



The WINNETKA REPORT



Chris Rintz

A Message from the Village President

Dear Neighbors,

2021 was a year in which the Village pushed forward on strategic priorities: we continue to recruit new businesses to Winnetka, we are moving forward with our Stormwater Management initiative, and we continue to work to develop key

properties in the Village. Additionally, despite the continuing COVID pandemic, we were able to gather in person to celebrate Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Veterans Day, and the tree lighting at Dwyer Park. We held fireworks for residents in September. Music Fest, renamed the Emerge Winnetka Music Festival, also returned to our Village. We continue to adhere to state and county COVID guidelines as we have throughout the pandemic, prioritizing safety for all of our residents.

A number of new businesses opened in Winnetka this year, which you can read more about on page 4. We have a dedicated Economic Development coordinator at the Village who works to recruit and retain businesses, and serves as a point of contact for questions and concerns for restaurants, retailers, and other proprietors. We also consult with prospective businesses on their space needs and walk through available spaces to match the right space with the right retailer, and make sure that zoning and building code information is properly conveyed so that there are no surprises.

In 2022, our Stormwater Management Initiative will continue, as we have multiple major projects scheduled to commence in the Cook County Forest Preserve, on Duke Childs Field, and on the Winnetka Park District's Golf Course. We will keep residents posted on progress in future editions of this publication and in our weekly email to residents. If you are not signed up for our weekly email, please use the QR code on page 7.

I know that the development known as One Winnetka is a frequent question for residents, and it is something that is on many of our wish lists for transformation into a thriving residential and commercial development to match the other sections of our business districts. Council continues to discuss this property in our meetings, more information about this is on page 6, and I encourage you to check our posted meeting agendas to stay up-to-date on developments on this property. The Village does not own this land and we continue to discuss proposed developments as they are presented to us by the property owner.

I wish you a happy and successful 2022 and I look forward to seeing you around the Village.

Sincerely,

Chris Rintz
Village President

Snow & Ice Control Operations

Winnetka's Public Works Department is committed to keeping Village streets clear of snow and ice to maintain safe vehicular and pedestrian traffic on publicly-maintained streets and sidewalks throughout the winter months. To ensure streets and sidewalks are free from snow and ice, and to maximize snow and ice control resources, routes have been established and priorities given to main streets such as Hibbard Road, Tower Road, Willow Road, Green Bay Road, Elm Street, etc. These streets receive much of the traffic within the Village and must be kept clear as primary emergency access routes. The next priorities are streets and sidewalks around schools and churches, then residential streets, alleys, and public parking lots and decks.

Air temperature, type of precipitation, and road surfaces influence the method for applying salt and other snow-melting applications. The Village's policy is to minimize salt use to control costs by applying salt at intersections and on street surfaces that may pose a traffic hazard. In addition, a non-corrosive liquid known as Calcium Magnesium Acetate

(CMA) is used on bridges and the Hubbard Woods Parking Deck. CMA enables the Village to control ice buildup in an environmentally-friendly manner, while preventing premature deterioration of bridges and the parking deck surface.



Our snow and ice control team is comprised of highly-skilled individuals who work to help make winter safe and enjoyable for all. Our staff will work around the clock when necessary to provide the maximum level of service possible. Please do your part to ensure vehicles are not parked on Village streets during snow emergencies, as this will greatly help us plow.

If you have questions about snow and ice control, please call 847-716-3568.

Council Action Summary

August 17, 2021: The re-start of the Comprehensive Planning process was adopted, allowing continued work on the Plan after it was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next phase of the Downtown Streetscape plan was presented in concept form. Construction for this project would begin in spring 2022.

September 9, 2021: Appointments were made to Village boards and commissions. A valve replacement for an intake pipe at the water plant was approved. Residential additions were discussed and approved at 1184 Tower Road. A zoning variation was denied for a garage variation at 880 Willow Road. A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the purchase or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

September 14, 2021: A working session to discuss the Comprehensive Planning process was held jointly with the Village's Plan Commission. Community engagement tactics were discussed, as were the impacts the pandemic might have on the planning process and the finalized plan.

