

LINCOLNWOOD

CONNECTIONS



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026



Enchanted Dinner Dance

Find out this year's theme &
more — page 6

After a few years of mild weather we've got ourselves a winter to deal with again, and it's likely only the beginning. By now, Village residents should have received a call or text notification from the Village about alternate side parking for snow management. If you haven't, please visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/reverse911 to sign up to receive notifications of importance to you from the Village.



As a general reminder, after snow events when alternate side parking is in effect, park ON the side of the street that corresponds with the date. **On ODD days, PARK ON the ODD side. On EVEN days, PARK ON the EVEN side.**

Our Public Works team relies on alternate side parking regulations to facilitate efficient snow removal operations, clearing streets all the way to the curb. Clean streets maximize parking availability, and ensure the passability of the streets for motorists and emergency vehicles.

In addition to alternate side parking there are other efforts that we as residents can take to help make sure the public ways stay safe and passable. We ask that, whenever possible, please shovel and salt the sidewalks in front of your home or business. Our Public Works Staff operates a sidewalk clearing program for main streets through the Village, but it is not feasible to have the Village clean all of the sidewalks in town. Let's all do our part.

Also, clean sidewalks offer a place to locate garbage cans on pickup day, Monday. **PLEASE NOTE: Garbage cans are not to be placed in the street for pickup**, they are to be placed on the sidewalk or, if there is not a sidewalk adjacent to your home, the cans should be placed on the driveway or lawn.

Speaking of driveways, please don't shovel, blow, or plow your snow into the street; pile the snow or move it to landscaped areas. Unfortunately, public works cannot avoid the snow being pushed from the street into a driveway approach, but to minimize this, we recommend pushing snow from in front of driveways "downstream" so that there is less snow to end up where you don't want it.

The Rescue Rangers program was instituted by Mayor Madeline Grant to connect residents in need of assistance in managing snow with those who are willing and able to help. Aimed at local middle and high school students, anyone is eligible to sign up to lend a helping hand. This program is intended to be a service for a fee to be negotiated directly by the Resident and the Ranger. If you're able please sign up at www.lincolnwoodil.org/rescuerrangers.

Over the last 20 years the Village has conducted multiple resident surveys. Surveys are an important tool used by local governments to assess the wants and needs of the community. Results are then used to help formulate the Village Strategic and Comprehensive Plans. Results of Lincolnwood's surveys have always shown a demand for more and better community recreation space and programming, and it has been a regular comment which has been heard by Staff and Board members over the years.

In 2023, the Village conducted a facilities and space needs assessment and also adopted the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan, both of which indicate that our Community Center and Aquatic Center are substandard and insufficient to meet the needs of the community.

As part of the Master Plan, a survey was sent to 3,000 Lincolnwood households aimed at assessing the desires of the Village relative to Parks and Recreation facilities and programs. The results were deemed statistically valid and therefore should be considered reliable. The results showed that building a recreation center was the top capital improvement priority of the Village with replacement of the pool ranked fifth.

The timeline shown later in this newsletter highlights the early stages of this ongoing process. It is important to note that the presented plans have not been approved for construction, their purpose is to determine whether the project is feasible and likely to succeed. A project of this magnitude will need to be substantially supported by outside funding sources including grants and donations which would need to be secured.

While we are just at the beginning of winter we are already looking forward to next Spring and Summer. Separate from the Aquatic Center and Community Center plans mentioned above, Proesel Park will undergo long needed improvements to the South end of the park. Utilizing grants and donations to supplement Village funds, this work will modernize amenities and spaces so they will be available for years to come.

A drawing later in this newsletter shows that use of the Shelter and Playground will be affected for the 2026 season. Please bear with us while we undergo these improvements, the other eleven playgrounds here in town will be fully operational in 2026.

In 2026 we will continue with our Capital Improvement Program which will include roadway replacement and resurfacing, sewer and water main replacement, and another round of private Lead water-line replacements as required by the State of Illinois. Additionally, Pratt Avenue will be resurfaced from Cicero to McCormick and construction will include the installation of dedicated bicycle lanes in each direction. Detailed information on the Pratt Avenue construction and design can be found at www.lincolnwoodil.org/prattbike.



