



**WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING*
Thursday, September 8, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.
Hubbard Woods Elementary School, 1110 Chatfield Rd.**

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda
3. Communications
4. Unfinished Business
 - a. Elder + Centennial
 - b. Proposed Board Approval Process for Elder and Centennial Improvements or Elder and Centennial Maintenance Projects**
 - c. KemperSports Contract
 - d. Alternate Golf Course Improvement Projects
5. New Business
 - a. Board of Commissioners Management Platform**
6. Remarks from Visitors
7. Matters from the Director
8. Board Liaison Reports
9. Staff Reports
10. Closed Session

The Board will enter Closed Session to discuss:

 - a. The purchase or lease of property - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
 - b. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6)
11. Adjournment

***Meeting recorded via Zoom**

To view the meeting via Zoom, sign in and enter Meeting ID # 813 1771 0843 and Passcode # 410000. To listen via phone, call +1.312.626.6799 and use the same meeting number and passcode. *Zoom is the platform used to video record the meeting. As such, the "chat" feature will not be monitored. Public comment will be accepted in person during Agenda Item 6 "Remarks from Visitors".*

****Item included in packet**

Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in meetings should contact, the Park District's ADA Compliance Coordinator, at the Park District's Administrative Office by mail at 540 Hibbard Rd, Winnetka, IL, by phone at 847-501-2040, Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or by email to lbaker@winpark.org at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for a qualified interpreter require five (5) working days advance notice.



WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT REMARKS FROM VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMENT

At regular Park Board meetings, there is an agenda item called Remarks from Visitors. Remarks may also be solicited at special meetings. Public hearings are specifically designed to seek feedback from the community.

If you have a question or concern and need to address the Board at any of these meetings, please comply with the basic guidelines below.

1. The Board President will chair the meeting.
2. Any resident or visitor wishing to address the Board, an individual Board member or a guest presenter, must direct their questions and comments to the President at the appropriate time or at the President's invitation.
3. The Board will hear a resident's or visitors comments only after the President has recognized the individual to speak.
4. Speakers are asked to state their name for the public record.
5. Speakers will be allowed three minutes and may not yield their time to other speakers.
6. Persons wishing to speak for a second time may do so with the consent of the President, only after all others have had an opportunity to address the Board.
7. Please refrain from comment or question at a Public Hearing until the presentation has been completed.
8. At the discretion of the Chair, you may be asked to submit your question in writing on a 3 x 5 card and you will receive a written response with one week of the hearing.

The President will strive to allow all residents and visitors equal opportunity to address the Board. In general the Board will not comment or respond to issues requiring Board consideration until the issue has been reviewed by the Board/staff.

The Board often has a full business agenda and must complete the work of the Park District at scheduled meetings. Please do not repeat comments or questions that have already been made by others and please do not interrupt commissioners or other speakers.

Updated 1/23/18

Libby Baker

From: Molly Krohe
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 9:54 AM
To: Libby Baker
Subject: Fw: Winnetka Park District Meeting Tomorrow, Thursday, August 18th, Washburne Middle School Auditorium, 6:00 PM.

Molly Krohe

Marketing Brand Manager

P: (847) 716-1294

E: mkrohe@winpark.org

Winnetka Park District | winpark.org

From: Your Winnetka Spot Check <yourwinnetka@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 2:36 PM
To: Molly Krohe
Subject: Winnetka Park District Meeting Tomorrow, Thursday, August 18th, Washburne Middle School Auditorium, 6:00 PM.

YourWinnetka
Working for ALL Winnetka

Winnetka Park District Meeting, Tomorrow,
Thursday, August 18th, 6:00PM
New Place: Washburne Auditorium,
Corner of Hibbard and Elm.

After a month's hiatus, the Winnetka Park Board's geared up and ready to roll.

[Here's the Agenda.](#)

Showing that they can walk and chew gum, a lot of stuff's on that agenda - like stormwater retention and the golf course reno. But if you're coming for the beachfront, here's what to expect:

- Item #6 - Comments from Visitors. 3-minute rule, mostly. Inside voices. Additional, not repeat, comments. If you've got something new to add, the mic's all yours. Public comment guidelines. Forewarned is forearmed.
- Item #10 - New Business - will lead off with the Lakefront. The Board's presenting a whopping 6 concepts and their projected costs. Check them out - Agenda pages 175-192. You have to wait to comment on them until item #14. Although that may change - Item #2 is "Additions or Changes to the Agenda."
- Eventually, the Board will go into Closed Session to discuss a number of things, including employment, litigation, purchase, lease or sale of property. No votes in closed session, so if one's necessary, you'll hear about it.

The Board plans to topline its Beachfront Options - an amalgam of their collective thinking, best practices, and resident input - and save the drill-down for the upcoming August 25th Lakefront Workshop. But resident comments could draw them deeper sooner.

In the Meantime, Here's Where Things Stand.

- The Park Board's going solo on any application to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and US Army Corps of Engineers, if and when the time comes. Expect the Property Owner to continue to dialog with the WPD and pitch any leftovers directly to the state and feds.
- Louvers are out, but maybe not so much the 30-foot planter pockets 100-feet into the water and the plants planted in them.
- No date published for the Land Swap, if it in fact is to be.
- Legal action hinted - perennially - but more saber-rattling than satisfaction.

To Refresh.

This project has generated a lot of work product, if little progress. And the WPD's published it on their website. Here are the highlights.

- The Master Plan - The Big Picture, including concept drawings of the combined Elder/Centennial Beach.
- The WPD's original plan for the combined beaches. Being revised even as we speak. WPD says "stay tuned."
- The Property Owner's "Last and Best Offer." Dated July 15th. Rejected? Yes, no, maybe.

- [The Exchange Agreement](#) - AKA The Land Swap that trades the property between the two beaches for a somewhat equal-sized piece of the south side of Centennial Park. The only piece of signed and legally binding paper. Although up for grabs being that both parties have failed - repeatedly - to officially call the other out on missed deadlines.
- [Past Park Board Meetings](#), including last month's Workshop.
- The WPD's [timeline](#) for getting to go. So far, they're on track.

Feeling like geeking out? [Here's your one-stop shop](#).

Can't Make the Meeting?

To attend via Zoom, sign in and enter **Meeting ID #885 7859 1317** and **Passcode #280372**. To listen via phone, call +1.312.626.6799 and use the same meeting number and passcode.

Otherwise, you can catch up when they post it in a day or two.

BTW - Four Park Board seats are up for grabs this year. At this point, not all incumbents intend to pony up for another term. Think you have the chops for the job? The Caucus is teeing up interviews even as we speak. Contact them for more information and/or an application - hello@winnetkacaucus.org

On the Agenda

Disclaimer: YourWinnetka is an independent non-partisan group from Winnetka, IL. We publish Spot Checks. We are not associated with any other on-line, print, or broadcast medium or newsletter.

[Meet The Team](#).

PS - Know a new resident who'd like to receive Spot Checks? Feel free to forward - or use the "subscribe" link below to add them to our list.

Remember, everyone you know is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind.

[Spot Checks](#) – the best way to get smart, stay smart, and make good decisions about the things that matter in Winnetka.

[Read past Spot Checks](#) and [Subscribe](#). You're welcome!



YourWinnetka
Working for ALL Winnetka.

YourWinnetka is a non-partisan information-services organization based in Winnetka, IL and dedicated to the belief that informed residents make for better government. Check us out at www.yourwinnetka.org.

