

THE BRIDGE

NEWSLETTER



2023 VOLUME 1



CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY 2023



In early 2022, the Village of Long Grove completed work on the Robert Parker Coffin Multi-Use Pathway. The project was part of the Village's objective to connect the community via "non-motorized vehicles," i.e., bicycle and pedestrian pathways. The 8-foot-wide path connects the Sunset Grove area to the Historic Downtown Business District. Completing this pathway not only enhances connectivity but also allows us to stay true to the Village's long-held values of strong environmental stewardship while promoting community and economic development.

To further this goal, last September, the Village Board approved staff pursuing a grant through the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) for a multi-use pathway connecting the Historic Downtown Business District to Illinois Route 22. This path would run along the northeast side of Old McHenry Road, allowing for pedestrian and bicycle use to the Long Grove Commons shopping area and the Heron Creek Forest Preserve. The Village anticipates being notified of ITEP grant awards in the coming months.

Additionally, during the November 22nd Village Board meeting, approval was given to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Lake County Division of Transportation. As a result of this agreement, a multi-use pathway will be built on the north side of Aptakisic Road, with a sidewalk built on the south side of the road from Illinois Route 83 to the Buffalo Grove border. This project will ultimately link, via pathways, the Historic Downtown Business District with the Des Plaines River Trail in Lincolnshire.

The Village's Capital Improvement Planning Committee will be discussing additional connectivity opportunities along with the creation of a pathway development and maintenance plan, during the current budget setting process.

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LONGROVEIL.GOV/SIGNUP**



This past fall the Village distributed over 2,600 Daffodil bulbs for parkway planting.

FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year and Welcome to 2023!

It was an active close to the year. Filming of a second movie in our downtown was completed in December by John Boshier and Chris Charles, the owners of Throughline Films entitled “Crafted for Christmas.” Once again, our storybook downtown provided the perfect backdrop for the movie. I look forward to seeing it once released, and I thank all of the Long Grove business owners that opened their doors and participated in the filming.



BILL JACOB

bill.jacob@longgroveil.gov

Long Grove is also featured in a book by Melanie Holmes and published by Reedy Press entitled “100 Things to Do in Illinois Before You Die”. Reedy Press publishes these tourism books, and Melanie decided to visit our village as a secret shopper and enjoyed the experience. She shared with me that one of the items that impressed her among many was the new streetscape and sidewalks we have. She recalled visiting Long Grove over 20 years ago with her 3-year-old daughter and mother and their challenges walking since we didn’t have sidewalks back then. Melanie said the publisher limits the words per entry. Still, she believes she “squeezed a lot in,” including “a history of how Long Grove came to have such a quaint cluster of shops, the variety which includes confectioneries, wineries, etc.” plus our covered bridge. “Folks will travel for a covered bridge.” The book will be available in May, and I look forward to seeing what she wrote.

I participated in all 10 of the Illinois Route 53 Land Expansion Alternative Use Task Force Meetings, including the last one on December 16th, where I voted yes to the resolution recommending that IDOT transfer all parcels of land that were previously purchased for the extension of Route 53 to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for a state park, trails, and open space conservation.

The resolution passed with 16 yes votes, one no vote from Mundelein, and two abstentions. The next steps reside with Governor Pritzker and his agency leads, but the Task Force recommended forming another committee composed of similar stakeholders to work through the details. Although I would have liked to have seen something in the resolution providing Long Grove with the ability to develop a portion of the IDOT-owned property in north Long Grove, we have yet to receive support. However, the overall goal was achieved in recommending the establishment of a greenway and the preservation of the land, including the wetlands, groves of trees (our namesake), and native species in the former Route 53 corridor.

Looking forward, we have many items on the docket for 2023, such as deliberating on potential improvements to our village hall to add office and meeting space. Long Grove received over \$1 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan last year that can be used for this. Our fiscal year ends in April, so we are beginning discussions on our fiscal 2023/24 budget. We have been fortunate as our revenues continue to exceed expenses because of the economy and the strong fiscal management by the village board and staff. We also will continue our road repaving program where we are currently 70% complete on our 15-year plan, two and a half years ahead of schedule.

Finally, I wish you and yours all the best in 2023!

