



# THE BRIDGE

## Long Grove Comprehensive Plan Update

After nearly three years of input and review, the “Final Draft” of the update to the Village Comprehensive Plan will soon be presented for consideration and adoption by the Long Grove Village Board. The Planning Commission and Zoning Board (PCZBA) is currently performing their final review of this document.

In addition to building on past planning efforts, which established a unique rural character for the Village, significant efforts were made to update the foundation for the development and management of the community in the future. Areas of noteworthy proposed changes include:

- Promoting the preservation and identity of historic resources
- Opposition to further widening of Route 83
- Consideration of a future community center that may include a library, post office, children’s museum and meeting rooms
- Reinforcing the importance of requiring private roads, and long-term road maintenance planning
- Promoting electric charging stations in public lots
- Encouraging greater use of existing park facilities
- Adding policies that encourage regulating aquifers and water usage

The Comprehensive Plan notes that the proposed changes in land use are intended to build on past success maintaining the delicate balance between economic and

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# From the Village President



**Bill Jacob**  
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I hope you're enjoying your summer. Of course, the nice weather brings with it the road construction season. As has been well publicized, we have a major project of our own this year, the Old McHenry Road reconstruction project which is in full swing and progressing well. The extension to the watermain has now been installed and soon will be ready for use. The Lake County Department of Transportation and their contractor A Lamp have been working closely with the downtown merchants, property owners and the Village, addressing concerns as they arise with the intent of minimizing disruptions to the downtown businesses and festivals.

The Village Board is in the process of updating Long Grove's five-year capital improvement plan and is putting an emphasis on completing the second phase of the downtown improvements the next calendar year. This phase includes the reconstruction of Robert Parker Coffin Road which will be costlier to the Village than the Old McHenry Road project - as we will bear 100% of the costs for road and streetscape improvements.

Including the water main expansion, the estimated total costs are approximately \$1,800,000 and so the challenge is how we fund it without dropping below Village guidelines of keeping reserves at 100% of our operating budget. I believe that we now have a plan to make this work by allocating some of this year's capital improvement budget to the project, and the rest out of next fiscal year's budget.

We are fortunate that we're ahead on our road paving program after having fallen behind in prior years. As a result, this is affording the Village the flexibility to realign capital funds to this major project.

I'm optimistic that we are on the right path as these improvements will enable us to continue to attract and maintain businesses in the downtown, which has been one of our major priorities.

The necessary Long Grove Bridge abutment and roof repairs were recently completed ahead of schedule, which are estimated to provide another five to ten years of use before other major repairs and/or restoration is required.

Five commissioners were recently seated on our newly formed Economic Development Commission. The new commissioners are Rob Pippin, Minah Hall, Dr. Jay Levin, Pam Brown and Eric Russell. I want to personally thank each one of them for volunteering and I'm confident after attending the first few meetings led by Village Trustee Mike Sarlitto, that they will make a difference.

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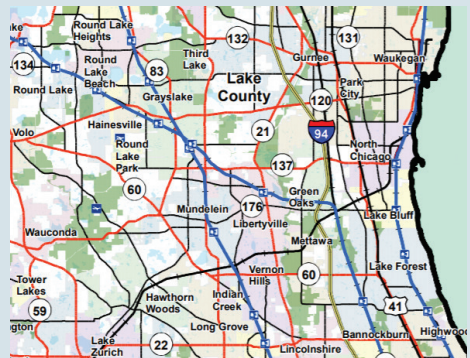
## Route 53 Extension Discussion Part 2: “Loss of Sovereignty”

The Village of Long Grove opposes the Route 53 extension project, which has existed in various forms since 1962. While the extension is said to decrease traffic congestion, many other facts and aspects of the project that directly and indirectly challenge congestion relief claims may not be as well-known, including the potential for significant new tax burdens, environmental damage, degradation of property values, and a negative impact on the quality of life in Long Grove and Lake County. Part 1 of this discussion (published in the January-February issue) addressed project financing and was the first in a series of articles designed to help residents understand many of the details and aspects of this proposal. In this Part 2 installment, “loss of sovereignty” is a key aspect of this project that undermines not only the interests of Long Grove and other municipalities in the corridor, but now arguably all of Lake County, northern Illinois and all residents of Illinois.