YourWinnetka | PO Box 265, Winnetka, IL 60093

[Unsubscribe mkrohe@winpark.org](mailto:mkrohe@winpark.org)

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Warren James](#); [Christina Codo](#); [Mickey Archambault](#); [Eric Lussen](#); [Cynthia Rapp](#); [Colleen Root](#); [David Seaman](#)
Cc: [John Peterson](#); [Libby Baker](#); [Steven Adams](#)
Subject: Letter to the Winnetka Park Board of Commissioners for the 8-18-22 Board meeting
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 2:17:10 PM
Attachments: [Letter to the Winnetka Park Board of Commissioners 8-17-22 .pdf](#)

Hi John - please find attached a letter to the Winnetka Park Board of Commissioners. Would you please enter it into the public record? Thank you very much,
Vicki

Vicki Garrison Apatoff
[REDACTED]

Dear WPD Board of Commissioners

I look forward to seeing you all at the WPD Board meeting on Thursday August 18th. Thank you for the time you have spent serving the Winnetka Park District and your continued interest in listening to the voices of the residents of Winnetka.

In anticipation of Thursday's meeting, a few things have been brought to my attention that I thought may be of interest to you as you continue to work on the Elder Centennial Project.

From the Board comments at last month's meeting, it appears that many of the Board members favor the concept of sticking to the original land swap agreement negotiated between Orchard 2020 and the WPD with nothing changed or added and a letter has been sent to Orchard 2020 confirming same.

If the decision by the Board is to move forward with the land swap in its original format, additional information has come to light which needs due diligence before actually moving forward with any contract.

This information and your answers are important for helping the public better understand the process and to ensure it was done with the utmost transparency, care and attention to detail.

A decision of this magnitude, especially given the very large expenditure of taxpayer dollars, deserves continued scrutiny and I appreciate your taking the time to review these concerns and questions so that everyone has clarity going forward.

As good stewards of the public trust, would you please provide more detail regarding the following issues and concerns:

1. The minutes and associated files of the WPD Board meetings from 1969, which detail the process and procedure leading up to the acquisition of Centennial Park, have several notations about the intended use and plans for the park. Has the Board reviewed and addressed the following?:
 - A. The application to the State of Illinois, the National Park Service, IDOC and LWCF, says that no alterations may be made to Centennial Park, besides the approved use of the park for the public, without notifying the above in advance and getting permission to do so. (I am paraphrasing Libby Baker has the original document in the records for your review). Was the above required permission received by the government agencies to change the use of Centennial from public to private use before entering into an agreement with Orchard 2020?
 - B. Several items installed at Centennial Park were to be maintained "in perpetuity" by the WPD has that been accounted for?
 - C. The same minutes of the 1969 WPD Board show much detail as to the process and procedures that were demonstrated by the Board in order to get full support and provide transparency to the public before making a commitment to buy Centennial Park. There was first a petition presented and then a Village wide vote taken before the WPD Board would move forward. Given that Centennial was purchased for public use through a full vote of the public, should the public have to vote to undo that decision? With full community backing, the 1969 WPD Board invoked eminent domain and quickly worked out an arrangement with the owner of the parcel to sell it to the WPD. It was a very straightforward and uncomplicated process. Much discussion took place about the ability to save the lakefront and beach for public use and the greater good of the community. Did the current WPD Board thoroughly evaluate the opportunity to do the same eminent domain procedure with 261 Sheridan before involving private landowners in potential public land acquisition opportunities? Was a report done to

identify the cost, timing, etc of what it would entail to do eminent domain before choosing to enter into a contract with a private landowner and give up a public asset?

2. Two of the appraisals for the two separate parcels were performed by the same appraiser. Who recommended that the WPD use the same appraisal company as Orchard 2020? In talking to several local real estate agents, they said it is unusual to use the same appraiser and it could negatively affect the ability to receive an impartial appraisal. Given that Centennial is so undervalued vs 261 Sheridan, does it seem as if this may have been the case? Someone looking to purchase a 70 foot wide beachfront lot on Lake Michigan is unlikely to look at 261 Sheridan, with the dilapidated structure and all of the improvements needed to be done, as well as the less desirable beach and bluff, and come to the conclusion that 261 is worth twice as much as the same 70 foot beachfront at Centennial with its stately grove of trees, deeper beach and better maintained bluff. In addition, a beachfront lot at Centennial would be next to private property on the south side vs 261 which is in the middle of two public parks and beaches. I hope the Board has taken the time to fully vet these appraisals and they were very carefully scrutinized to ensure that they are a true accurate reflection of the value of one over the other. The Park District code does not specify the price of the property as the qualification for "substantially equal to or greater than the other". Many variables need to be weighed to come up with an accurate assessment that will stand up to public scrutiny. Can the Board certify that all considerations were taken into account when doing these calculations before entering into an agreement with Orchard 2020?
3. Did Orchard 2020 own 261 Sheridan when the WPD entered into a contract to trade a portion of Centennial? The WPD Board has stated that the deed was not received for 261 as promised. Did the WPD give the deed for Centennial to Orchard 2020?
4. The plats of survey used on the appraisals appear to evaluate the 261 Sheridan Road property to the waterline and the Centennial Park property to the bluff. Have you confirmed that the land being surveyed for valuation is "apples to apples" in terms of how the land is being measured? Waterlines are very fluid and subject to weather, seasons, tides, etc. If a property is to be valued to the waterline, should both be surveyed the same day so there is no chance of the waterline valuation affecting one over the other? Have both parcels each been surveyed to the bluff to compare the amount of table land square feet per parcel? As you know, this is not just beach property being swapped. The value and size of the table land to combine the parks must also be entered into the equation when meeting the Code requirements.
5. In addition, 2 years have passed since the appraisals and surveys were completed. Much has changed in the last two years since the original contract was written, especially in regards to the beach, the acquisition of 261, other parcels purchased south of Centennial and the economy. The conditions, as required in the policy and procedures for the WPD, are that 261 Sheridan Road be "substantially equal to or substantially greater" than the land at Centennial Park. Does the Board think it is prudent to use 2 year old appraisals and surveys in evaluating these parcels given all of the changes in circumstances since that time? If you tried to buy a house 2 years ago but didn't complete the contract and it came on the market again 2 years later, how likely would it be that any agent, bank or mortgage lender would accept appraisals or surveys that were two years old?
6. In evaluating whether 261 is "substantially equal to or greater" than Centennial, was the cost of making 261 as pristine as Centennial, with the grass, trees, walking paths, parking lot, tearing down the house, asphalt drive, fixing the bluff, etc factored into the dollar for dollar calculations?

7. The code requires that no taxpayer dollars be used in a land swap. Can the Board unequivocally state that this is the case and guarantee to the public that, in the end, the parcels will be exactly equal dollar for dollar given all of the mitigating factors involved in this deal? The public has not seen any costs associated with this project, although they were promised in a public board meeting over two months ago. Is the Board prepared to do a thorough analysis of the TOTAL costs expended to date and anticipated future costs before potentially violating the code requirement? Is the Board compliant with the code if it entered into a contract without completing this basic step?
8. The Policies and Procedures state that the WPD should have a land acquisition policy in place to guide decisions in these matters. Has the Board reviewed that policy and does the policy state that the Board should pursue land swaps which relinquish public land to private homeowners?
9. The contract for the Waterfront 2030 plan was awarded to Lakota Group after reviewing multiple bids. Were the bids reviewed and awarded solely by the WPD Board Commissioners at the time? Were any other Winnetka residents involved in the bid decisions? Did the winning bid, which went to Lakota, include designs or plans to build a wall on Centennial beach with steel "louvers" or any "planter pockets"? If not, please confirm that the engagement of a firm to produce new designs, resulting from the WPD involvement with Orchard 2020 and paid for by the taxpayers, was sent out to bid before hiring Lakota to do so. Did the Board confirm that all parties involved in hiring the winning bidder followed the Park Board code of ethic policies and disclosed in advance any family or business relationships between themselves and the winning bidder?
10. Did the Board make any attempt to educate the public as to the difference between a land swap and a land acquisition? To date, all of the information the WPD Board has used to justify the combining of the beaches and parks were from feedback in the Waterfront 2030 planning sessions done in 2015 and a consequent survey from a few years ago, which only asked the question "if given the opportunity would you like to acquire 261?". Has the Park Board ever queried the public with a question to ascertain: "Would you agree to give up a portion of Centennial Park and Centennial Beach in exchange for 261 Sheridan"? To my knowledge the following question nor the associated details/differences/costs have ever been posed to the public. Does the Board feel that it is justified in entering into a land swap when what it has been advertising to the public is a land acquisition?
11. Given the changes in the world since 2015, i.e., the demographics of the community, changes in use of space/land post Covid, economic and budgetary considerations, etc, does the Board feel that using data from 2015 7 years ago without getting a current survey, vote, referendum, etc to identify current interest in spending millions of taxpayer dollars to combine these properties is appropriate? If you polled the residents today, would you feel confident that the public would agree that it has been completely involved from day one in determining whether there is support for a land swap? Would you feel confident that the public would even support a land acquisition if a vote was taken today? Hopefully by now you have all seen the recent 2022 Winnetka Caucus survey and read the multitude of comments regarding the Elder Centennial project. This is the most current and accurate reflection of the state of mind of the community to date on this issue. The number of responders is greater than what has been used in the past by the WPD Board to justify the swap. It does not appear that the most recent data supports the WPD Board assumption that the public has accurate information about this project or is fully on board with this project. What does the Board plan to do to incorporate this new survey as well as all of the other public opposition to the plan that has been received since the plan became public knowledge in May of 2022?

