



# The WINNETKA REPORT

## A Message from the Village President

Dear Neighbors,

I hope each of you had a restful and restorative summer. While COVID-19 continues to create uncertainty in planning for our traditions and holidays, we are doing our best at the Village to maintain normalcy and to create opportunities to keep our community connected. In our publications, we convey our latest news and developments, with information including special events, leaf collection, holiday refuse schedule changes, Village Council meeting agendas, and, of course, COVID-19 updates. If you are not receiving our weekly emails to residents, sign up at [villageofwinnetka.org/communications](http://villageofwinnetka.org/communications).

We also have a new community calendar on our website, which we are keeping up-to-date with events we are aware of, as well as Park District and Library-hosted opportunities. You can find it at [villageofwinnetka.org/events](http://villageofwinnetka.org/events).

We continue to make progress on important Village initiatives. Phase III of our Streetscape project was completed this summer on Elm and Lincoln Streets, east of Green Bay Road. The Streetscape projects are necessary to update outdated underground utilities to support the vibrancy of our business districts in the long-term, and the aesthetic improvements are an added bonus to this work. As our business districts are modernized, so, too, is our ability to enjoy outdoor spaces where we can gather with friends and neighbors. The finished products are enjoyed by business owners, residents, and visitors alike. Be sure to take the opportunity to patronize our newest eating establishments as well – Mommy's Café in Hubbard Woods, Little Honeycomb and Hometown Coffee & Juice (soon) at Elm and Lincoln, and Pomeroy on Spruce Street in the old Savocchi Glass building.

Our work on an updated Comprehensive Plan is restarting, which will provide us with a vision to guide us as our community evolves over the next 20 years. I encourage you to keep an eye out for opportunities to participate in

the process and make sure your voice is heard. You can learn more about this project on page 2.

Engineering work on the storage components of the stormwater initiative is progressing rapidly. Pending favorable permit reviews by the various governmental agencies that oversee projects such as these, we are hoping that construction might start next spring/summer. We continue to lobby for our fair share of State and Federal funds in order to lessen the burden on our residents. To date, we have secured \$29,400,000 in governmental grants, and are greatly appreciative of the support of State Rep. Robyn Gabel, State Senator Laura Fine, Cook County Commissioner Larry Sufferedin, and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Debra Shore in securing commitments to help our cause.

We have resumed holding in-person meetings at Village Hall. Resident engagement is a critical component in ensuring that our local government is responsive to your needs, and if there are topics that are important to you, we want to hear from you. Village Council meetings are held 3 Tuesdays a month at 7 PM.

Lastly, I am hoping to begin Council conversations on the future of our Post Office site later this year, and I would love to hear your vision for how we might redevelop this important property. Please share your thoughts at [contactcouncil@winnetka.org](mailto:contactcouncil@winnetka.org).

Have a safe and healthy fall, and a wonderful holiday season this year. I look forward to seeing you around town.

Sincerely,

Chris Rintz  
Village President



Chris Rintz

Sign up for the weekly  
newsletter to residents



It only takes seconds and will keep you in-the-know about Village events and updates.

## Council Action Summary

**May 4, 2021:** The oath of office was administered to President Rintz and Trustees Andrew Cripe, Robert Dearborn, and Kim Mancini. Former Trustee Jack Coladarci was commended for his service on Village Council.

**May 11, 2021:** A joint meeting with Village Council and the Environmental and Forestry Commission was held to discuss plantings on Village Parkways, which the Environmental and Forestry Commission was charged with studying during the previous months. The EFC will continue to address open issues and make process recommendations to Village Council to move this issue forward.

**May 18, 2021:** Retiring Chair of the Landmark Preservation Commission, Louise Holland, was commended for her many contributions toward historic preservation in Winnetka. A Special Use Permit for Strong Nail City was approved. A temporary pool dome zoning amendment was discussed and was sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals for further discussion. Appointments were made to advisory boards.

**June 1, 2021:** A disposal of surplus property amendment was approved. A garage variation at 880 Willow Road was continued to a future meeting.