September 21, 2021: An amendment to the Village's liquor code was discussed to make changes to Class F liquor licenses, including hours of sales of beer, wine, and cocktails. The discussion was continued to the October 5 meeting. Variations to 582 Provident Avenue were discussed and approved. A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property, for the purpose of discussing specific personnel, and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

October 5, 2021: The amendment to the Village's liquor code was introduced, altering the Class F liquor license, and allowing the sale of alcoholic beverages in the Village beginning at 11 AM. Variations to 1225 Hill Road were discussed and adopted.

October 12, 2021: Proposals from three businesses were presented to Council for a long-term lease of the space at 93 Green Bay Road. A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

October 19, 2021: An appointment to the Design Review Board was made. A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.



October 29, 2021: A meeting reviewing the 2022 budget was held. Presentations of individual departmental budgets were made by department heads.

November 2, 2021: A special use permit for platform tennis courts at 490 Hibbard Road was discussed and approved.

November 9, 2021: A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

November 16, 2021: A special use permit and variation for an addition to Christ Church at 470 Maple Street was approved. A plat of consolidation at 644 Pine Lane was approved. A settlement agreement with Romspen Mortgage Limited Partnership, Ryan McNaughton, SB One Winnetka, LLC, and SB Winnetka, LLC was approved. An assignment and change to an investment management agreement with BMO was approved. A public hearing on the Village Budget was held, and the budget was introduced, as were property tax levy and abatement ordinances. A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

November 23, 2021: A closed session was held for the purposes of discussing the sale or lease of Village property and for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

December 7, 2021: The 2022 budget, 2021 property tax levy, and 2022 rate resolutions were approved. More about this is on page 3. A new concept plan for the site known as "One Winnetka" was discussed. More about this is on page 6.

Year-Round Holiday Light Recycling in the Village

Recycle holiday lights with the Village's year-round light recycling program: all types of holiday lights and cords are accepted for recycling at the Public Works Yards, 1390 Willow Road, weekdays from 7:30 AM to 4 PM.

The Village **cannot accept** garlands, live greens, wreathes, or other non-recyclable items. Please call 847-716-3568 with questions.

Online Payments

Residents can renew their vehicle stickers, commuter parking passes, and dog licenses online. Purchases can be made by a major credit card and will be shipped after the purchase is complete.

New residents should call the Finance Department at 847-501-6000 to request an application via mail.

As required by Village Code, residents purchasing dog licenses are required to provide a copy of their pet's rabies

certificate during both the online and in-person process.

Residents can also pay utility bills and parking tickets online with a credit card. Utility customers will be required to create a user profile and can then make a one-time payment or enroll for automatic recurring credit card payments.

Visit the Payments section of the Village's website (villageofwinnetka.org) to get started.

2022 Budget – Property Taxes Remain Flat for 8th Year

Winnetka's Budget, adopted each year by the Village Council, is the official financial plan for the Village's operating departments. The Budget also presents information related to Winnetka's debt positions, pensions, and planned capital improvements. The Village follows a calendar-based fiscal year.

On October 29, the Council held an all-day public Budget Review Meeting, where Village staff presented a formal review of the 2022 Annual Budget and Capital Improvement Plan, with each department presenting on their functional areas of operation.

Below is a snapshot of the key metrics related to the 2022 Annual Budget:

- The Budget totals \$94,216,912, of which \$31,164,286 is dedicated towards capital infrastructure.
- The General Fund operating budget, the Village's main operating fund, totals \$24,214,965; a proposed increase of 2.29% compared to 2021.
- The 2021 tax levy is \$15,236,127. For the eighth year in a row, a typical property owner will not see a Village property tax increase. As in prior years, the levy does capture new growth at .49%. The Village is again not levying for the Consumer Price Index rate of inflation (1.4%).