Thank you for taking the time to review these many questions that have arisen since this issue was brought to the attention of the public. Due to the extensive deliberations and discussions that were done in Executive Session, the WPD Board did not have the benefit of public input throughout the process, which should have been standard procedure as a taxing body. Now we are playing "catch up". Hopefully as the public brings forth these questions, the WPD Board will be a collaborative partner to bring the public up to speed and garner confidence that the process, policies and procedures were all done according to the highest standards, which is no less than the residents would expect of the Winnetka Park District and its Board of Commissioners. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Best Regards,
Vicki Apatoff

The Fantasticks

now!
m/fix

Aug. 26, 27 and
Sept. 1, 2 & 3 @ 8pm
Aug. 28 & Sept. 4 @ 2pm

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED

Immediate
newspaper
carrier routes
available
throughout
Chicagoland

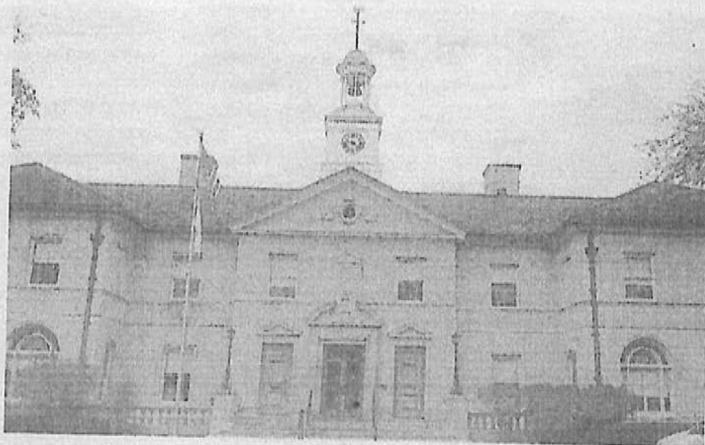
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PLEASE CALL

312-222-2803

or email

deliveries@chicagotribune.com

NEWS



The Winnetka Village Council approved on Tuesday the hiring of an administrative hearing officer, a move officials said is expected to save time and money for residents and others who are issued tickets.
**KAREN ANN CULLOTTA/
CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT

Multiple plans for Elder Lane/ Centennial without land swap

Workshop planned for Aug. 25

By Alex Hulvalchick

The Winnetka Park District Board of Commissioners is continuing to shape the plans for the Elder Lane and Centennial Beach renovation projects with several plans for each beach available for the public to consider.

Six plans for Centennial Beach and three for Elder Lane Beach have been released by the park board, all of which do not include land that would be in possession of the Park District if the land swap between it and lakefront property owner Justin Ishbia, who owns several properties just south of the two beaches, were completed.

Discussion regarding the plans was kept to a minimum during the Aug. 18 Winnetka Park District Board meeting.

Board President Warren James told the audience that commissioners did not intend to discuss the plans during the meeting and instead are holding discussion for the Thursday, Aug. 25 workshop session. He said that the nine plans along with their cost estimates were included in the meeting packet and asked residents to look them over before the workshop.

"I've learned a lot in the course of this process since we began with our public commentary back in March," said Winnetka Park District Board Vice President Christina Codo. "I think that you can see we've made some progress, we've made some big changes. The louvers are gone. The walls are gone. The planter pockets are gone."

Codo said that current discussions revolve around the use of stone versus steel and the separation of the original plan into two separate projects.

Residents can also bring their own plans to the workshop session or submit them to the park board to be considered for discussion.

"Anybody else that wants to come up with plans and present plans during the workshop session, that's the purpose," said James. "I appreciate everyone's comments. We are listening."

Residents continue to express their concerns over the land swap and inability to use Elder Lane Beach, which has been closed to the public for three years.

"It is crystal clear that while the community may like the idea of unifying the parks, we do not support the swap agreement nor do we support the park board's current plan for developing Elder/Centennial," said resident Randy Whitchurch. "Fix and open Elder Lane Beach. It's been closed for three years; that's not OK."

He said that the new plan needs to be cost effective and completed in a manner that serves the real needs of the community and not "some fever dream of real estate overdevelopment."

Whitchurch said the community opposes the land swap due to future costs to the village, hidden obligations and that the board would be swapping away the best part of Centennial Park.

Resident Irene Smith referenced the results of the village's 2022 caucus survey which had numerous negative comments about previous lakefront plans.

"However, whereas there was resoundingly positive feedback in 2021 on the transformative work the Park District did at Lloyd Beach, the feedback from the community regarding Elder/Centennial can best be described (in polite company) as 'go back and sharpen your pencil,' " read part of the 2022 caucus survey summary. "While there is continued support for the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 plan, the community places a premium on shoreline access and views, as well as people over pets."

"I'd like to suggest tonight that Winnetka residents do not want any of this," said Smith referring to the land swap.

John Peterson

From: Your Winnetka Spot Check <yourwinnetka@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 6:57 AM
To: John Peterson
Subject: Done! Stormwater Solution for W/SW Winnetka.

Your Winnetka

Working for All W

Spot Check: The Plan, the Quid Pros, the Sigs, and finally the Money.
Stormwater Solution, Giddy-up!

*Sometimes you're the windshield, sometimes you're the bug.
Sometimes it all comes together...*

- "The Bug"
Mark Knopfler, 1992

On Wednesday, July 13th. 4:00 PM, Little Duke Field, It all came together. Winnetka's Stormwater Solution finally went shovel to dirt. Winnetka, bugged no more.



Source: Village of Winnetka

A Century of Problems – Decades of Attempts – 11 Years of Deals.

Finally, the End of our Rain-soaked, Waterlogged Lives.

It rains. But in Winnetka, the perfect storm of climate change, unfortunate geography, and infrastructure in need of some love made our little piece of heaven a place you just didn't want to be when the skies darkened and Weather Bug got antsy.

ICYMI -

- July 23rd, 2016 – 5" in 6 hours
- April 8, 2013 – 3.5" in 12 hours (ground was saturated. Water went overland.)
- July 22&23, 2011 – 6.49" in 3.5 hours
- September 13-15, 2008 – 8.19" in 36 hours
- August 2, 2002 – 5.44" in 6 hours



Source: Village of Winnetka

It's the kind of rain that crashed through window wells, gushed from floor drains, burned out backups, and made paddling puppies and kids in kayaks way less charming than you might think.