Lincolnwood Village Board

*"The Year End Brings No Greater Pleasure Than
The Opportunity to Express To You Seasons
Greetings and Good Wishes. May Your Holidays
And New Year Be Filled With Joy."*

- Charles Dickens

Mayor Jesal Patel

Now on Display: Art by Phil Gayter



An art exhibit featuring the work of Phil Gayter, originally scheduled for fall, is now on display at Lincolnwood Village Hall through the end of February. The gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Phil, a Ravinia-based artist and former advertising professional, brings a sense of whimsy, subtle emotion, and a unique perspective to his portrait work. Inspired by artists like Andrew Wyeth, his paintings often capture fleeting expressions and unexpected angles. His work has been featured in publications across the North Shore and even showcased live on WGN News.

Card Payments Transaction Fee Effective January 1

In 2024, the Village incurred nearly \$140,000 in transaction fees associated with credit or debit card payments. As part of the 2026 Budget, and in line with common practice, the Village Board has adopted a credit or debit card transaction fee effective January 1, 2026. The fee charged will be the lesser of the authorized fee or 3.0%.

Residents have multiple payment options. If you choose to pay by credit or debit card, a processing fee will apply. Other payment methods, such as check, cash, or ACH, remain available at no additional cost.

Seasonal Positions Now Open

Seasonal positions for Lincolnwood Summer Camp and Proesel Park Family Aquatic Center are now open!

Open positions include: Camp Counselors, Camp Supervisors, Lifeguards, Swim Instructors, Operations Attendants, and Guest Services Attendants. More information and applications can be found at www.lincolnwoodil.org/employment.



Summer Camp Registration



Summer Camp resident registration opens Monday, February 2 at 9am. Non-resident Summer Camp registration opens Monday, March 2 at 9am. Early bird pricing runs Monday, February 2 to Monday, March 16.

Visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/summercamp to view our Summer Camp brochure, which includes details about changes due to construction at the south end of Proesel Park.

WATER & SEWER RATES ARE CHANGING

Beginning in 2026, the Village will update its water and sewer billing based on recommendations from a recently completed water rate study. These updates help ensure the long-term health of the water and sewer system, meet federal requirements like lead service line replacement, and keep up with rising infrastructure costs.



Residents will see a simpler bill, bi-monthly residential billing, and updated rates that support essential maintenance and improvements.

2025 Billing	2026 Billing NEW
5 separate charges per bill	3 total charges per bill
Quarterly billing	Bi-monthly billing
Complex rate structure	Easier-to-understand bills

2026 RATE STRUCTURE

Household/Property Type	Water System Fee	Usage Charges (per 1,000 gallons)
Residential	\$10.00/month	Water: \$10.84 Sewer: \$1.18
Residential (50+ Units)	\$375.00/month	Water: \$10.84 Sewer: \$1.18
Commercial	\$25.00/month	Water: \$10.84 Sewer: \$1.18

**Please note that commercial accounts will remain on monthly billings.*

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

According to the water rate study findings:

- Low-usage households: +\$6/month
- Average-usage households: +\$9/month

(Actual amounts vary by water consumption.)

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Bills will be simpler and sent every other month, helping residents track usage, catch leaks early, and manage finances with ease.

MORE INFORMATION

Scan the QR code or visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/waterstudy to learn more.



ENCHANTED DINNER DANCE

A Night Under the Stars

Join us for A Night Under the Stars at the Skokie DoubleTree by Hilton on Friday, February 6, from 6 to 9pm. Enjoy dinner, dancing, and desserts with your child(ren) and a parent, guardian, or other special adult. There will be a DJ, photo booth, candy bar, and plenty of memories to treasure. Advanced registration is required.

