnetka police will continue their campaign to gain motorists’ compliance with traffic laws. Police remind drivers to:

- Always come to a **FULL** stop at all stop signs. At a four-way stop intersection, wait until it’s your turn to proceed.
- Observe posted speed limits. In school zones, motorists are required to decrease their speed to 20 miles per hour.
- Use your directional signals. Let other drivers and pedestrians know when you plan to turn or change lanes.
- Be alert and courteous to pedestrians. Pedestrians have the right of way in almost all situations, and it’s just plain courtesy to allow them to proceed.
- Always fasten your seat belt, and make sure that your passengers are properly buckled up. Young children and infants should be securely fastened into approved child safety seats. The back seat is the safest place for children to ride.

Current Illinois Rules of the Road booklets are available in the Police Department lobby. It’s a good idea to review them

Recycle Your Worn Out Athletic Shoes

Residents can put their old Athletic shoes back in the game and help give kids a place to play sports.

Winnetka, in cooperation with SWANCC, is collecting worn-out athletic shoes for *Nike’s Reuse-A-Shoe* program, which recycles the shoes into a material that goes into making new sports surfaces. Last year, SWANCC was able to divert over 11,000 pounds of shoes from landfills.

Drop off shoes at the Public Works facility, 1390 Willow Road. Only “court-type” shoes will be accepted, such as basketball, tennis, cross-training, running or aerobic.





Village Receives APWA Award

The suburban branch of the Chicago metro chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) has selected the Village of Winnetka Public Works Water and Electric Facility as the 2005 Project of the Year Award for Structures from \$2M-\$10M. This award recognizes excellence in completing Public Works projects and the alliance between the managing agency, the consultant/architect/engineer, and the contractor who, working together, complete the project.

The Village's Public Works Director Steve Saunders, who served as the Village's Project Manager, received the award at a luncheon on January 24th. The Public Works Facility was completed in 2003 on time and under budget.

Protect Your Basements from Flooding

The Village continues to work to reduce the incidence of basement flooding by replacing, repairing, or lining sewers, and inspecting private residences to locate and disconnect sources of stormwater flooding to the sanitary sewer systems. While these measures continue to reduce the incidence of basement flooding, the Village cannot guarantee that they will completely eliminate basement flooding. In order to fully protect your basement, it is necessary that homeowners take action to retrofit their homes either with **overhead sewers** or an

appropriate **backflow prevention system**.

Overhead sewer is a construction technique where the sewer line exiting the house is placed at an elevation above the basement floor. Overhead sewers are the most effective method of protecting a basement from sewer backups, but because of the need to install pumps and re-route plumbing, it can be costly.

Anti-backup devices consist of a one-way valve that allows sewage to flow out of a house, but prevents sewage from flowing

back to the house. There are many different types of installation; but in general, an automatic system with a pump, located outside of the house, will provide the best level of protection.

If you are interested in installing either system, you should contact reputable plumbers for advice and price quotations. Contact the Public Works Department at 716-3568 with any questions you may have on sources or solutions to basement flooding.

Summer Street Construction Planned

The Village will be undertaking a number of construction projects during 2006, including:

<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Description</u>
Hazel Lane	Heather Lane	Sumac Lane	Reconstruction
Heather Lane	Hickory Lane	Hazel Lane	Reconstruction
Hickory Lane	Heather Lane	Sumac Lane	Reconstruction
Pine Street	Prospect Avenue	Sheridan Road	Reconstruction
Sumac Lane	Hazel Lane	Hickory Lane	Reconstruction
Cherry Street	Chestnut	Linden	Rehabilitation
Cherry Street	Birch Street	Chestnut	Rehabilitation
Cherry Street	Linden	Green Bay	Rehabilitation
Cherry Street	Rosewood	Birch Street	Rehabilitation
Locust	Pine Street	North End	Rehabilitation
Sunset Road	Church Road	Green Bay	Rehabilitation
Forest Glen, N,S,E,W	Tower Road	North End	Rehabilitation
Lake Street	Forest Glen N	Asbury Avenue	Rehabilitation
Linden	Cherry Street	Oak Street	Rehabilitation
Chatfield *	Gordon Terrace	West End	Reconst./Sewer

Reconstruction - Replacement or new installation of concrete curbs, pavement excavation and replacement where necessary, asphalt surfacing, and restoration.

Rehabilitation - Milling the existing surface, repairing curbs where needed, and resurfacing.
* Includes new sanitary sewer

Residents of streets affected by this work will receive more detailed information, once the contracts have been awarded.