It's Called *Crow Island*.

Winnetka – especially West and Southwest Winnetka – has been water-challenged for at least a century. (If you moved here within the past 5 years, trust us.) Stuff's been tried, the most ambitious – and recent – of which was a plan to dump the top, and dirtiest, 2" of our stormwater run-off into Lake Michigan via an 8-foot-diameter tunnel. Scrapped for the obvious, the Village Council set its sights west. And sent then-Trustee Rintz to check the pulse of the Cook County Forest Preserve.

Deals, Dominos, Deliverables.

Wondering what took so long? Dominos with deal-loving decision-makers.

- Connections met curiosity. After months of our knock-knock-knocking, the Cook County Forest Preserve (CCFP) opened the door. A crack. Had conditions. Had needs. Clean your water and we'll see what you can do for us.

- A man on a mission met engineers with cred for clean water. After 18 months of analysis and resident interviews, Strand and Associates delivered 129 pages of a cost-conscious, environmentally responsible "elegant plan" to capture, store, cleanse, and release it into the Skokie Lagoons and eventually, the Forest Preserve. Using gravity. And pipes. (No new pumps. They break, and cost.) And above- and underground storage.
- Winnetka's built out – no land to store anything anywhere. But New Trier, D36 School District, and New Trier had lots of it. Just right for engineered storage. And needs. More knocking. More see-what-you-can-do-for-us's.
- Back to CCFP with proof of concept. Good faith effort met good faith handshake [AKA MOU]. Lock it in and we'll look again.
- Two storms and hundreds of miffed residents later, the locals tee'd up their to-dos and were ready to talk.
- Two more years of intergovernmental back-and-forths. Eventually, New Trier got a reno'd playfields with expanded facilities, D36 got a reno'd playfield, potential for expansion, potential zoning relief. And in the mother-of-all gets, the Winnetka Park District got a reno'd golf course with improved fairways, restored bunkers, improved grading designed by one fo the country's best course designers.
- Ducks in a row, back to the CCFP. Signed, sealed, and eventually to be delivered: A state-of-the-art wetland, including an "open water feature," sedge meadow, and wildlife and environmental protections up the whazoo. A monumental intergovernmental agreement, the likes of which Cook County may never have seen before.

And the money...? No buzz-kill there.

\$75.7MM Pricetag. 92.7% of it in the Boat.



\$5.5MM to go, five years to get it, and a vow to "leave no stone unturned." Our money's on the guy who rode this for 11 years.

Not Just a West/Southwest Winnetka Problem.

You may not live there, but a lot of your stuff is on the other side of that standing two feet of H₂O. Think: School, summer camp, errands, the office. If you can't get there, you can't get it done.

Fixes for the Rest of Town.

Waiting for The Solution, the Village one-offed like crazy. That infrastructure in need of some love? Found it in the \$16.5MM use-it-or-lose-it Stormwater Utility Fund.

- Ash Street got a pump station to help move water from the Ash/Hibbard neighborhood.
- Spruce Street got two outlets – at Tower and Maple – to reduce flooding in NE Winnetka.
- Greenwood/Forest Glen got a new storm sewer system that relieved overland flooding and helped drain NW Winnetka.
- Boal Parkway got a new pump station that helped relieve its flooding and ponding.
- Lincoln Avenue parking lot got permeable pavers that helped reduce flooding on Lincoln Avenue.
- The Village's sewer and manhole system was relined making the entire system less "leaky."
- The Village reinstated incentives for residential backflow prevention and overhead sewers.

Patience, W/SW. Your ship has finally come in.

Bye-Bye Stanley Steamer – Hello Game-Day, Movie-Night-Ready Mancave.

It's out there – another storm-with-our-name-on-it. But with the upstream fixes in place, only W/SW's water will be W/SW's problem.

Once this project is done, even that water will get gone quicker and more completely. (And according to the Village Engineers, more cost-effectively and relatively maintenance-free minus periodic cleaning and rodding, and filter checks.)

As long as your own stuff's in order, flooded-basement-generated curb trash will be a part of somebody else's script.

Eyes on the Prize.

It's not hyperbole. This is the biggest thing since they buried the UP tracks. (Yes, there was a time when the Metra ran right through the center of town. Not good for horses, cars, or little old ladies.) And you'll believe it when your part of town – or your route – is plastered with detour signs.

The project is "expected to take several years." But if Prez Rintz and Co can spend 11 years getting this far, who can't take a breath to bring it home? NTL, the Village feels your pain and sends this:



What's being done, and what to expect. For the life of the project. Most of all, when your street – or one you need – will be dug up.

(Psst: If the code doesn't work for you, bookmark the Village's [construction updates](#).)

Feeling an "Attaboy?"

Prez Rintz would be the first to admit he didn't fly solo. Trustee Cripe was also on-point. And the rest of the Village Council had their backs.

Feeling a little "attaboy?" Here you go:

[Email all council members](#).

A la carte:

[Chris Rintz](#)

[Rob Apatoff](#)

[Andrew Cripe](#)

[Tina Dalman](#)

[Bob Dearborn](#)

[John Swierk](#)

Operators are Standing By

PS - Trustee Cripe's terming out. Big shoes. But if you think you've got the chops, a skill the Council could use, or been looking for a way to serve Winnetka, the Caucus Council's taking applications. To request one, or just to chat about what it takes, hello@winnetkacaucus.org.

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Centennial, Elder Beach Properties Issue Goes To Winnetka Residents

Residents can view design options of the properties as the Park District attempts to close a land swap deal with a Chicago billionaire.



Jeff Arnold, Patch Staff

Posted Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 2:50 pm CT

Reply (1)



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Winnetka residents will have the opportunity to choose between design plans for two local beaches and parks, including Elder Park Beach at a Thursday night workshop session. (Winnetka Park District)

WINNETKA, IL — After two years of uncertainty and negotiating with a billionaire who has purchased beachfront property along the Lake Michigan shoreline, Winnetka Park District officials are hoping to move one step closer to a plan to settle the issue of a land swap on Thursday night once and for all.

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The Park District will host a workshop at 6 p.m. Thursday night to present plans for nine [options for the beaches](#) at Elder and Centennial parks to residents. Officials with the park district are hoping that the public can reach a consensus on which plan to move ahead with before the park board takes the plan back to Chicago resident and business executive Justin Ishbia, who has purchased four homes in Winnetka.

Ishbia purchased homes, three of which are built next to one another while the fourth is separated from the other three by Centennial Park. What started as a cut and dry land swap deal in 2020 between Ishbia and the park district has turned into nearly two years of contentious negotiations that have walked the park board up to the brink of litigation.

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The deal was to provide Ishbia with a southern strip to Centennial park in exchange for the land where one of the homes, located at 261 Sheridan Road, sits. By doing so, the park district would be able to pick up the property where Elder Park sits and create a large site that would include a park and beach, officials said.

But since then, details of how everything would come together have caused the initial deal to break down, leaving both sides frustrated. Park District approved the nine options at its meeting last week and will now go to residents, hoping to finally get some closure in a situation that Park District President Warren James said needs to be resolved.

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The options that will be presented at Thursday's workshop session include three designs for the Elder Park property and six for Centennial, James said this week. The session is also expected to include 1-2 citizen-submitted proposals all in the name of finally getting a deal done.

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Centennial Park Beach is one of the two properties being discussed at a Thursday night workshop session as Winnetka Park District board members attempt to close a land swap deal with billionaire Justin Ishbia. (Winnetka Park District)

James said the park district ultimately wants to settle on a design that is most consistent with the village's Lakefront Master Plan, which was developed in 2015 and formally adopted in 2016. While that's the plan of attack for the board, which James told Patch, plans to move ahead with the land exchange deal with Ishbia, the final design plans for both of the beaches should not be influenced by one person.