**June 8, 2021:** A closed session was held to discuss the price for the sale or lease of property pursuant to Section 2(c)(6) of the Open Meetings Act.

**June 29, 2021:** An outdoor dining permit was approved for HeArt Studio. A Special Use Permit was approved for New Trier High School.

**July 20, 2021:** A subdivision was approved at 800-808-812 Oak Street. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report was presented by Finance Director Tim Sloth.

**August 8, 2021:** New flood plain maps were introduced and approved to align Village documents with FEMA's new Flood Rate Insurance Maps. A zoning variation at 747 Walden was discussed and approved. A transfer of property and dedication of Essex Road as a public right-of-way was approved.

## Curbside Leaf Collection this Fall

The Village's annual curbside leaf collection will begin October 18 and will run through November 26. The final time to place leaves on your parkway for collection is 7 AM on Monday, November 29. Any leaves on the parkway after this time may not be collected.



In order to prevent leaves from clogging storm sewers, leading to flooded streets and yards, residents are reminded to **rake leaves into the parkway**, just before the edge of the curb. Please **do not rake leaves into the street, especially near storm drains or utility covers**. Call the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 with questions.

## Village Restarts Work on Comprehensive Plan



Prior to the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village of Winnetka started a comprehensive planning process, asking residents what community means to them, among many other questions. A comprehensive plan provides a long-term vision for the community and an official policy statement to guide urban planning in the future.

The plan, which will be called the "Winnetka Futures 2040 Plan," is being produced by a consultant team, the Lakota Group. Staff from Lakota will be re-engaging community members to better understand and address the changing times, including shifting retail environments, transportation innovation, environmental issues/sustainability, an aging population, housing preferences, and changing work and commuting habits.

Your input is critical to help Winnetka produce a comprehensive plan that resonates with our community. Visit the project website at [winnetkafutures.org](http://winnetkafutures.org) to learn more and sign up for email updates, and watch your weekly Winnetka email newsletter for opportunities to engage in the process.

## Memorial Bricks from Lincoln Avenue: Ready for Pickup

Following the completion of the Downtown Streetscape project in the East Elm business district this summer, donor/memorial paver bricks from the business district revitalization initiative in 1994 that were removed from the northwest and northeast corners of the intersection of Lincoln and Elm streets can be picked up at the Public Works Yards at 1390 Willow Road from 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM on weekdays until December 31, 2021.



All attempts were made to preserve bricks during their removal, though some were not salvageable. The Village has a list of bricks on our website that are available for pickup. For more information or to schedule a pickup, please call 847-716-3550.

## 2022 Budget Planning Underway

Village staff has begun preparing the 2022 Annual Budget, which is a policy document establishing the spending plan and framework for achieving strategic goals and objectives established by the Village Council. Each year, Village departments prepare fiscally responsible budgets in which all expenses, including recurring expenses, are justified for each new year, ensuring the efficient allocation of resources based on the needs of the Village. In 2022, there are a number of key issues impacting the annual budget including:

- Stormwater Management / Flooding Initiatives
- Downtown Redevelopment
- Addressing Aging Infrastructure

The Village was recently notified that the prior year's budget was awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The Village will continue to prepare the budget document in accordance with the GFOA standards, which provide for a more user-friendly budget document of the highest quality, reflecting guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting. In order to win the budget award, the Village has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation, which assess how well the Village's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

The Village is committed to proposing a budget that continues the Village's long-standing practice of controlling operating costs while investing in capital to repair and proactively addressing the Village's aging infrastructure. The final 2022 budget will be balanced, meaning that routine annual operating expenditures will be fully funded by routine annual operating revenues and will not rely on debt service or any one-time revenue sources.

The Village Council will hold a public hearing and conduct a full review of the proposed Annual Budget later this fall. Information about this meeting will be sent in the Village's weekly email to residents. Sign up to receive these emails at [villageofwinnetka.org/communications](http://villageofwinnetka.org/communications).

## 2021 Pumpkin Composting Event

In a continuing effort to expand environmental initiatives, the Village is hosting a one-day pumpkin collection/composting event on November 3 from 9 AM to 1 PM at 1390 Willow Road. Pumpkins will be properly disposed of, limiting the amount brought to landfills.