- The 2021 tax levy is \$2.7 million less than the tax cap limit (PTELL). Since 2005, the Village has been cumulatively \$11 million under the tax cap.
- The 2022 Budget's impact to a typical Winnetka household is \$70 a year, driven by increases in the utility funds as follows:
 - Electric increase: 5.0%
 - Water increase: 8.5%
 - Sanitary sewer increase: 2%
- The 2022 Village Capital Plan totals \$31,164,286, with significant funding dedicated towards stormwater improvements, downtown revitalization, roads, water mains and improvements to the Village's electric system.

On November 16, the Village Council held a Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget and introduced the Budget, 2021 Property Tax Levy, and 2022 Rate Resolutions. Then, at the December 7 Council Meeting, the 2022 Budget package was formally adopted.

To view the current Budget, visit the Fiscal Transparency page on the Village's website (villageofwinnetka.org).

Christmas Tree Pickup

Christmas trees will be picked up from the curbside for shredding, chipping, and composting beginning January 3 through January 17, 2022. The last day of Christmas tree collection is January 17: trees must be placed on the curb by 7 AM. After January 17, a refuse yard waste sticker will be required to ensure collection. These are available at The Grand, Lakeside Foods, and Village Hall for \$2.30/each.

Please remove everything from trees, including plastic bags, wraps, ornaments, tinsel, wires, and the stand, as these will clog and damage the shredder. Please call 847-716-3568 with questions.



New Businesses in the Village

In 2021, 23 new businesses opened in the Village, 4 businesses expanded, 4 pop-up businesses opened, and 5 new restaurants opened. The Village continues to provide hands-on assistance to small businesses and property owners to help open and expand businesses through its Economic Development and Community Development departments. The Village also partners with the Winnetka-Northfield-Glencoe Chamber of Commerce to promote new businesses, and support events including the annual

Sidewalk Sale, the Winnetka Farmers' Market, and Small Business Saturday.

New dining options in the Village are always a point of note, and in 2021 Hometown Coffee and Juice opened at Elm Street and Lincoln Avenue, Pomeroy French Bistro opened at Birch and Spruce Street, and Little Honeycomb opened at Elm Street and Lincoln Avenue.

New Businesses and Expansions in 2021

Elm Street business district

- 1920 The Travel Store, 807 Elm Street
- Aspire Entertainment Academy, 545 Lincoln Ave Suite 15
- Balloons and Paper, 550 Lincoln Avenue
- Berkshire Hathaway, 839-41 Elm Street
- BlowDry Boutique, 717 Elm Street
- Bunny and Babe, 559 Chestnut Street
- Delos Therapy, 547 Lincoln Avenue
- Engle and Völkers, 566 Chestnut Street

- Hometown Coffee and Juice, 749 Elm Street
- I Am The Carter Project pop-up, 568 Lincoln Avenue
- Kaleidoscope Florist, 561 Lincoln Avenue



Hometown Coffee & Juice Ribbon Cutting

- Little Honeycomb, 540 Lincoln Avenue
- Mandarine Home, 574 Lincoln Avenue
- Mitch's Cookies, 552 Lincoln Avenue
- Perspective Eyes, 548 Chestnut Street
- Pomeroy, 844 Spruce Street
- Strong Nail City, 548 Lincoln Avenue
- Valentina, 538 Chestnut Street



Arch Glow Ribbon Cutting

Hubbard Woods business district

- Arch, 913 Green Bay Road
- Ashley and Sloane pop-up, 907 Green Bay Road
- Bo Dempsey State Farm Agency, 890 Green Bay Road
- Fletcher and Fork pop-up, 913 Green Bay Road
- Kameo Vintage, 874 Green Bay Road
- Momsey's Café, 950 Green Bay Road
- North Shore Barber Shop, 1083 Gage Street
- Rebel House, 903 Green Bay Road
- The HeART Studio, 964 Green Bay Road
- Vivid Art Gallery pop-up, 897 1/2 Green Bay Road



Little Honeycomb



Mandarine

Update from the Fire Chief

As we begin a new year, the Winnetka Fire Department would like to remind everyone about a simple and effective fire safety tool that is available to all residents: the Knox Box. A Knox Box is a secure key box system that gives fire personnel access to your home during fire or medical emergencies, saving precious time and greatly reducing property damage.