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But getting to that point has created a lot of angst for local residents and a series of negotiations between the park district and Ishbia. Crain's Chicago reported last month that Ishbia — [the founding partner](#) of Chicago-based Shore Capital Partners private equity firm — and his wife spent \$24 million on lakefront property in Winnetka before spending another \$16 million for the additional home.

Ishbia — who is worth an estimated \$1.3 billion according to Forbes — told Crain's in July that he and his wife plan to [move ahead with their building plans](#) to construct a home on a more than 3-acre plot of land that covers 195, 203, and 205 Sheridan Road.

He added: "I wanted to do something good for Winnetka", but he also told Crain's that he was not going to allow the park district to create a "crown jewel" of a beach that would bring hundreds of visitors each day and impede on his family's privacy.

James said this week that like Ishbia, the board wants to move ahead with the deal.

“Our objective is to move ahead with these plans and complete the (land) exchange,” James told Patch on Tuesday. “But to complete the exchange in accordance with the original terms of the agreement, which was a very clean, simple land swap with no strings attached.”

He added: “(But) I’m disappointed it has gotten this complicated. It should have been a simple exchange.”

James said that once Winnetka residents approve one of the design plans, it will be up to Ishbia to determine if he wants to move ahead with the deal.

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Thursday's workshop comes more than a year after the Park District Board voted to pursue litigation. Those plans were met, James said, with Ishbia countering with an ultimatum, to which the board essentially said, "no deal."

Ishbia did not terminate the agreement which has led to what James characterizes as a protractive negotiation ever since. The negotiations began after the seven-member park district board decided it was not in their best interest to sue to billionaire, which would lead to a lengthy and costly legal battle over a deal that the park district is now seeking to close.

Ultimately, it will be up to Ishbia if he wishes to proceed after the public has its chance to weigh in on the matter.

The design options include a minimalist design that would limit the work completed at the site and then others that James said are more in keeping with the Lakefront Master Plan. That plan included a scenario in which the two beaches would be combined and another where the two beaches would remain separate sites.

The combined beach site would include availability for activities such as swimming and paddleboarding, James said. One of the plans that will be up for public discussion on Thursday is an option that incorporates a dog beach at the far south end of Centennial Park.

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Heading into the workshop, James said the park district remains "ready, willing, and able" to move ahead with the land swap if Ishbia is able to live with public opinion on the property.

"I think the board is looking to find consensus around one of these options — one for Elder and one for Centennial," James told Patch. "The board is eager to find consensus (but) I do not feel like we will be able to satisfy everyone because there are too many (different) views.

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“But I’m looking to find the greatest good for the most people ...knowing inherently that not everyone is going to be satisfied.”

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John Peterson

Subject: FW: Workshop Thursday at 6pm

From: Victoria Garrison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 5:46 PM
To: John Peterson <JPeterson@winpark.org>
Cc: Warren James <WJames@winpark.org>; Christina Codo <CCodo@winpark.org>; Costa Kutulas <CKutulas@winpark.org>; Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org>
Subject: Workshop Thursday at 6pm

Hi John,

As you know, I have written several times to express my disappointment at the quality of the sound both during the meetings in person and on zoom.

At the last 8 meetings, it is sometimes impossible to hear several of the Commissioners and many of the public comments. Several people were asking in the chat room at the last zoom session for someone to correct the problem, but there was no response.

Attending the meeting or watching online is futile if nothing can be heard. I am sure that the WPD Board does not want the public to miss out on any portion of the meeting due to something as easy to fix as providing good and reliable sound quality.

Libby explained that you have new microphones but it appears that they are not working based on my observations at the last few meetings.

Would someone please take the time tomorrow to direct the Commissioners and others who may be presenting to talk clearly and directly into their microphones when speaking? It may be necessary to give reminders throughout the evening. Libby and I also discussed making sure someone is available to watch the chat room or have a text number where anyone on zoom could notify the WPD that the sound is not working.

The Park Board has had a lot of issues with public trust and confidence. The public meetings had never been recorded until recently. The sound problems have been going on for months. What is the message being sent to the public by not providing full access to the Park Board meetings when the other three taxing bodies in Winnetka have figured out a way to successfully do both?

There is a very large project being discussed with great consequences to the future of Elder/Centennial Beach and Park and much interest by the public.

After being cut out of the process for the first almost two years, we are playing catch up.

Not allowing the public to hear the meeting does not seem fair to the public or the process.

Thank you for your help in resolving this issue, hopefully in time for the workshop meeting Thursday. I am happy to help in any way.

Vicki Apatoff
[REDACTED]

Would you please add this note to the public record? Thank you very much.

66

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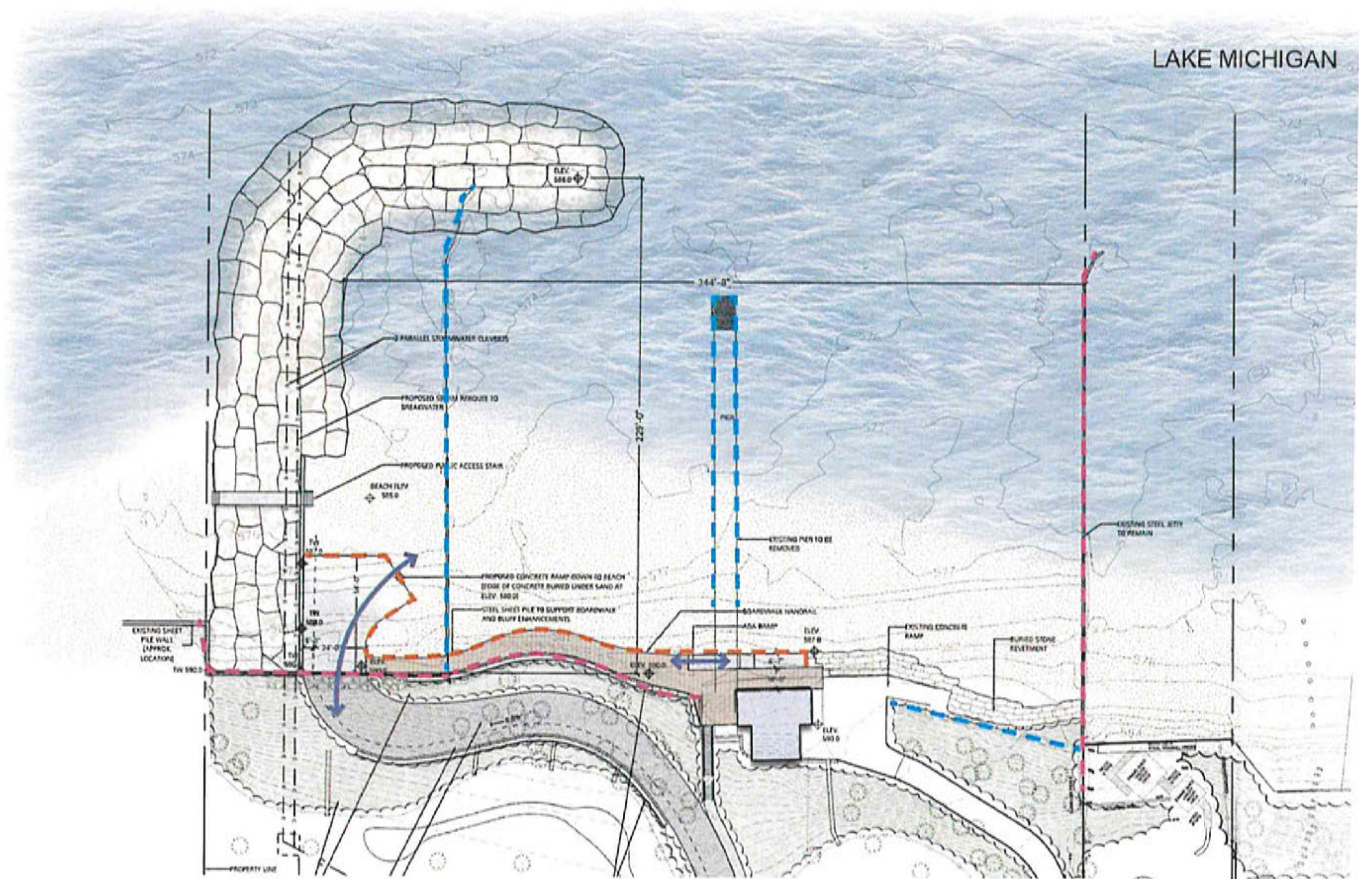
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One of three new ideas for Elder Beach. | IMAGE FROM WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT

Winnetka, News

Residents encouraged to review new concepts for Winnetka beaches on



Thursday, Aug. 25

By Joe Coughlin | 10:27 p.m. August 22, 2022



A billionaire and a beachfront has made for compelling drama for the past few months, but the Winnetka Park District is preparing for what to do in case of a breakup.