In May 2017, the Illinois Tollway Board (Tollway) voted to proceed with a 3-5-year process to complete an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and authorized the initial \$25 million for the study. Since then, the Route 53 extension project has been rebranded as the Tri-County Access Project. The Tollway has expanded the project to include parts of McHenry, Cook, and Kenosha counties. In March, the Tollway convened a “Stakeholder Participation Group” (SPG) consisting of more than 150 stakeholders to provide feedback on the project via eight meetings to be held over the next two years.

Dramatically expanding the project area is perceived by many as the latest attempt by the Tollway to bypass Lake County residents; particularly from

those most directly and adversely affected by the project. Prior project plans included establishing a regional land use planning entity designed to control individual municipalities’ land-use activities, which could certainly be seen as attempts to diminish the “sovereignty” of local municipalities. Though the project claims to be analyzing alternatives to extending Route 53, public comments made by the Tollway Chairman Schillerstrom directly contradict statements made by project consultants at SPG meetings in March and April of 2018, feeding



skepticism into a “no build” option ever being genuinely considered. Finally, typical tactics used to diminish voices of opposition continue by scheduling stakeholder meetings in the middle of workdays, and by not having a Lake County representative on the Tollway Board.

In the meantime,

- Aaron Lawler, President of your Lake County Board has withdrawn his support of the project.
- ALL environmentalist group support for an earlier version of the project has been unanimously withdrawn.
- George Ranney, last major supporter and co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Council (BRAC), pulled his support for the project.
- The U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) listed Route 53 on its Annual Report of Top Wasteful

Highway Projects Nationwide.

- More than 3,000 petitions have been delivered to Governor Rauner requesting he oppose this project.

Key questions raised during SPG meetings have included:

- “People are fleeing the State in record numbers. Why does the Tollway’s assumption regarding growth in traffic volumes appear to not reflect reality?”
- “Considering truck traffic outpacing automobile traffic, when will Lake County residents be directly asked their views of a truck bypass to Wisconsin being built through their communities?”
- “Considering Mr. Schillerstrom’s comments at a recent City Club of Chicago meeting, how can anyone have any confidence in the Tollway fairly assessing a “no build” option?”
- “East-west traffic outpaces north-south traffic almost 5 to 1. Is there an option to decouple Route 53 from Route 120?”

A growing number of residents from across Lake County and other areas are rejecting the Tollway’s attempts to build Route 53 through the heart of Lake County at the expense of Lake County residents, the environment, public health and now... the less visible, but adverse impact to local residents’ power to design the future of their own communities... this could certainly be equated to a “loss of sovereignty”.

Residents are encouraged to leave their questions and comments regarding the project at the following website link: [project.tricountyaccess.org/leave-a-comment/](http://project.tricountyaccess.org/leave-a-comment/). Stay tuned for the next article in this series designed to help disseminate available information and actions taken on this most critical of issues.



## Upcoming Historic Downtown Long Grove Events

The Village of Long Grove is known for its popular downtown festivals that are held throughout the year. Below is a list of those that are coming up this summer and through the fall.

**Please note:** Old McHenry Road will remain open to motorists during the road construction schedule. Special accommodations will be made so that construction will halt on Thursdays prior to the downtown festivals, including for Vintage Days, Irish Days and Apple Fest.

### Vintage Days

Saturday, August 18 – 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday, August 19 – 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

More information: [longgrove.org/festivals/vintage-days/](http://longgrove.org/festivals/vintage-days/)

### Irish Days

Saturday, September 1 - 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, September 2 - 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, September 3 – 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

More information: [longgrove.org/festivals/irish-days/](http://longgrove.org/festivals/irish-days/)

### Apple Fest

Friday, September 21 - 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.  
Saturday, September 22 - 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.  
Sunday, September 23 - 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

More information: [longgrove.org/festivals/apple-fest/](http://longgrove.org/festivals/apple-fest/)

For more information about the above events, visit [longgrove.org](http://longgrove.org) or call 847-634-0888.