Bill Jacob

WELCOME 2022 NEW BUSINESSES

LONG GROVE COMMONS

BLUE DAISY FLORAL
3980 HALF DAY RD UNIT B

SUNSET GROVE

TTO BOKKI
4196 IL-83 UNIT B

DOWNTOWN

VINTAGE CHARM HOMESTEAD
243 ROBERT PARKER COFFIN ROAD

HIDDEN GEM

327 OLD MCHENRY RD UNIT B

ASH AND WILLOW SALON

421 ROBERT PARKER COFFIN ROAD

COMPASS REAL ESTATE

248 ROBERT PARKER COFFIN ROAD

OATFLOW CAFE

225 ROBERT PARKER COFFIN RD

VILLAGE TRUSTEES



CHRIS BORAWSKI

chris.borawski@longgroveil.gov

BOBBIE O'REILLY

bobbie.oreilly@longgroveil.gov



ANNE KRITZMIRE

anne.kritzmire@longgroveil.gov

JENNIFER MICHAUD

jennifer.michaud@longgroveil.gov



RITA O'CONNOR

rita.oconnor@longgroveil.gov

KENT TINUCCI

kent.tinucci@longgroveil.gov



VILLAGE CLERK

MICHELE SCHMITKE

michele.schmitke@longgroveil.gov

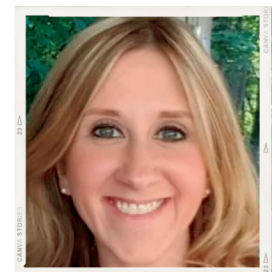
WELCOMING THE NEW ASSISTANT VILLAGE MANAGER

Melissa Wiak, MPA has joined the Village of Long Grove as the new Assistant Village Manager. She earned her Master of Public Administration degree (MPA) from American University in Washington D.C. and a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and Political Science from Saint Mary's College-Notre Dame.

Before joining the Village of Long Grove, Melissa worked as a Management Assistant for the City Manager with the City of Rockville, Maryland, as a Correspondence Manager for the County Executive of Montgomery County, Maryland, and as a Community Liaison for Chevy Chase Village, Maryland.

Melissa's areas of interest and expertise include grant management, records retention and dissemination (FOIA requests and processing), performance metrics and management, and public-private partnerships and privatization. In her spare time, Melissa enjoys playing trivia, baking, going to the movies, and cheering on her beloved Chicago sports teams, except the Cubs.

We welcome Melissa to the Village! She can be reached at mwiak@longgroveil.gov or 847-634-9440



Melissa Wiak

SNOW SAFETY TIPS

Cold weather, without any physical exertion, puts an extra strain on your heart. Shoveling snow can also be a trigger for heart attacks.

You should rest frequently and pace yourself when shoveling. Remember to lift the snow with your legs, not your back. If you use a snow blower, never use your hands to unclog the machine. If you become breathless, stop, go indoors and warm up before continuing. If you experience chest or arm pain or numbness, stop immediately and go indoors; you may need to call 911. Overexertion can cause sore muscles, falls, and heart attacks. For more information visit ready.gov/winter



- Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage
- Make sure your tires are properly inflated
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid a gas line freeze-up
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface
- Before you begin shoveling snow, make sure you are properly hydrated and stretch your muscles
- Wear layers to keep muscles warm and flexible
- Use a shovel with a handle that is long enough to keep your back straight when lifting.
- Push snow whenever possible instead of lifting it
- Lift with your legs bent and your back straight as possible
- Take breaks

SALT SMART

Winters in Illinois can be difficult. Going easy on the salting helps to protect our waterways and water quality. Rock salt and runoff can harm pets and the environment.

Alternative solutions for winter traction include kitty litter, sand, stone grit, coffee grounds, or alfalfa meal.

Learn more at saltsmart.org



HOME BURGLARY PREVENTION

Home burglars often strike during daytime hours when most people are at work. While burglary crews have various methods, they often target homes without alarm systems.

HOME BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS:

- Consider installing an alarm system monitored by an alarm company
- Consider installing motion-activated cameras, where you can be alerted when an uninvited guest arrives
- Always keep the doors to your home locked and windows secured when you are not home
- Keep hedges and trees trimmed, so the home is visible from the roadway.
- Place your home on 'house watch' with the sheriff's office when you go out of town – a sheriff's deputy will come by and check it at various times throughout your time away.

◦ This can be done by calling 847-549-5200 and informing the dispatcher you wish to put your house on a house watch.

CALL 911 IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.