Park officials presented nine new lakefront concepts to the Winnetka Park Board on Thursday, Aug. 18, that are more flexible in order to accommodate circumstances if a controversial land swap with resident Justin Ishbia does not go through.



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The ideas, along with their cost estimates, will be the subject of a public lakefront workshop at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, at Hubbard Woods School.

Ishbia, who owns land in between Elder and Centennial parks, and the Winnetka Park District reached a tentative agreement to trade property in 2020. The two sides have been in negotiations ever since.

With the swap, and Ishbia's influence, in mind, the park district developed a combined-beach proposal that included a steel barrier around the project's

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By Martin Carlino | 2 days ago

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perimeter. The barrier and other aspects of the plan were heavily criticized by residents and local officials and the proposal was axed in June.

The park district has since developed new plans specific to both Elder Beach (three designs) and Centennial Beach (six designs) for if the deal with Ishbia falls through and he is still owner of the in-between lot. Estimates for the Elder concepts range from \$1.6 million to \$7.4 million, while the Centennial concepts range from \$302,800 to \$4.9 million.

In all of the proposed designs, the steel barriers

and planter boxes, both of which faced scrutiny, are removed.

At Elder, the least-elaborate concept is highlighted by bluff restoration, a stone revetment and pier repairs, while possible improvements in the other plans include a stone breakwater stretching into the lake, a new pedestrian path to the beachfront and a boardwalk.

For Centennial Beach, bluff restoration is the bulk of the minimalist plan, while other concepts include everything from new breakwater to a reconfigured walking path.

The concepts presented at Thursday's open workshop will also include two proposals from residents. The proposal from Chuck Dowding — an engineer, professor emeritus at Northwestern University, and chairman of the town's environmental and forestry commission — goes without a stone breakwater and revisits early ideas of an outfall pipe.

At the final workshop on Thursday, residents can offer their feedback to park officials, including staff members, commissioners and consultants. In September, the Park Board plans to present amended

designs that reflect the
community's input.

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Tags **Winnetka** News

Joe Coughlin

Joe Coughlin is a co-founder and the editor in chief of The Record. He leads investigative reporting and reports



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Warren James](#); [Christina Codo](#); [Mickey Archambault](#); [Eric Lussen](#); [Cynthia Rapp](#); [Colleen Root](#); [David Seaman](#)
Cc: [Libby Baker](#); sadams@robbins-schwartz.com; [John Peterson](#)
Subject: Transparency regarding upcoming meeting
Date: Sunday, August 28, 2022 3:35:34 PM

Dear Winnetka Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing you to let you know that there is a voice in the young community and I may be that voice. I cannot express how often I am asked about the Elder-Centennial project and where it stands. Countless thanks have come to me for sticking with the issue, despite having small children and working as a full-time physician.

At the the WPD Board meeting I attended on August 25, WPD Board President James stated that he and Commissioner Root will be meeting with Mr. Ishbia on Tuesday morning August 30. I have been considering the ethics behind this meeting. Over the last few WPD board meetings, the rules of meeting with the public have become quite clear... 2 commissioners need to be present.

Commissioner Root commented that she was not comfortable meeting at Mr. Ishbia's office and if that was the final location she would only be able to attend by Zoom. That is the proper response and the very least the public should expect from its representatives. However, it would not meet the transparency test if President Warren and Commissioner Root were not in the same room during the meeting as both need to ensure that no actions are taking place without each other's full scrutiny. Mr. Ishbia's office seems an inappropriate choice for WPB Board members to be meeting given the comments by several Board members expressing their displeasure with Mr. Ishbias prior actions to date. Why isn't the meeting in the Park District HQ where the project funding is coming from and the staff is available? In response to public outcry regarding the lack of transparency regarding these negotiations, the WPD Board directed President James and Commissioner Root to be together when meeting with Mr. Ishbia. Of course the public would expect that President James give the upmost courtesy to the wishes, comfort and ethical concerns of one of his own Board colleagues before the wishes of a private resident, especially one who may want to garner favors from the WPD. Why does Mr. Ishbia get a special meeting to see the new plans and be treated with favors status over his fellow residents? He should be treated no differently than the rest of the taxpayers, who were expected to sit in an auditorium for 4 hours to give input. Will he get the exact same presentation as we saw? Although the WPD Board promised that August 25 would be a workshop, very late in the game it was converted to a Special Board meeting and President James said only the Board could comment on the plans. Can we assume the same will be required of Mr. Ishbia? All of this seems unusual since the Board has told Mr. Ishbia they are no longer interested in negotiating and he "can take the existing PEA agreement or nothing". If the Board stated this to the public, why is the WPD still meeting with Mr. Ishbia?

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and please advise as to where the meeting will be help on Tuesday morning.

Thank you,

Stephanie Heraty

From: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Warren James](#); [Christina Codo](#); [Mickey Archambault](#); [Eric Lussen](#); [Cynthia Rapp](#); [Colleen Root](#); [David Seaman](#)
[John Peterson](#); [Libby Baker](#); [Steven Adams](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter for the Record plus FOIA Request
Date: Sunday, August 28, 2022 8:41:02 AM

At last week's Special Board Meeting (which was supposed to have been a workshop) I asked if you intended to do an environmental impact study for the beach project you are proposing, and for the land only building process you are suggesting.

Commissioner James replied he wasn't required to do an environmental study.

As someone who lives across from the parks and who travels on the roads that you propose to transport tons of rocks on, we remain concerned what the impact of the construction phase of these projects will be on the roadways, much less the densely populated neighborhood that is adjacent. (As a reminder, the people West of the Park are neighbors too!)

Chuck Dowding commented in his presentation that his minimalist approach did not include an access road because he believes that doing so would cause significant damage to the bluff and could destabilize it.

To that end we are requesting the following:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information act, please provide all documentation and communications, including but not limited to written, email, text messages, studies, reports or other relevant materials to show:

1. A thorough comparison of costs between marine based and land based options to transport rock specific to the Elder/Centennial Beach and Park project for purpose of building breakwater structures. These should include recent quotes from at least two sources of each and provided by the actual transport companies, not a third party consultant.
2. Any studies done to show the cost and other impacts of the project to the surrounding neighborhood, including what costs would be incurred by the Village of Winnetka if a land based transport option was chosen over marine barge.
3. The studies quoted at the August 25 WPD Board meeting which show the benefits, advantages and disadvantages over the various types of rocks (ie limestone vs quartz, etc) used in breakwater constructions.
4. The engineering reports related to the information provided by Jon Shabica during his presentation which show that the breakwater designs used in the most recent plans provided at the August 25th meeting are the best and state of the art and most proven design to preserve sand on the beach and prevent erosion.
5. All evidence to prove the WPD Board contention that no environmental impact study is needed to construct this project.
6. All reports, analysis and details of how creating an access road down the bluff to the lake to transport the rocks will prove that there will be no adverse affect to the bluff or the table land of the park.
7. The Burke engineering report on relocation of the existing stormwater pipe and any information regarding costs associated with the relocation as well as any and all communications with the Village of Winnetka regarding the stormwater drain at Elder Beach, and any and all communications with John and/or Fran Edwardson or their representatives regarding the stormwater pipe.
8. All studies that have been done to show that no part of the construction process will negatively impact any of the native habitats, species, water quality or other key environmental considerations, including studies to show the effects of such construction as it relates to the seasonal changes and nature of the habitats.