*Resident: \$116 per couple / \$58 additional guest
Non-Resident: \$137 per couple / \$68 additional guest*

Kids

Glitzy Girls Winter White Glam Night

Join Glitzy Girls for a glam winter event with makeovers, crafts, a charm bracelet, and a fashion show. Each participant gets a goodie bag. Drop-off class.

- **Date:** Tuesday, January 20 | 6–7:15pm
- **Fee:** Resident: \$36 / Non-Resident: \$45
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center
- **Age:** 4–10

Seniors (Ages 55+)

New Year's Day Luncheon at Barnaby's

Ring in the new year with a noon pizza party at Barnaby's in Niles! Enjoy pizza, wings, and good company. Registration required.

- **Date:** Wednesday, January 7 | 12pm
- **Fee:** Resident: \$7 / Non-Resident: \$15
- **Location:** Barnaby's in Niles

Adults

Adult Cardio Sculpt Blast

Join this 50-minute high-energy class with cardio and strength training using light weights. Each week targets different muscles. Suitable for all levels. Registration required.

- **Date:** Thursdays, February 12–March 19 | 6–6:50pm
- **Fee:** Resident \$145 / Non-Resident: \$180
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center
- **Age:** 18+

Valentine's Day Luncheon

Celebrate Valentine's Day together with an Olive Garden lunch, live music, dessert, hot coffee, and a special treat to take home.

- **Date:** Friday, February 13 | 12–2pm
- **Fee:** Residents: \$11 / Non-Resident: \$25
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center

Winter Home & Pipe Safety

Protect your home and pipes from winter's chill.

If You'll Be Away:

Public Works can turn off your water at the b-box to help prevent frozen pipes. Call 847-675-0888 to schedule a winter water shutoff.

If You're Staying in Town:

- Keep your home at 55°F or higher.
- Let warm air circulate in garages, basements, and crawlspaces.
- Disconnect garden hoses and drain frost-free faucets.
- Insulate water meters in unheated areas.

If a Pipe Freezes:

Turn off the main valve and gently warm the pipe with a hair dryer or heating pad. For extra peace of mind, contact a licensed plumber if you have concerns.

Tips for Crime Prevention

Keep you and your family safe this winter with a few simple precautions.

Watch Out for Utility Scams:

Scammers may pose as gas, electric, or water company employees to gain access to your home. Legitimate service calls are usually scheduled in advance and employees carry proper ID. Always verify their identity before allowing entry, don't feel pressured, and call 911 if something seems suspicious.

Keep Your Vehicle Safe:

Lock your doors, take valuables with you, never leave your car running unattended, and park in well-lit areas. Use visible deterrents like a steering wheel lock, and stay with your car while it warms up if using remote start.

Remember:

Crime prevention can be as easy as **Lock, Light, Report!**

Report suspicious activity to the Lincolnwood Police Department at 847-673-2167 or 911.

Give Way to Emergency Vehicles

The Lincolnwood Fire Department reminds motorists to yield to emergency vehicles. Collisions with responding vehicles cause injuries and delays each year, but you can help by moving to the right for sirens and lights.

Tips for drivers:

- Stay calm and pull to the right, stopping if needed.
- On multi-lane roads, both sides should pull to the right.
- Keep 500 feet behind emergency vehicles and be cautious around accident scenes.

Don't: panic, block lanes, pull left, or run red lights when emergency vehicles approach.

Under Illinois Scott's Law, failing to yield to emergency vehicles can result in fines, license suspension, or criminal charges.

RECREATION CENTER FEASIBILITY

The feasibility study was initiated as part of the 2023 Parks and Recreation Com sent to 3,000 Lincolnwood households. Results showed that building a recreation fifth. A Village-wide survey in April 2024 also demonstrated strong communit Confluence, Inc., to assess the practicality and viability of these projects. The tim have been approved. The purpose of the Feasibility Study is t

09/24

The Village issued RFPs and awarded the agreement to Confluence Inc. The planning team included Legat Architects, Water Technology Inc., and Ballard King.

11/24

Confluence met with Village staff and the Park and Recreation Board for a visioning workshop to outline project goals for the park, pool, and recreation center.