Village Tree Planting Programs

Private Tree Planting Program

The Public Works Department is again offering residents the opportunity to participate in the Village's private property tree planting program. Planting will be limited to accessible front and side yards only. The cost is \$275 per tree, which covers planting and a 1-year guarantee. The seven tree species available to choose from are: Autumn Blaze Maple; Hybrid Elm; Red Oak; Swamp White Oak; Japanese Tree Lilac; Crabapple; and Corneliancherry Dogwood.

Shade trees should be planted over 10 feet from a driveway and at least 25 feet from other trees and structures. Trees will be planted in April or May or as specified. Call the Village Forester at 716-3535, for an order form.



Celebrate Arbor Day on April 28, 2006

Arbor Day is on April 28th. To honor the day, the Village will be giving out free tree saplings, tree tips and literature at Village Hall and the Village Yards, 1340 Willow Road. All are welcome to stop by and join in on the celebration!

Parkway Tree Planting

The Village of Winnetka is planting FREE PARKWAY TREES for any interested Village resident who has space in the parkway. There are 24 species of shade trees to choose from, or if the area you would like to plant is under utility lines, 11 species of ornamentals. If you are interested in planting trees and have a 30-foot space to the nearest tree, you may fill out an application and return it to the Village Forester at Public Works by **April 14, 2006**. Applications and examples of trees are available at Village Hall and Public Works. Contact the Forestry Department at 716-3535 with questions.

Drought Recovery

Both 2004 and 2005 were drought years in this area. The lack of moisture stresses trees and leaves them open to root death, insects, canker diseases, wilts, decay and other pathogens. **Trees will need TLC in 2006.** Trees need water every 7-10 days, and if they're not getting it naturally from rain, they need help from you. Soaker hoses, irrigation bags, sprinklers are all great ways to water your trees. For more information about Tree Care, call the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568.

Please Trim Private Plantings

So as not to obstruct sight distances for vehicles and pedestrians approaching intersections, tall shrubs near street corners should be trimmed so that they do not exceed 24 inches in height, and low hanging tree branches should be thinned to a height of seven feet above ground. Please maintain hedges and shrubs so that they do not overhang sidewalks. Call the Public Works Department at 716-3568 if you have questions.



Village Voices

Village President Addresses Community at Caucus Annual Town Meeting



Village President Ed Woodbury

On January 5th, Village President Ed Woodbury gave a talk at the Caucus' Annual Town Meeting on important issues facing Winnetka. President Woodbury offered comments on many aspects of Home Rule and the Caucus platform planks on zoning, demolitions and historic preservation.

The full text of President Woodbury's talk can be found on the Village's website: www.villageofwinnetka.org. The following is an excerpt from his talk.

"Most of us can readily see changes in the nature of our community resulting from teardowns, but there are other more subtle ways in which our Village is changing as well. In the past 25 years (since the 1980 census), the population of the Village has remained relatively stable. However, during this same time period, the population of pre-school and school-age children has increased by over 5%. There is a similar but more dramatic growth in the population of our residents between the ages of 40 and 55, which has increased by over 12%. However, the most dramatic change has been a nearly 35% decrease in our population between the ages of 20 to 40. In all probability, this reduction in

younger adults results from the significant growth in housing costs.

"These trends impact all segments of the Village. The Schools and Park District feel the affects of this increase in the number of school children every day. The Park District and related programs are experiencing record high numbers of participation, and if you have roamed the halls of any of our schools, you know what our School Board knows: the buildings are bursting at the seams. Their recently released Kasarda report shows this trend continuing for many years to come.

"Another trend that is significant is the turnover rate of our residents. In the last 5 years, 6% of our homes have been sold each year. While some of these are probably move-up buyers within the community, it is likely that a majority of these sales are actually turnover in the community. If we assume that 5% of the sales are new residents, this would suggest that every 5, years 25% of our residents are new to the Village and perhaps as much as 50% in a decade.

