



# Village of Villa Park

20 South Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, Illinois 60181-2696

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May 16, 2014

Dear Residents:

9.35 inches.

That's how much rain Villa Park received over a two-day period last April. More than 80 streets were flooded, 750 buildings affected, and numerous homeowners dealing with flooded basements and backed-up sewers.

### **Village is doing its homework to determine highest priority infrastructure needs.**

Since this disaster, the Village has been working with outside engineering firms to evaluate the status of our core infrastructure: streets, sanitary sewers, combined sewers and water mains. Among the studies that have been completed or are currently on-going include:

- **Pavement Management Study**, by Infrastructure Management Services and Robinson Engineering, to study the condition of the Village's streets via surface laser testing and deflection testing and develop a recommended street rehabilitation and maintenance plan
- **Stormwater Management Addendum**, by RJN Group, to study flows and overland flow routes in the combined sewer area of the Village (UPRR to Madison Street)
- **Sugar Creek Basin Flood Study**, by V3 Companies of Illinois, to study issues and identify improvements within the Sugar Creek Drainage Basin (Washington Street to Roosevelt Road, excluding Westland area)
- **Comprehensive Flood Plan**, by Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., to study the entire Village, excluding Sugar Creek drainage basin to identify problem areas and identify necessary improvements

### **Federal and state grant monies being sought to help offset cost of infrastructure improvements.**

In addition to evaluating the condition of our community's infrastructure, the Village has been aggressively pursuing federal, state and county grant monies to help offset the cost of future improvements. The Village Board has also been looking at local funding options to address our highest priority infrastructure needs.

### **Village focused on deteriorating streets and preventing future flooding.**

Time is of the essence. The longer we wait to tackle these projects, the more it will cost. This is especially true with regard to our streets, as they continue to rapidly deteriorate. Efforts to prevent future flooding is also another reason why the Village Board seeks to take action sooner rather than later.

### **Current sales tax insufficient to fund BOTH ongoing street maintenance and major reconstruction projects.**

The Village's 0.5% non-home rule sales tax (one-half of one cent sales tax) provides about \$1.4 million annually for street improvements. Unfortunately, these revenues are insufficient to tackle both maintenance/resurfacing

and reconstruction. Street reconstruction costs over million per mile, and street resurfacing costs approximately \$350,000 to \$450,000 per mile.

**Bond proposal to tackle street improvements being considered by Village Board.**

The Village Board is considering placing a \$25 million bond measure on the November 4, 2014 general election ballot. Proceeds of the bonds would be used to address street reconstruction, rehabilitation and resurfacing. Approximately \$750,000 of the existing sales tax revenues would be allocated toward annual contractual maintenance, including crack sealing, asphalt rejuvenation, patching and grind/overlay. The remaining sales tax revenues would go toward in-house street maintenance activities, engineering and local match for grant funded street reconstruction and rehabilitation projects. The estimated monthly tax impact of the proposed bonds is \$6.10 per \$100,000 of a home's market value.

**We value your thoughts and recommendations.**

The Village continues to reach out to our community to gather feedback on the new proposal to tackle our highest priority street improvements. We would greatly appreciate your participation in a community opinion survey that will be mailed to your home later this spring. We also invite you to attend one of our upcoming town hall meetings to discuss street improvements:

Thursday, May 29, 2014

6:30 p.m.

Iowa Community Center

338 North Iowa Avenue

Villa Park, Illinois

Thursday, June 12, 2014

6:30 p.m.

Iowa Community Center

338 North Iowa Avenue

Villa Park, Illinois

Thank you in advance for your thoughts and recommendations as we move forward in developing solutions to our community's highest priority infrastructure needs.

We remain committed to protecting the health, safety and security of our residents, preserving our public investments, protecting our quality of life and continuing to attract new businesses and jobs to our area.

Sincerely,



Deborah Bullwinkel

President

Village of Villa Park