11/24

During engagement participatio priorities space, fit shaded po modern lo stressing fle appeal, a which conc master p

11/25

A Village Board meeting was held to review the draft feasibility study for the recreation center and aquatic center. At the December 2 meeting, the Village Board adopted the feasibility study,

11/25

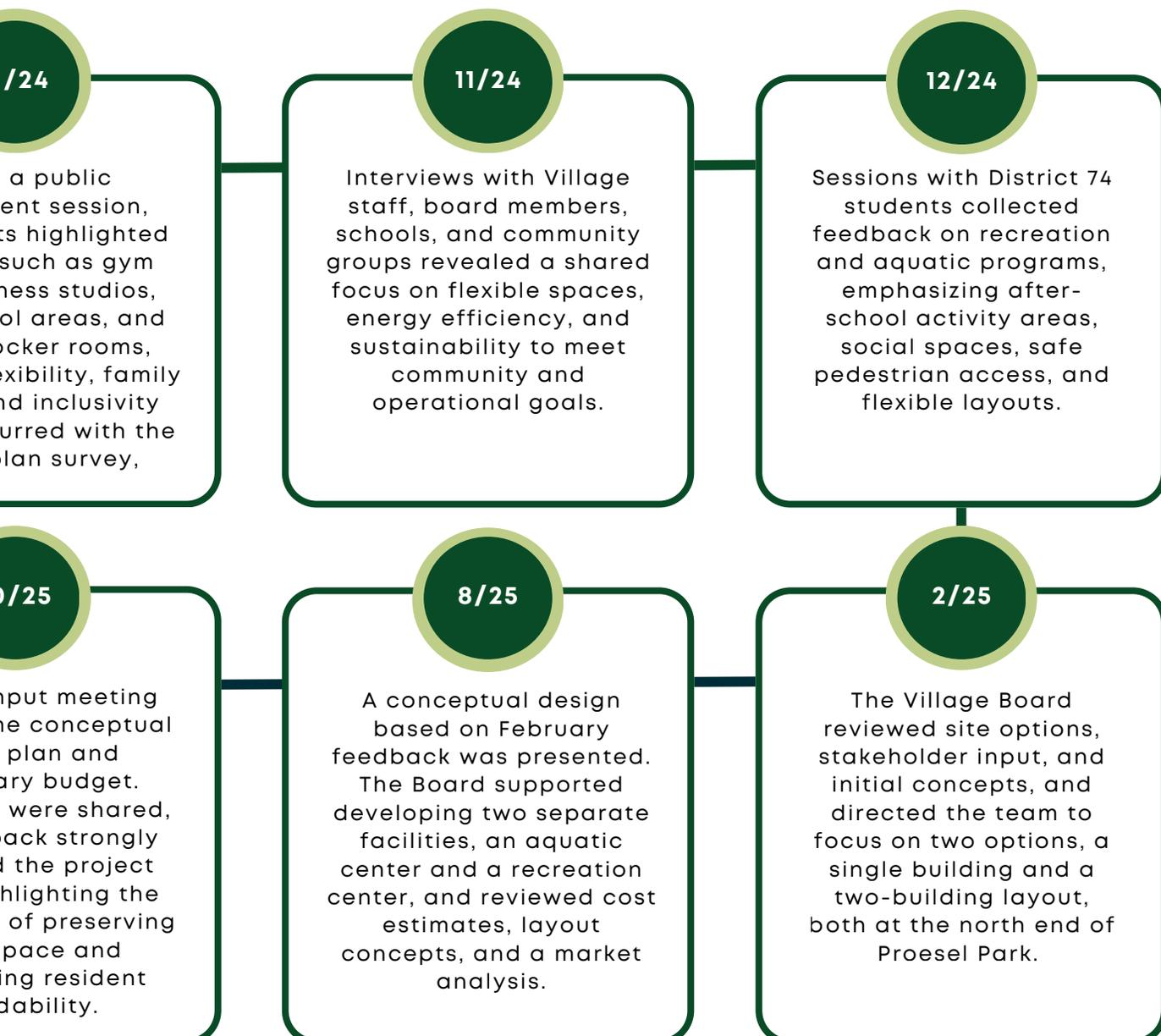
A public in reviewed th master preliminar Renderings and feedb supported vision, hig importance green s maintain affor