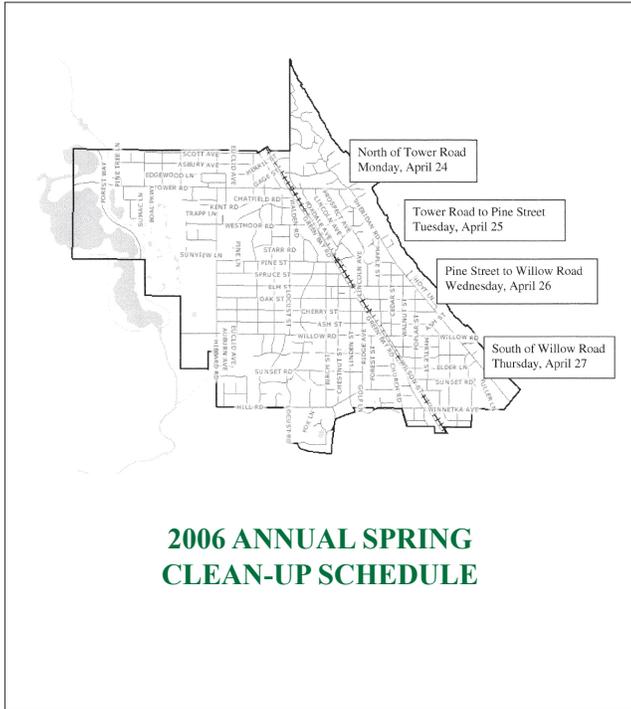
"Winnetka is indeed a special place to live, and we share many common values in our community life. When crafting the Winnetka 2020 Comprehensive Plan, an extensive survey of residents was taken. In that survey, respondents were asked why they chose Winnetka as their home. Overwhelmingly the response was schools – this outpaced the next closest responses of proximity to Chicago, overall Village character and the lakefront by 1.5 times. When asked why residents chose to stay in Winnetka, the responses hovered closer together with schools still leading but proximity, Village character, and a new answer, 'the people,' following more

closely.

"These values are probably as accurate today as they were in 1997 when this survey was taken – the high quality of both our primary and secondary schools are what draw us to Winnetka, and it is the schools, the character of the Village, and the quality of our neighbors that keep us here. We who serve in our governmental bodies often regard our missions as separate, and on a formal level they are – separate taxing abilities and separate problems to solve, but we are clearly one community in who we serve."

"The demographics of the community may have changed, but the values that we share have not. We need to be particularly mindful of our community life when the median home value is over \$1 million. We should not lose sight of or respect for those values that attracted us or keep us in Winnetka. We must remind ourselves that we live in a community of friends and neighbors – all seeking much the same goal: a first class education for our children and the assurance of the established character that a stable community can bring.

"When I was nominated to serve as Village President a year ago, I sat in those uncomfortable seats and thought about what I wanted to say to the group that gathered that evening. What I said was what I felt then and do today: I want to serve this Village with the same sense of community that my wife and I have found every day since we chose Winnetka for our home. It is in our shared values that we find that sense of community. We should take every opportunity to reinforce the community that we share and protect what we value in our beautiful land."



THE 2006 ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP - APRIL 24 - 27

Winnetka's Annual Spring Clean-Up will be held the week of April 24 - 27. Scheduled pickups are: Monday, April 24: north of Tower Road; Tuesday, April 25: Tower Road to Pine Street; Wednesday, April 26: Pine Street to Willow Road; Thursday, April 27: south of Willow Road.

The main purpose of this yearly spring rubbish pickup is to reduce fire hazards in the home. Public Works employees will remove from the parkway anything that two men can reasonably lift into a truck. **Yard waste, dirt, stone, construction materials/debris, logs, paint, paint thinner, stains, chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides or herbicides, and other liquids will not be picked up.** The rubbish should be placed on residential parkways the evening before the scheduled pickup, or by 7:00 A.M. the day of the pickup, in order to minimize littering problems. There will be **no call-backs** if the material is not on the parkway by the scheduled time.

This is an excellent opportunity to clean out your attic, basement and garage of materials that can easily catch fire, thereby making a significant contribution to community fire safety. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at 716-3568 Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.



The Winnetka Report
Published by the Winnetka Village Council

Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Postal Customer
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Standard Presort
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 7

Village Telephone Numbers

Police/Fire/Paramedics Emergency	911
Police (Non-Emergency)	847.501.6034
Fire (Non-Emergency)	847.501.6029
Electric or Water Outages	847.501.2531
Refuse and Recycling Collection	847.716.3568
Manager/Finance Offices	847.501.6000
Public Works Office	847.716.3568
Water & Electric Office	847.716.3558
Electric & Water Billing Services	847.446.9550
Community Development Department	847.716.3576

The Winnetka Village Council

Village President	
Edmund C. Woodbury	847.501.3525
Village Trustees	
David R. Abell	847.446.1960
Tom Eilers	847.446.5358
Sandra A. Berger	847.441.9248
Herb Ritchell	847.446.3518
Jessica B. Tucker	847.441.9561
Kenneth L. Behles	847.441.6676