Please remove any solid waste (candles, bags, etc.) from pumpkins before dropping them off. Garbage, food scraps or other landscape waste will not be accepted. Please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 with any questions.



## Updates to FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps

On September 10, 2021, updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Lake Michigan coastline go into effect. These updated FIRM maps include "VE zones" which is a term for areas along the lake's coast identified as subject to inundation by a 1-percent annual chance or 100 year flood event with additional hazards associated with storm-induced waves. Most houses along Lake Michigan are elevated out of these flood zones.

The introduction of VE zones to the Great Lakes Region is the result of one of the most extensive coastal flood studies to date, encompassing coastal floodplains in the eight States on the Great Lakes. In Winnetka, the areas along Lake Michigan were previously designated as AE zones, with a consistent Base Flood Elevation of 585.

On the new maps, the Base Flood Elevation will now vary along the coast from 587 to 592 and have been changed from AE zones to VE zones.

Since VE zones are new to the Village, the Village's Flood Hazard Protection Regulations have been updated to include them, and an ordinance adopting the new regulations was passed by Village Council in August, to align with FEMA and enable residents to maintain valid flood insurance. The changes will not affect most home construction. Secondary structures, such as boat houses or garages, may be affected, as the primary update to the regulations necessitates that structures in VE zones should be elevated by pilings or columns, rather than fill.

These new maps can be viewed on the FEMA Map Center at [msc.fema.gov/portal/home](https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home). Search by address to look up FIRM maps in the area. Our Engineering staff can also answer floodplain questions. Our Certified Floodplain Managers are Emily Grimm, Assistant Village Engineer, who can be reached at 847-716-3532 or [egrimm@winnetka.org](mailto:egrimm@winnetka.org), and James Bernahl, Director of Engineering, who can be reached at 847-716-3261 or [jbernahl@winnetka.org](mailto:jbernahl@winnetka.org).



## The Winnetka Report

Village of Winnetka  
510 Green Bay Road  
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Standard Presort  
ECRWSS  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 7  
60093

Postal Customer  
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

### 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 Department	847-501-6000
Public Works Department	847-716-3568
Utility Department	847-716-3558
Utility Billing Services	847-446-9550
Community Development Department	847-716-3576

### Village Council Emails

Contact Village Council:	<a href="mailto:ContactCouncil@Winnetka.org">ContactCouncil@Winnetka.org</a>
Chris Rintz:	<a href="mailto:CRintz@Winnetka.org">CRintz@Winnetka.org</a>
Rob Apatoff:	<a href="mailto:RApatoff@Winnetka.org">RApatoff@Winnetka.org</a>
Andrew Cripe:	<a href="mailto:ACripe@Winnetka.org">ACripe@Winnetka.org</a>
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Kim Mancini:	<a href="mailto:KMancini@Winnetka.org">KMancini@Winnetka.org</a>
John Swierk:	<a href="mailto:JSwierk@Winnetka.org">JSwierk@Winnetka.org</a>

### Village Council Meetings

Meetings are held at Village Hall at 510 Green Bay Road at 7 PM three Tuesdays a month. Agenda materials and videos of previous meetings are available at [villageofwinnetka.org](http://villageofwinnetka.org) at "Agendas," or from the Village Manager's Office.

### Upcoming Events:

The Farmers' Market continues at Oak and Green Bay Road on Saturdays from 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM until October 30

**October 1:** First Friday in Hubbard Woods

**October 31:** Halloween trick-or-treat hours are from 2 – 6 PM

**November 1 – December 3:** Holiday window decorating contest at participating businesses

**November 27:** Small Business Saturday

**December 3:** Tree Lighting

**December 5:** Red Invitation Sale

### Holiday Refuse Collection:

#### Week of November 22:

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday collections will be as usual.

Thursday collections will be Wednesday.

#### Weeks of December 20 and December 27:

Monday and Tuesday collections will be as usual.

Thursday collection will be Wednesday.

Friday collection will be Thursday.

Recycling collection will be as usual.