Learn More

R & AQUATIC CENTER TY STUDY

prehensive Master Plan. As part of the Master Plan, a statistically valid survey was
on center was the top capital improvement priority, while replacing the pool ranked
y support for a new recreation and aquatic center. In response, the Village hired
heline below highlights the early stages of this ongoing process; no plans or designs
o determine whether the project is feasible and likely to succeed.



2025 Infrastructure Project Highlights

In 2025, the Village completed several key infrastructure improvements:

- **Roadway Repaving:** 11,400 feet of new asphalt
- **Water Main Installation:** 6,400 feet of new water main
- **Lead Service Line Replacements:** 172 copper service lines installed
- **Sidewalk Installation:** 600 feet of repoured sidewalks

The Village keeps residents informed through a weekly infrastructure newsletter, posted online and delivered directly to subscribers' inboxes. Find the 2025 updates and subscribe for 2026 at www.lincolnwoodil.org/infrastructure.

Lead Service Line Replacement Program



Since 2023, the Village has replaced over 200 lead lines through water main projects and emergencies. Both public and private portions are replaced at no cost, residents are notified of temporary shutoffs, and Lincolnwood's drinking water meets all state and federal standards.

Want to replace your line sooner? Homeowners can hire a licensed contractor and receive a 50/50 reimbursement up to \$5,000 after the project is permitted, completed, and inspected.

For details and forms, contact Lincolnwood Public Works at 847-675-0888 or visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/leadreplacement.

Salt Smarter: Protect Our Waterways This Winter

Winter road salt can harm waterways, plants, and infrastructure. The Village, with the Chicago Area Waterways Chloride Workgroup, reduces salt use while keeping roads safe through efficient, controlled salting.

You can help:

- Shovel snow before salting
- Use only small amounts of salt and spread it evenly
- Sweep up any leftover salt after melting
- Switch to sand or cold-weather deicers when temperatures drop below 15°F

For winter updates and parking alerts, visit the Village website or sign up for emergency notifications at www.lincolnwoodil.org/reverse911.



Pratt Avenue Bike Lanes

The Village Board has approved Pratt Avenue improvements for 2026, adding 1.97 miles of east-west bike lanes from Lincolnwood Drive to McCormick Boulevard. This will create the Village's first uninterrupted east-west bikeway, connecting to the Valley Line Trail, Union Pacific Trail, and Centennial Park Path. Parking and sidewalk changes will improve safety for all users. Learn more at www.lincolnwoodil.org/prattbike.

UPCOMING PROESEL PARK CONSTRUCTION



Exciting improvements are coming to the south end of Henry A. Proesel Park! Construction is set to begin in 2026 as part of a significant renovation project partially funded by an Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

Planned enhancements include:

