



Greener Glenview Bulletin

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 2

Information, ideas, and events about environmental sustainability

CONSIDERING THE ENVIRONMENT IN GLENVIEW'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Recent actions by the Glenview Board of Trustees provide clues to village thinking about the role of the environment in its economic development plans. Will development plans be consistent with the goals of the Greenest Region Compact, and will the plans reflect current thinking about how development and the environment can exist harmoniously? What follows is a recap of recent actions. It is important to keep monitoring the implementation and progress of these developments.

Downtown Development ("D-D") Code amendments, adopted January 18, 2022

NOTE: Downtown" is defined as Glenview Rd. from Waukegan to Harlem, and Waukegan Rd. from Lake Ave. to Dewes.

D-D Code amendments are the last piece of a lengthy consulting and public engagement process that began in 2020. During this public engagement process, environmental concerns were raised by residents and trustees. Issues raised included: shade

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CONSIDERING THE ENVIRONMENT IN GLENVIEW'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS (CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

and impeded air circulation around buildings taller than 3 stories; pollution (air and noise) caused by density and traffic; parkway trees' need for space and light; the need for EV charging stations in new developments; pedestrian- and bike-friendly streets and sidewalks; sufficient parking overall.

According to Village staff, EV charging station requirements will not appear in the amended code but will be applied on a case-by-case basis.

One pivotal issue was not considered by the Village Board of Trustees. That issue is enforceable standards for how new structures will be built. While green building guidelines have been under development for several years, guidelines are optional. Will green building standards be adopted? This is a timely question in light of new state law.

Energy efficiency, electrical codes, and building performance standards will be changing dramatically over the next two years in accordance with the requirements of Illinois' Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA). CEJA became law in September 2021.

One of the most important provisions in the law for reducing greenhouse gas emissions relates to the development of "stretch" codes. A stretch code is an optional code that municipalities may choose to adopt if they want to take stronger action, resulting in buildings that achieve higher energy savings. A future Greener Glenview article will feature Stretch Codes in more detail.



CONSIDERING THE ENVIRONMENT IN GLENVIEW'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS (CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

I-294 On- & Off-Ramps, budget appropriations approved December 7, 2021



In June 2021, a \$226,703 contract was awarded for Phase I engineering studies of ramp alternatives located across the street from The Grove. In anticipation of future work on this project, \$420,000 was included in the 2022 budget. There are several environmental concerns here, an area already identified as a heat island. These include but are not limited to removal of trees and a wetland, impact on wildlife, noise, and emissions from idling vehicles at the new traffic signals as well as increased traffic on Milwaukee Avenue. Though this proposal was first made public in 2019, Glenview's need for these ramps has not been documented, to the best of our knowledge. The March Greener Glenview Bulletin will have an update on the status of this project.

Costco/Home Depot Access Road Roundabout, approved November 16, 2021

To address traffic flow and vehicle & cyclist safety issues, a roundabout has been approved for the intersection of the Costco, Home Depot, Costco Gas, and Harley Davidson (now owned by Costco) properties.



From the environmental perspective, the roundabout will be an improvement. Smoother traffic flow will reduce idling. The Village referred to case studies on the environmental impact of roundabouts (replacing traffic signals or stop signs) showing reduced carbon monoxide emissions by 15-45 percent, nitrous oxide emissions by 21-44 percent, carbon dioxide emissions by 23-34 percent, and hydrocarbon emissions by 0-40 percent. Constructing roundabouts in place of traffic signals or stop signs also reduced fuel consumption by an estimated 23-34 percent.

[Read more](#)

ACTION AT THE JANUARY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MEETING

Good news for tree lovers

Glenview is one step closer to having a new Urban Forestry Management Plan, which addresses the management of the 30,000 trees on Village public property. (The Glenview Park District has its own plan addressing trees on their properties.)

At its January meeting, the Environment and Natural Resources Commission (ENRC) approved the Plan. Next, the Plan will be submitted to the Village Board of Trustees for approval.