## I'm Just Replacing, Do I Still Need a Building Permit?

The warmer weather has energized many property owners to improve their building exteriors, as well as front and rear yards. Whether you're planning a do-it-yourself project or hiring a professional, it is important to know that many "remove and replace" projects still require building permits.

Driveways, culverts, patios, walkways and decks – even if the layout and location is not changing – all require a building permit.

The permit will include inspections, such as base, pre-pour, or rough framing, which help ensure that the project is built safely, with proper materials, to manufacturer's specifications, and



to-code. Other common summer projects requiring building permits are window replacement, re-roofs, siding replacement, and AC unit replacement.

If a project is not listed here, please call the Village of Long Grove at 847-634-9440 before starting a project, to avoid any possible work-without-permit penalty fees. Permit applications are available online at [longgroveil.gov/content/village-forms-gen-building-zoning](http://longgroveil.gov/content/village-forms-gen-building-zoning). Each type of permit application has its own checklist of submittal requirements to help with the submittal process.

### From The Village President

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Finally, I'm glad that our state legislators recently passed a budget which restores half of the 10% cut to the Local Government Distributed Fund (LGDF) and slightly reduced a recently imposed sales tax administration fee. The LGDF dates back to the 1960s when it was established, and is a percentage of the Illinois personal and corporate income tax receipts allocated to municipalities based on population. All local governments rely on these funds, including Long Grove. This partial restoral is good news as we should be able to make up the difference and then some, with increased sales tax revenues brought on by the strong economy and new businesses in the village.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

## Bridge Repairs Extend Useful Life of Covered Bridge

Butment repairs were recently made to the covered bridge, in addition to the installation of a new roof. These repairs and improvements are expected to extend the useful life of the bridge, without the need for other significant maintenance, for the next five to ten years.



## Long Grove Arts & Music Council Presents Summer Concerts

Now in its 13th season, the Long Grove Arts & Music Council (LGAMC) presents Summer Concerts for 2018. All concerts begin at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at Towner Green, 132 Old McHenry Road.

The summer schedule is:

- July 15: Tony Memmel (American and Folk)
- July 22: Harpeth Rising (Fusion of Folk, Bluegrass, Rock and Classical)
- July 29: Special Consensus (Bluegrass)
- August 5: April Verch Band (Fiddler, Singer, Songwriter and Step Dancer)

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated and necessary.

The Village of Long Grove provides grant funding in the amount of \$15,000 to offset the cost of the performances for the season to support this entertainment opportunity for residents and visitors.

Other groups and individuals who make these concerts possible include Craig Leva of Long Grove Confectionary, The Towner Family, Jesse DeSota of Long Grove Fred Astaire Dance Studio, The Long Grove Merchants who supported the First Jazz & Dance Benefit, Dr. Wojcik and Skycrest Animal Clinic, Angie and Aaron Underwood, John and Pat Marshall and all the generous concert patrons.

Check the LGAMC website for possible schedule changes or additions at [lgamc.org](http://lgamc.org).

## Ela Township Fulfills Public Works Function for Long Grove

For the last several years, Ela Township has provided a wide range of public works services to the Village of Long Grove through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Under the leadership of Highway Department Superintendent Jeff Thompson, these services include maintaining street signs, tree trimming along roads, storm sewer maintenance, pot hole patching of roads, building maintenance at Village properties, and roadside brush cutting.

The Township also sets up barricades for all the downtown festivals that are held in Long Grove each year.

“Overall, the Township is a back-up set of eyes to identify issues and repair them in an efficient manner for Long Grove,” Thompson said.



Twenty-four-hour support is provided as part of the IGA between the Village and the Township; an example would be if a tree fell in the middle of the road overnight, Township crews would come out and move the tree as soon as possible. Clean-up of debris in the Village’s right-of-way would then be handled the following day during normal business hours.

Thompson, who was born and raised in Ela Township, invites feedback from residents of Long Grove regarding the services the Township provides to the Village, and encourages everyone to get involved in local government.

In addition to Long Grove, Ela Township also has intergovernmental agreements with the villages of Kildeer, Deer Park and North Barrington.