Respectfully,
Judy and Jim Rauh

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Libby Baker](#)
Cc: [John Peterson](#)
Subject: Calendar and Workshop confusion
Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 3:22:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Libby -

I appreciate the time you took to explain this to me. As you know, the average resident does not understand which calendar is the "correct" one and why one or both would not be up to date. Both calendars take several clicks to reach and very few people would know there are two on the website with differing information.

Because the website is difficult to navigate, the information regarding the Elder Centennial issue has been very difficult to traverse. It seems as if it would be very helpful to the residents if something was posted on the front page, as has been requested many times.

Also, I think calling the August 25 meeting a workshop is inaccurate. Although the public was told it would be a workshop, everyone in attendance was surprised to see the agenda actually said "Special Board Meeting". A real workshop, as promised, should still be forthcoming or the WPD Board has not lived up to its commitments to the public.

I understand Scott Freres asked the Board to announce at the start of the meeting that it was not going to be a workshop, but they chose to ignore his wishes, so the public was unaware until the very end that it would not get any input. There was not even an opportunity for public comments at the end, which in the past was always available. That does not seem in keeping with the transparency and listening that the Board is advertising.

I know this is not your issue, so would you please share this email with each member of the Board and enter it into the public records?

Thank you very much for all your hard work on behalf of the Winnetka Park District.

Vicki

Vicki Garrison Apatoff

[REDACTED]

On Aug 31, 2022, at 2:20 PM, Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org> wrote:

Hi Vicki,

Thank you for your confirmation of the requested information. I hope to be in touch real soon regarding the beach reports, and either John Peterson or I will be in touch regarding the questions you posed in your August 17 email.

As far as the conflicting meeting schedules, the Proposed Workshop Schedule posted on the lakefront page is just that, a proposed schedule. The meeting dates for September have just been reaffirmed. The board will meet as originally scheduled; Committee of the Whole September 8 and Regular Board September 22. Both meetings will be held in the

auditorium of Hubbard Woods School.

For now, the October board meetings will be held as originally scheduled, Committee of the Whole October 13 and Regular Board October 27. Those meetings will also be held in the Hubbard Woods School auditorium. An email communication will be sent to our contact list Friday with a recap of the August 25 workshop and details about upcoming meetings and events.

Libby

From: Victoria Garrison [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 12:34 PM
To: Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org>
Cc: John Peterson <JPeterson@winpark.org>
Subject: Re: Request for Beach Information

Hi Libby -

My notes next to your questions in red - I appreciate your taking the time to clarify as it is easy to lose track given our back and forth, email site down, etc.

Below the FOIA notes from you, I also have a question about the meeting dates posted on the WPD website.

Thank you very much for your assistance with all of these details.

Vicki

First topic: *beach usage*

On another note, I was reviewing my FOIA notes and I'm not sure that I/we ever provided a response specific to your August 10, 2022 request for a copy of the environmental impact study that was done for the Elder Centennial project. Assuming we have not previously responded, the response is we do not have an environmental impact study for the Elder Centennial project.

Correct me if I am wrong, but I believe the only other outstanding items include:

- A *new* report of the daily number of season pass holder visits for 2021. **No need for this report - will be part of the other two requested reports.**
- The number of visitors to each beach: Lloyd, Elder, Maple, Centennial and Tower, by month, for each year

2010 - 2022. **Correct**

- The number of swimming beach, boat launch, PWC, and dog beach passes sold each year, 2010 - 2022. **Correct**
- Details regarding issues and concerns listed in your August 17, 2022 letter to the WPD Board of Commissioners. **Correct**

Second topic: *conflicting calendars on the WPD website:*

one page of the website says September 8 is a Committee Mts, the other pages says its a committee meeting and special board meeting

one page has a workshop on the 15th of September, the other does not.

one page says October 13 is a regular board meeting - the other says its a committee meeting.

Would you please send me an up to date calendar for September and October that has the correct dates, what type of meeting is being held, locations and times?

Thanks again, Vicki

September 8	Board Committee Meeting		
September 22	Regular Board Meeting		
October 13	Board Committee Meeting		
October 27	Regular Board Meeting		
November 3*	Board Committee Meeting		
November 17*	Regular Board Meeting		
December 1*	Board Committee Meeting		

https://www.winpark.org/wp-content/uploads/WinnetkaParkDistrict_WorkshopMeetingSchedule_final.pdf

September 2022

- September 8, 2022: During the Committee of the Whole/Special Board Meeting, and using the input from the July and August meetings, staff will present to the Board the breakwater design for Elder Lane Beach and the breakwater design for Centennial Beach. (Meeting location TBD)
- September 15, 2022: Special Board Meeting Workshop Session (**ONLY IF NECESSARY**)
- September 22, 2022: Regular Park Board Meeting (Meeting location TBD)

October 2022

- October 13, 2022: Regular Park Board Meeting (Meeting location TBD)
- October 20, 2022: Special Board Meeting Workshop Session (**ONLY IF NECESSARY**)
- October 27, 2022: Regular Park Board Meeting (Meeting location TBD)

An updated timeline will be developed if more meetings are required.

Lakefront design materials for the workshop session(s) will be posted one week prior to the workshop(s) under the Elder Lane + Centennial Project header of the Waterfront 2030 landing page on the Winnetka Park District's website: <https://www.winpark.org/park-district-info/plans-projects/waterfront-2030/>.

On Aug 30, 2022, at 11:20 AM, Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org> wrote:

Good morning Vicki,

Yes, Lloyd will be added and the timeframe will be updated to include 2010 – 2022.

On another note, I was reviewing my FOIA notes and I'm not sure that I/we ever provided a response specific to your August 10, 2022 request for a copy of the environmental impact study that was done for the Elder Centennial project. Assuming we have not previously responded, the response is we do not have an environmental impact study for the Elder Centennial project.

Correct me if I am wrong, but I believe the only other outstanding items include:

- A *new* report of the daily number of season pass holder visits for 2021.
- The number of visitors to each beach: Lloyd, Elder, Maple, Centennial and Tower, by month, for each year 2010 - 2022.
- The number of swimming beach, boat launch, PWC, and

- dog beach passes sold each year, 2010 - 2022.
- Details regarding issues and concerns listed in your August 17, 2022 letter to the WPD Board of Commissioners.

Vicki, please let me know if I have missed anything. Thanks

Libby

From: Apatoff Vicki [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 9:24 PM
To: Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org>
Cc: John Peterson <JPeterson@winpark.org>
Subject: Re: Request for Beach Information

Hi Libby- I greatly appreciate your attention to detail with this request.
Would you mind changing *2015 thru 2022* to *2010 thru 2022*?
And would you please add Lloyd Beach to the list of beach usage data requests?
Thank you very much,
Vicki

Vicki Garrison Apatoff
[REDACTED]

On Aug 29, 2022, at 8:52 PM, Libby Baker <LBaker@winpark.org> wrote:

Hello again Vicki,

This email confirms the receipt of your request dated and received by the Winnetka Park District August 26, 2022, for beach usage numbers for each beach from 2015-2022, and beach, boat and dog passes sold each year and attendees at each beach by month not day. Although you have not specifically stated it, your request is treated as a Freedom of Information Act request, and a response will be provided within the required timeframe.