The sheriff's office would much rather investigate a false alarm than let a burglar get away. Sheriff's deputies do not mind coming to investigate suspicious vehicles or people in the area.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

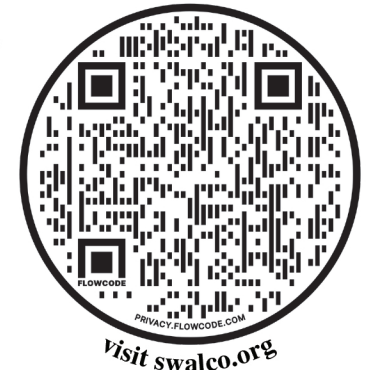


Long Grove residents have electronics recycling available. Waste Management (WM) will pick up electronic items once a month on the first Monday of the month. Residents need to call in to WM to sign up for service at least 2 business days prior to pickup. Limit of 10 items, of which only 1 can be a TV or monitor.



The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) also has multiple electronic recycling sites. This program is free of charge to Lake County residents during the posted hours of operation; appointments are not required.

To find the closest location and services available scan the QR code to learn more.



SPRING CLEANING? THINK SWALCO

SWALCO - The Long Grove Collection box can be found in the parking lot of the Long Grove Fire Department (corner of Robert Parker Coffin and Archer Road).

This is a full-circle program, and your new, gently used donations (which will be reused) allow SWALCO to continue program operations and recycle any worn-out items we receive, as well as support community and environmental education outreach. Help reduce unnecessary landfill waste and donate to SWALCO today.



Accepted Items

Clothing Items

Blouses and shirts, coats and jackets, dresses
Halloween costumes, hats, and scarves, pants, shorts and jeans, pet clothing, socks (single or in pairs), suits and tuxedos, swimsuits, sweaters and sweatshirts, ties, undergarments

Clothing Accessories

Backpacks, belts, purses and handbags, tote bags

Household Textiles

Bedspreads, duvets, comforters, sheets, blankets, quilts, curtains, drapes, sofa covers, table linens, towels, and washcloths



2023 WASTE MANAGEMENT NOTICES

Under a contract agreement between the Village of Long Grove and Waste Management, there will be a rate increase of 3.75% beginning February 1, 2023, which will be reflected in your next bill.

For further information, visit the Waste Management website at www.wm.com or call Waste Management Resident Support at 1-800-796-9696

Holidays that will delay waste pick-up by one day:

- Memorial Day - Monday, May 29th
- Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4th
- Labor Day - Monday, September 5th
- Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 23rd
- Christmas Day - Monday, December 25th

DO YOU NEED A BUILDING PERMIT? YES!



Are you planning any spring projects? Whether it's a do-it-yourself project or if you're hiring a professional contractor, contact the Building Department (847-634-9440) before starting work to see if a permit is required.

Permits are required for most building projects to ensure that they comply with adopted building and zoning codes and all ordinances pertaining to residential and commercial construction. Aside from reviewing structural, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing plans, the permit approval process may also include a review for energy conservation, zoning, and/or stormwater ordinance compliance.

Although a contractor may apply for a building permit on behalf of a homeowner, ultimately, it is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that projects are permitted before any work commences.

My water heater, furnace, AC, or sewer broke on a weekend. What do I do?

- If you have an emergency project such as the replacement of a water heater, furnace, air conditioner, or repair of a sewer, and it is outside of normal business hours, please go ahead with the critical repair or replacement and follow up with the Building Department on the next business day. You can apply online for most of the remove-and-replace projects. In emergency repair situations (outside normal Village Hall operating hours), please do not wait for a response or permit from the Village. Paperwork and payments may be submitted post-emergency.
- For all applications that are processed online, the \$50 application fee is not applied. However, there are fees for inspections based on project scope.

Instructions for the online portal can be found at longgroveil.gov/building

VILLAGE BUDGET UPDATE



Anne Kritzmire, Trustee and Finance Committee Chair

Last summer, we talked about how the Village operates with a mission, describing how the Village provides services with a mission focused on deliberate budgeting and low spending levels. The Village's fiscal year is from May 1 2023, through April 30 2024. The budget is the strongest indicator of Village priorities.

How does the Village determine priorities?

The first step is defining a successful budget for the year. Historically, the Village has been defined as maintaining a balanced budget, maintaining a 100% reserve fund, paying all debts, and following all revenue spending rules while maintaining the commitment to deliver quality services to the residents. For the past six years, the Village has been achieving these goals.

The next step is sitting down and drafting the budget. The budgeting team combines the known and unknown revenues and expenditures and builds the budget draft. The known items include debt payments, contracted service expenses, staff salaries, and Village Hall operating costs. There are also a lot of resources available to the Village that we can use to guide us. Information from the Illinois Municipal League (IML) gives estimates of tax revenues that the Village should receive from the state. Past sales tax revenue data helps put the Village in the right ballpark when budgeting revenues.