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residential opportunities in the Village’s land-use decisions, while affording additional opportunities for potential economic development and a more financially sustainable future. It is anticipated that the PCZBA will formally transfer the document to the Village Board for its consideration in July 2018.

The current draft (5.24.18 version) and a “tracked changes” version identifying changes made during the update process are at [longgrovecompplan.wordpress.com](http://longgrovecompplan.wordpress.com) under the “documents” tab.

## “Times Gone By” in Long Grove

### History of Long Grove’s Farmhouse Museum

The Long Grove Historical Society’s Farmhouse Museum was built in the mid-1800s and relocated from Buffalo Grove Road, just south of Route 83, to an area bordering the southwest corner of the Stemple Parking lot (tucked in the corner, right next to Buffalo Creek Brewing). Referred to as, “The Farmhouse”, this structure houses the archives for the Long Grove Historical Society, is a meeting place, and has several restored “period” rooms that are available for occasional tours.

It is recorded that in 1852, Wilhelm Schoenenberger purchased 80 acres from Buffalo Grove area farm owners John and Louise Reese, for \$100, and built the farmhouse. According to records, lumber to build it was either brought from Chicago by horse and wagon or purchased from a saw mill that was located on Half Day Road in the mid-1880s.

There were a number of different owners over the years, including John and Anna (nee Weiland) Schoenenberger up

until 1873, when their daughter Mary Katherine who married John Klein, purchased it (and the farm) for \$5,000. The Kleins had adopted an orphan from the Chicago fire, whose name was Margaret (Maggie). Maggie went on to marry John Weidner, and the two raised five children in the farmhouse. Their eldest son named Leo, eventually married Marie Brye in 1926, and they lived there until 1932 when they moved to Harvard. Then in 1932, the Karlesky family moved in and raised vegetables to be sold in the Chicago markets. The farm was then sold in 1968.

In 1986, a Long Grove Historical Society board member noticed the farmhouse, which was in the path of a new development in its Buffalo Grove location, and when approached about it, the owner was open to donating it to the Long Grove Historical Society. He gave the Society three days to decide before the house was to be bulldozed. Resident and business owner Bob McNitt offered a temporary site behind his Red Oaks store in downtown Long Grove to move the



farmhouse to, and he and his wife then donated the one-acre site next to Buffalo Creek Brewing to the historical society. The farmhouse was then moved to this location at a cost of \$16,000.

In all, there have been approximately \$145,000 in restoration costs made to this more than 170-year-old structure, which were raised through P. Buckley Moss art shows and Turn of the Century Days booths in Long Grove in the 1980s. Donations from organizations such as the Garden Club, Questers, Ladies Bridge, Lions Club and others made these restorations and improvements possible.

*This information was printed with permission from the Long Grove Historical Society, and reference information appears in the book “In Retrospect” (pages 138-140), written by longtime Long Grove resident Gwen Berg.*

## IGA with Buffalo Grove Expands to Include Commercial Property Inspections

The Village of Long Grove recently amended an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Buffalo Grove to expand the residential property maintenance program to include code enforcement for commercial properties. The original IGA between Long Grove and Buffalo Grove included maintenance

code inspections, enforcement and adjudication, and began in 2015.

The IGA was expanded in an effort to maintain and improve the overall condition of downtown Long Grove properties. Through this agreement, which is the start of an annual program, code enforcement officers from Buffalo Grove will work with the Long Grove Fire Protection District to perform interior and exterior Building and Fire Code inspections of all properties and buildings in the downtown.

Inspections performed by inspectors Joe Arizzi and Kevin Pyne, both from the Village of Buffalo Grove, and Long Grove Fire Protection District Fire

Marshal Mike Schmitt began in June. These inspections include review of Building and Fire Codes, life/safety requirements, as well as property maintenance compliance.

The inspectional process is a cooperative effort to educate the property owners and businesses of Long Grove about Village Code requirements, with the shared goal of ensuring downtown properties are safe and properly maintained. Inspections will be performed in a manner to minimize any impact on business operations, such as not inspecting restaurants during lunch or dinner hours.

For more information, please contact the Village of Long Grove at 847-634-9440.