My understanding of your request is that you are looking for:

1. The number of visitors to each beach: Elder, Maple, Centennial and Tower, by month, for 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.
2. The number of swimming beach, boat launch, PWC, and dog beach passes sold in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Please confirm I have accurately reflected the information you would like to receive.

Thank you,

Libby A. Baker, CPRP

Office Associate + FOIA Officer

M – Th, 8:30a – 4:30p

P: 847.501-2076

E: lbaker@winpark.org

Winnetka Park District | winpark.org

<image001.png>

From: [John Peterson](#)
To: [Libby Baker](#)
Subject: FW: please make sure this goes into permanent records as saying NO to WALL.
Date: Thursday, September 1, 2022 9:56:59 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

John Peterson

Executive Director

Office: +1.847.501.2074

Email: jpeterson@winpark.org

Winnetka Park District | winpark.org



From: Cindy Campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 9:38 AM
To: wpdboard <wpdboard@winpark.org>
Cc: John Peterson <JPeterson@winpark.org>
Subject: please make sure this goes into permanent records as saying NO to WALL.

Bad for the beach, bad for the parks, bad for the budget, bad for the environment, bad for good governance and bad for Winnetka taxpayers.

The Winnetka Park Board of Commissioners wants to spend a minimum of \$12.6 million, money we don't have, to fix Elder/Centennial, when they can do the job for less than \$5 million. To put it into perspective: only \$5M was spent to completely renovate Lloyd Beach.

This cost differential is driven by the construction of large, expensive, unnatural and unsightly stone breakwaters of questionable utility on both the north and south ends of the proposed beachfront. We don't need additional shoreline protection. Elder and Centennial beaches, under water in January due to record high lake levels, were fully and naturally restored by June. Nor does Winnetka need more beaches beyond fixing and opening Elder Lane. Our current beaches (Tower, Lloyd and Maple) are underutilized and under-staffed. When Elder Lane is added, we will have more than enough beachfront to serve the current and future needs of Winnetka residents. Centennial Park and beach should not be touched beyond restoring the bluff. This saves taxpayer dollars and preserves the tranquility of Centennial Park and beach for future generations.

What needs to happen now?

- Terminate the Swap Agreement. It is loaded with hidden costs and obligations that only serve the privacy interests of a private landowner.
- Fix and open Elder Lane beach.
- Protect and restore the bluffs.

- Keep Centennial Green.
- Put any spending plan of this magnitude to a referendum. D36 does it, why doesn't the Park District? Has the WPD even considered that D36 is going to referendum this year and at the same time our property tax assessments are through the roof? D36 did their homework, informed the public, and is going to referendum to ensure the public is on board. Let the Park Board know you expect the same accountability from them. Spending 3 times what is necessary is unacceptable if not done without a vote.

Cindy and Don Campbell



DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fellow WPD Board Commissioners and John Peterson, Executive Director

FROM: Cynthia Rapp, Commissioner

DATE: September 8, 2022

RE: **Proposed Board Approval Process for Elder and Centennial Improvements or Elder and Centennial Maintenance Projects**

During the July 21, 2022 Regular Board/COW meeting and the August, 18, 2022 Regular Board/COW meeting, we discussed the approval process for major projects in excess of \$250K, specifically in the context of the Elder-Centennial project.

At the September 22, 2022 meeting, I would like to make the following motion as it relates to beach and park maintenance and/or improvements at Elder and Centennial. Please find the language for the proposed motion below for further discussion.

I move that the Board adopt the following approval checkpoints in connection with beach and park maintenance or improvements at Elder and Centennial:

- 1) *Summary to be provided to the Board by the Executive Director/Staff of work product and costs by vendor/consultant for completed work through June 6, 2022 that identifies specifically what work was completed, what work can be reused in new plans, what additional work has been done by vendor/consultant since June 6, 2022 for which we have already incurred costs, and an estimate of additional work and costs required to move forward with any plans currently identified for further consideration. This should include work on both beachfront improvements as well as park plans and bluff restoration.*
- 2) *Board approval by vote of vendor/consultant contracts for associated design, engineering or other consulting work prior to further project expenditures, including permit preparation, construction oversight, stormwater engineering, civil engineering, landscape architecture, bluff planning, etc. for all vendors/consultants where \$25,000 threshold has already been met on this project.*

Even if WPD has a satisfactory relationship under Policy 5.19, it is very strongly encouraged to advertise for proposals from other qualified vendors/consultants for additional work that is expected to exceed \$25,000. A proposal identifying fees in advance of engaging the consultant as outlined under Policy 5.19 should be obtained and the proposal should be presented to the Board for approval prior to incurring any significant costs.

- 3) Project timeline scenarios should be presented to the Board for discussion including potential contingencies as well as optimal timing to secure favorable bidding and costs for construction.*
- 4) Board approval by vote of design plan(s) with cost estimates prior to application for permit for Elder and Centennial with WPD as the sole permittee.*
- 5) Board review of permit application draft prior to submission for consideration of constructive input at a Board meeting.*
- 6) Board approval of winning bidder following bid process for construction.*
- 7) Project costs for all consultants/vendors for the Elder and Centennial projects should be reported on separate monthly dashboard summary at future Board meetings. Current vendors and consultants should be encouraged to submit invoices on a timely basis.*

Further consideration will be given to the relevant Board Policy Manual sections to incorporate changes during the review process, but this motion will supersede the Policy Manual for all work related to Elder and Centennial beaches and parks.

Winnetka Park District Executive Summary

Date: August 24, 2022

To: Winnetka Park District Board of Commissioner

From: Kyle Berg, Superintendent of Recreation
Libby Baker, Office Associate
Molly Krohe, Marketing/Brand Manager

Subject: Board of Commissioners Management Platform

Summary

The complexity of park board meeting agenda(s), packet(s), and meeting orchestration has prompted the need for a comprehensive board management platform. Staff believes the incorporation of a management platform will increase the efficiency of planning and recording all board-related activities. The goals are to increase/promote transparency of staff and board activities and increase staff bandwidth. Staff have researched three board management platforms: Govenda, CivicPlus, and Diligent Community.

The functionality of the agenda creation and meeting minute tools are reasonably consistent across the platforms considered. Each platform will allow a greater degree of transparency because meeting agendas, minutes, supporting documents, videos, and schedules will be managed on a single site connected to the WPD website. All information included in the management platforms will be able to be searched and archived for future use. The consolidated storage of various board materials will result in less time and focus dedicated by staff on information request tasks. Staff will also be able to manage agenda creation timelines more effectively as a result of the management tools. After review of demos by each provider, it was determined by staff that the user interface of Diligent Community would be the best combination of ease of use and ease of learning for staff and commissioners.

Upon review of peer district operations, it was discovered that the Glenview Park District has recently transitioned to Diligent Community. Feedback from Glenview has been overwhelmingly positive due to the ease of use and simple integration process. The Glenview site can be found here: <https://glenviewparkdistrict.communitybydiligent.com/Portal/>.

The largest differentiator between platforms is live stream/video recording integration. Govenda does not currently offer any services in this arena. CivicPlus offers the ability to link external livestreaming to meeting information and incorporate timestamp benchmarks into board agendas. Diligent Community offers the user the freedom to advertise recordings and livestreams in line with board materials. Meeting livestreams can be displayed as a split-screen set up with the current agenda item updating in real-time. Diligent Community offers timestamp and closed captioning that will make for more accessible use by the community, staff, and commissioners.

With the exclusion of Govenda due to a lack of video capabilities, staff sought quotes from CivicPlus and Diligent Community. To achieve the desired results, CivicPlus carries a one-time \$3,500 fee and an annual fee of \$9,220. Diligent Community will waive the one-time cost if a decision is made by September 30th and will carry an annual fee of \$11,350. Staff recommends the purchase of the Diligent Community board management platform.

END