How It Works

The Knox Box Rapid Entry System was specifically developed for fire departments. After installing a Knox Box near your front door, simply place a copy of your house key into the box and lock it. With one master key, fire personnel can gain access to your property in case of an emergency, such as a fire, automatic smoke alarm activation, or medical emergency. Knox Boxes are only accessible to the Winnetka Fire Department to assist in emergencies.



A Knox Box can be installed by any licensed general contractor or handyman. It's recommended they be placed in an easily viewable and accessible location near your front door, and should be at least 6 feet high on a flat surface.

Additional Information

For more information or to purchase a Knox Box, please visit KnoxBox.com. Questions about the Knox Box secure system can also be directed to the Winnetka Fire Department at 847-501-6029 or fire@winnetka.org.

Update from the Police Chief



The FBI recently issued a public service announcement to raise awareness about 'spear phishing' email campaigns, which target consumers of brand-name companies. This consists of an email criminals send to impersonate a prominent brand. A malicious URL link or file will be attached that will take the consumer to a fake website. Cyber criminals may use tools to detect if the consumer is using their email address as their user identification. Once detected, the consumer is redirected to an email scam page to steal their account login and password information. By gaining access to your login information, cyber criminals can intercept emails and texts to defeat two-factor authentication. Use the following tips to protect yourself from this kind of activity:

- Do not use your primary email address for logins in websites, instead, create a unique username not associated with your primary email address.
- When receiving account alerts, do not click on a link within the email, instead navigate to the website in question using the secure URL.
- Closely verify the spelling of web addresses, websites, and email addresses that look trustworthy but may be imitations of legitimate websites.
- Use strong passwords.
- Do not re-use the same password across multiple accounts.

Winter storms are sometimes accompanied by parking restrictions, as parking on Village streets is prohibited during a snow emergency. The Winnetka Village Code indicates that a snow emergency exists when the Director of Public Works has determined that two or more inches of snow has fallen within a 24-hour period or that two or more inches of snow remains on any roadway in the Village. It will remain in effect until snow has been cleared from streets. Vehicles on village streets during snow emergencies may be relocated and any violation of snow emergency parking restrictions is subject to a \$150 fine.

“One Winnetka” Site Update

The properties commonly referred to as the “One Winnetka” site, located at the southeast corner of Elm Street and Lincoln Avenue, have been going through a foreclosure process since August 2019. In fall 2021, the lender for the previously proposed One Winnetka project secured the title to the property and is now the owner of the site.

On December 7, 2021, the Village Council considered a planned development concept plan application filed by Stonestreet Partners, LLC (the “Applicant”), as the designee of the property owner, RIC (Winnetka Lincoln) LLC (the “Owner”), that owns 714-16 Elm Street, 718-732 Elm Street, 740 Elm Street, 511 Lincoln Avenue, and 515 Lincoln Avenue.

The concept plan includes a five-story mixed use planned development for the property, consisting of:

- 74 residential rental units with 1, 2, and 3-bedroom units,
- 18,000 square feet of commercial space, and
- a total of 158 parking spaces consisting of 43 spaces at ground level for the commercial uses and 115 spaces on the lower level for the residential uses.

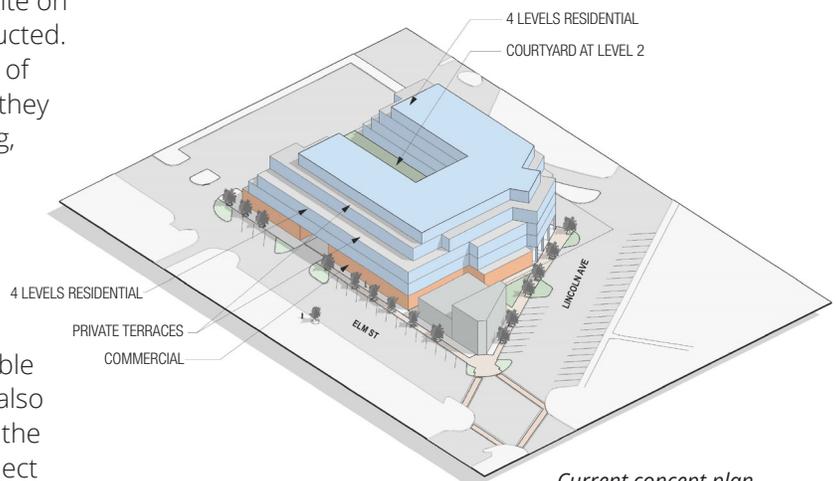
The Conney’s Pharmacy building (736 Elm) and the former Phototronics building (740 Elm) are not part of the site on which the mixed-use development would be constructed. Though the former Phototronics building is not part of the planned development, the Applicant has stated they intend to “refresh” its look and re-tenant the building,