## Teasel Attack Moves Forward

This past spring, the Long Grove Park District and Village of Long Grove agreed that teasel had established itself and was spreading rapidly throughout the community. The two groups launched a joint effort to control this nasty invasive species on public land.

The Park District provided teasel information presentations at Village Hall on May 12 and 16, 2018. Park District representatives will provide a presentation for any HOA or other group that requests it (simply email [syoung@lgparks.org](mailto:syoung@lgparks.org) to schedule a time) in order to educate as many people

as possible. By learning more, residents will have a better understanding of why it is important to remove teasel, and how it can be prevented from spreading on Long Grove properties.

During June of 2018, volunteers, including Park District interns and professional conservation crews, fought back against teasel in its immature, leafy stage. June is the month when teasel grows from a flat, ground-hugging rosette into what looks like romaine lettuce (ignore the yellow flowers in the photo, they are intruding dandelions). During this stage, the control method is herbiciding. This action will prevent seed formation, which is typically about 2,000 seeds per plant.

All the teasel in the community could not be addressed in June, nor can it be done alone. A major focus is now on teasel along the major roadways through the Village. Property owners are encouraged to look for teasel on their land and take steps to prevent its spread. For information on teasel control, or to host a teasel workshop, visit [lgparks.org/education/invasive-species/](http://lgparks.org/education/invasive-species/).



Volunteer Blanca Tinucci with interns Liam Korecky and Justin Grass spraying teasel.

Each year in July and later, control efforts focus on cutting the teasel seed heads before the seeds drop. The cut material is carefully bagged to avoid dropping seed, and bags are disposed of offsite. Seeds will survive in a home compost bin. To control teasel during yard waste pickup, put the bagged teasel out for pickup. Otherwise, residents can deposit bagged teasel at marked dumpsters at the Lemmon-Hill ball field parking lot (northwest corner of Route 83 and Gilmer Road)

Join the Teasel Attack Team! Contact [syoung@lgparks.org](mailto:syoung@lgparks.org) to volunteer.



(Left to right) Teasel "waking up", growing into leafy "lettuce"; Teasel in flower and making seeds.

## Old McHenry Road Project Update: Watermain and Streetscape

The extension of the new public watermain throughout downtown Long Grove was recently completed, and all downtown properties will be connecting to it by November of this year. The installation of the watermain is expected to support existing businesses and attract new businesses, with a focus on restaurants in the downtown.

The Village's new watermain was installed immediately prior to Lake County's reconstruction of

Old McHenry Road. The Village has partnered with the County to include streetscape elements such as

*The downtown remains open during construction and continued support of the downtown merchants is appreciated.*

street lighting, sidewalks, and more aesthetic improvements throughout

the downtown. The County project has begun and is expected to be completed by November - before the holiday shopping season begins. While the County's reconstruction of Old McHenry Road is expected to have significant traffic impacts, the work has been coordinated to avoid any disruption of the downtown fests, and limit the impact on the downtown businesses. The downtown remains open during construction and continued support of the downtown merchants is appreciated.



## Upcoming Meetings

### July

Board of Trustees	July 10, 2018
Architectural Commission	July 16, 2018
Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals	July 17, 2018
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	July 18, 2018
Board of Trustees	July 24, 2018

### August

Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	August 1, 2018
Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals	August 7, 2018
Board of Trustees	August 14, 2018
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	August 15, 2018
Architectural Commission	August 20, 2018
Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals	August 21, 2018
Board of Trustees	August 28, 2018

## SWALCO Monthly Drop Off Events

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) offers two free Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Drop Off events each month (except in December). Appointments are required and can be made on the second Saturday and fourth Monday. Visit [SWALCO.org](http://SWALCO.org) and search “HCW” for more information. There are also four free HCW mobile events in Lake County each year, which can be found under “News & Events” at [SWALCO.org](http://SWALCO.org).

Other benefits include four free electronic collection sites, more than 20 free clothing and textile bins and more than 40 free shoe drop off locations.

A page for Long Grove residents with information specific to the Village can be found at [SWALCO.org](http://SWALCO.org) by searching “Long Grove”.



## Village Contacts

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[LongGroveIL.gov](http://LongGroveIL.gov)

### Office Hours

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