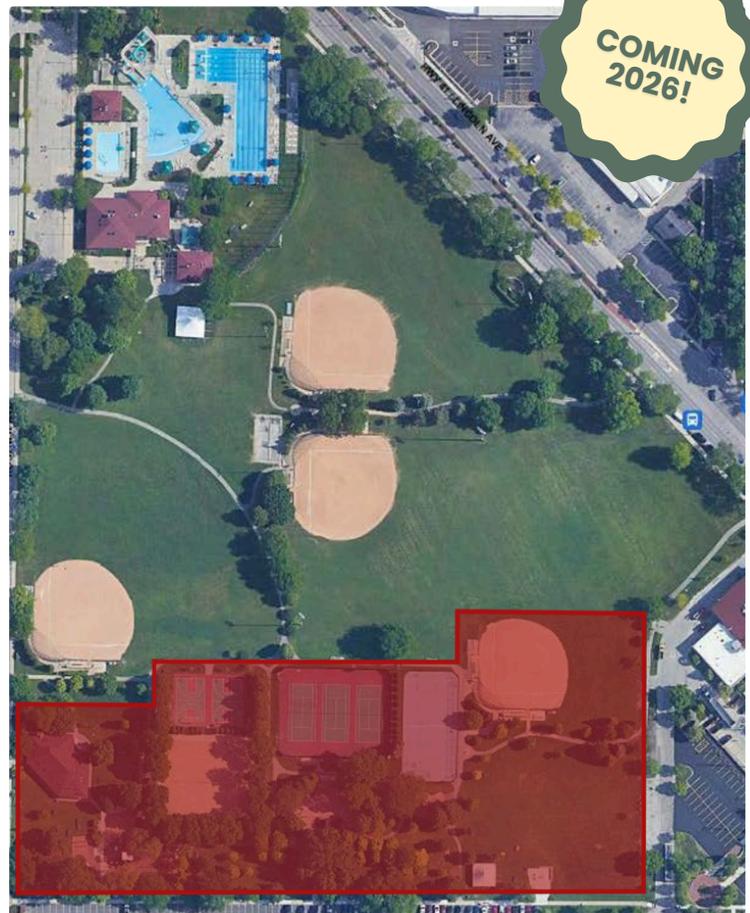
- A universally accessible playground
- Upgraded tennis and sand volleyball courts
- Two dedicated pickleball courts
- A renovated inline skate court
- Improved basketball courts
- Enhanced pedestrian pathways

Please Note: The entire south end of the park will be closed from March 2026 through mid-November 2026 for construction. This includes the shelter, restrooms, playground, courts, Madeleine's Garden, and Ball Field 4. A map of the construction zone is provided.

SCAN ME



For project updates, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/proeselconstruction or scan the QR code.



Construction Zone

New Businesses

Apex Pediatric Therapy Services

6500 N Lincoln Ave
Provides ABA, speech, and occupational therapy services for children and adolescents.

Falafel & Grill

6699 N Lincoln Ave
Offering dine-in and carryout Middle Eastern cuisine.

I PHO

3900 W Touhy Ave
Vietnamese restaurant serving traditional favorites.

Shapiro Vein Center

4318 W Touhy Ave
Outpatient vein center providing specialized vein care.

Village of Lincolnwood
6900 N Lincoln Ave
Lincolnwood, IL 60712
www.lincolnwoodil.org

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BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

- **Village Board:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday
- **Park & Recreation Board:** 3rd Monday
- **Economic Development Commission:** 4th Wednesday
- **Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals:** 1st Wednesday (3rd Wednesday if needed)
- **Traffic Commission:** 4th Thursday
- **Environmental Commission:** 4th Monday (every other month)

For up-to-date schedules, agendas, and minutes, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org. To receive agendas by email, contact subscribe@lwd.org.

Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 6, RCN Channel 49, and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. You can also watch live or on-demand at www.lincolnwoodil.org/mediacenter.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Village President: Jesal Patel
Trustee: Jean Ikezoe-Halevi
Trustee: Grace Diaz Herrera
Trustee: Craig Klatzco
Trustee: Atour Sargon
Trustee: Christopher Martel
Trustee: Neal Gussis
Village Clerk: Sokol Delisi
Village Manager: Anne Marie Gaura

STAY CONNECTED

- **Download Our App:** Search “Lincolnwood” in the Apple App Store or Google Play
- **E-Newsletter:** Sign up at www.lincolnwoodil.org/lincolnwoodlocal
- **Emergency Notifications:** Register at www.lincolnwoodil.org/reverse911
- **Construction Updates:** www.lincolnwoodil.org/infrastructureupdates
- **Social Media:** Follow us!

- Village of Lincolnwood:  
- Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department:  

Village Hall	(847) 673-1540
Public Works	(847) 675-0888
Community Development	(847) 673-7402
Parks and Recreation	(847) 677-9740
Police Non-Emergency	(847) 673-2167
Fire Non-Emergency	(847) 673-1545