The Applicant, Stonestreet Partners, was also the development entity for the previously proposed One Winnetka final planned development for the site, which the Village Council had previously approved and subsequently rescinded its approval due to noncompliance with the terms of the applicable development agreement. The application materials also state that Murphy Development Group will serve as the General Partner “who will gather input from the project team but have full control over the development of One Winnetka.” The designated architect for the new project is OKW Architects, LLC.



Current concept plan from the Elm Street Perspective

The purpose of the Village Council’s review of a concept plan application is to broadly acquaint the Council with the Applicant’s proposal and provide the Applicant with any preliminary views or concerns members of the Council may have early in the process when adjustments are still possible and prior to the Applicant expending the funds necessary to prepare the complete documentation required for a preliminary plan application. The next step is for the Applicant to decide whether they wish to submit a preliminary planned development application.



Current concept plan

93 Green Bay Road Redevelopment

The Village Council continues to complete its due diligence as it makes its final selection of the preferred developer for the Village-owned property at 93 Green Bay Road, which is located on the southeast corner of Green Bay Road and Winnetka Avenue.



Earlier this year, the Village released a request for proposal for the redevelopment of the site. The Village initially received five proposals, which the Village Council has narrowed down to three finalists: Tala Coffee, Firecakes Craft Donuts, and Left Coast Food + Juice. The Council found that all three would be great additions to the community, but is currently identifying which of the proposals is the best fit for the site and the greater community as well as the best development partner for this unique site. Updates on this site will appear in this newsletter, on our website, and in our weekly email newsletter to residents.

Connect with the Village

Sign up for our weekly email newsletter to residents by scanning this QR code with your phone.



Winnetka Futures 2040 Plan Process Continues

The Village has completed the first phase of creating the Village's new comprehensive plan, which will be called The Winnetka Futures 2040 Plan. A comprehensive plan is a long-term vision for the community that serves as an official policy statement to guide the community's future. At the end of the first phase of the planning process, the consultant team, headed by The Lakota Group, presented and reviewed a draft of its Existing Conditions Report with the Village's Plan Commission and then with the Village. The Existing Conditions Report summarizes what the consultant team learned about the community through the data and information they gathered through a variety of in-person and online activities.

In the next phase, the consultant team will begin to draft another report that will include vision statements, goals,

and strategies to achieve the vision statements. This document will then be used to draft the comprehensive plan.



Keep an eye out for opportunities to engage in the process, as your feedback is critical to a plan that accurately represents the views of our residents.

Visit the project website at winnetkafutures.org to learn more and sign up for email updates.

Please Shovel Your Sidewalk After Small Snow Events

After larger snows, typically beyond 3 to 4 inches, the Village plows snow from residential sidewalks. In order to prevent ice buildup on the sidewalks, residents should remove snow from the sidewalks in front of their homes after slushy events or smaller snowstorms.

This will go a long way towards helping keep our sidewalks free from ice and easier for pedestrians to navigate. If you have questions, please call 847-716-3568.



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:	ContactCouncil@Winnetka.org
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Village Council Meetings

Virtual meetings are held at 7 PM on Tuesdays. Agenda materials and videos of previous meetings are available at [**villageofwinnetka.org**](http://villageofwinnetka.org) at "Agendas," or from the Village Manager's Office. Agendas will include the meeting's location and/or meeting access instructions.