The plan is a joy to read for tree lovers. It sets goals and milestones in the next ten years to: diversify the tree canopy to avoid the devastating effects of such pests as emerald ash borer and Dutch elm disease; improve the health of Glenview's trees through best practices, such as avoiding "volcano mulching" and pruning more frequently; increase the public property tree canopy by 300 trees; and incentivize tree planting on private property. The Plan will be available to the public as part of an upcoming Village Board agenda.



ACTION AT THE JANUARY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MEETING

Private Property Tree Planting Incentive

The greatest potential for increasing Glenview's tree canopy is on private property, where 70% of the trees are located. The Village's 2022 budget includes \$50,000 to fund a Private Property Tree Planting Incentive Program. Staff is doing research and developing the program which will involve a cost-share with residents and businesses.



At its January meeting, the Environment and Natural Resources Commission (ENRC) approved the Plan. Next, the Plan will be submitted to the Village Board of Trustees for approval.

Learn to be a Tree Keeper



Openlands provides training (for a fee) for volunteers to earn certification in skills to support young trees. Training begins this spring. The ENRC hopes to arrange future opportunities for Tree Keepers to work alongside Public Works staff later in the year.

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) Regional Climate Action Plan

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact (GRC) was adopted by the Village of Glenview in November 2020. (Read about the GRC on [Greener Glenview's website](#).) Though the framework for implementing the GRC contained provisions addressing climate change, the MMC determined the need to create a comprehensive regional climate plan. That regional Climate Action Plan was rolled out this summer.

At an upcoming Village Board meeting, the ENRC will recommend that trustees support the MMC's Climate Action Plan framework.

ACTION AT THE JANUARY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MEETING

Save the pollinators, quietly!

A program called No Mow 'til Mothers Day has been successful in other towns in supporting pollinators such as bumblebees and improving the health of lawns, which are stressed by early spring mowing. No Mow 'til Mothers Day works like this: residents register with the Village, post a participation sign in their lawn, and then let the grass (and dandelions and violets) grow. Weed ordinances are not enforced during the allotted time for the program. The ENRC voted unanimously to take this idea to the Village Board of Trustees for approval and implementation. Stay tuned for more information.

[Read about the program in Westmont IL](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Greener Glenview Organizational Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 22 @ 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Sponsor: Greener Glenview

Online: [Register here](#)

Greener Glenview needs your ideas, time, and energy! We are looking for several board members and other volunteers who have the time and desire to help determine and execute our vision and priorities. If you have an interest in planning programs, policy, community outreach, advocacy, or other applicable skills, we hope you'll join us. By this date, Greener Glenview will know whether it received one or both of the Judy Beck Grants for which it applied. If awarded, learn how you can be involved with these projects. Please attend, even if all you want to do is listen!

[REGISTER](#) (in advance)

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Going Green Matters Series 2022: Solar for Homeowners

Date: Wednesday, February 23 @ 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Sponsors: Go Green Wilmette, Go Green Northbrook, Go Green Highland Park,
and Online: [Register here](#)

Find out how you can go solar! The webinar features Jay Futterman, an Illinois Solar Energy Association Solar Ambassador. Learn about rooftop solar installations and find out if it is right for you. Review how to use a solar calculator and how to find a reliable solar contractor. Learn how much solar panels cost and how much you might save. Hear from several solar homeowners. Learn about alternative ways to support renewable energy like leasing options and community solar.

[REGISTER](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friends of the Forest Preserve Stewardship Volunteer Work Days: February 2022

9:00 a.m. - Noon.

Advance registration is required.

Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie: Saturday, February 12

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Harms Flatwoods: Sunday, February 13

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Glenview Woods (Harms Woods): Saturday, February 19

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Watersmeet Prairie Grove: Saturday, February 19 & 26

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Blue Star Memorial Woods: Sunday, February 20

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