When the draft budget is complete, public hearings are the final step. These are scheduled to allow the public to comment and review. Budget hearings are posted on the Village Calendar. Again, please review and provide comments to the Board. The final budgets will be approved before April 30.

If you have any questions about the budget or village finances, I'm happy to answer. Don't hesitate to get in touch with me at Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov.

To view previous fiscal year budgets, please visit longgroveil.gov/finance

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

During the January 10th Village Board meeting, Village President Jacob announced the creation of an ad hoc committee for capital improvement planning. The Capital Improvements Planning Committee's mission is to assist in developing capital projects and improvements by the Village's staff during the annual budget development.

Capital Projects or Assets are defined as projects that cost at least \$10,000 and have a useful life of at least five years. After annual project reviews are completed, the Committee will rate and rank each project based on priority, budget impact, regulatory requirements, public safety, equipment replacement, efficiency, useful life, cost reduction, and benefit to the Village. The benefits of a five-year capital plan:

- Ends any practice of allocating resources to projects with long-term impact
- Most important projects are funded first
- Integrates operational budgeting with budgeting for capital improvement needs
- Assures identifying the most appropriate funding source(s)
- Improves planning and timing

The goal of the CIP is to provide an impartial perspective for the Village Manager and Village Board as they develop a balanced budget for the next fiscal year. Not only a budget tool, but the CIP is also a tool to ensure that the unit of government is a good steward of Village assets and public funds.

WINTER GARDEN TIPS

FEBRUARY

Gather seed and plant catalogs. Start shopping.

- Take that list out in your garden and think where you would like to plant the tempting new additions among your established plants in the garden
- You can start vegetables or annual seeds indoors. Adding a grow light makes life easy. Plant, water, rotate your seed box about once a week and continue to water

MARCH

- Prune grape vines, fruit trees and roses when buds begin to swell in early March
- Fertilize fruit trees at least 6 weeks before they bloom
- Set your mower height now to mow 2 1/2 - 3 inches tall and keep it there all summer. Longer grass is healthier and crowds out weeds



WINTER IS THE PERFECT TIME TO PRUNE TREES AND SHRUBS

Consider pruning your trees this winter. The winter months are an excellent time for tree work because trees are dormant. There are several benefits to pruning your trees now:

- It is easier to see the tree structure in the winter, allowing contractors to identify dead and dangerous branches and check for any infections, insect issues, etc.
- It avoids spreading disease. Bacteria, fungi, parasites, and insects that cause or spread disease are usually dead or dormant during these months
- It is more efficient. Heavy equipment can be used on cold days to prune trees without damaging your landscape
- Dormant pruning is less stressful on trees and allows trees to close the wound, making pruning much easier
- Dormant trees won't be expending energy on growing leaves, so you will not disrupt the tree's growth cycle

Want to become a Master Gardener? Sign Up for virtual classes starting February 15

The University of Illinois Extension, Lake County Forest Preserves & SWALCO present the 2023 Garden Learning Series. Except for February, programs will be held on the second Wednesday of the month 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Visit SWALCO.org to learn more



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VILLAGE MEETING DATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 31, 2023
February 14, 2023
February 28, 2023

**PLAN COMMISSION AND
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

February 7, 2023
March 7, 2023

**CONSERVANCY/SCENIC
COORIDOR COMMITTEE**

February 1, 2023
March 1, 2023
April 5, 2023

ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

February 10, 2023
March 20, 2023
April 17, 2023

Please Visit
LongGroveil.gov/meetings for
the most up-to-date meeting
information



OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Friday
8:00AM-4:30PM

PHONE NUMBER

847-634-9440

WEBSITE

LONGGROVEIL.GOV

VILLAGE CONTACTS

VILLAGE HALL

3110 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove, Illinois 60047

VILLAGE MANAGER

Gregory Jackson
gjackson@longgroveil.gov

ASSISTANT VILLAGE MANAGER

Melissa Wiak
mwiak@longgroveil.gov

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
COORDINATOR**

Sherry Shlagman
sshlagman@longgroveil.gov

MANAGEMENT ANALYST

Natalie Benner
nbenner@longgroveil.gov

BUILDING AND PERMIT SPECIALIST

Margerita Romanello
mromanello@longgroveil.gov