



NEW LENOX

# VILLAGER

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT YEAR IN REVIEW

The Community Development Department coordinates all aspects of the development process including the functions of Building, Economic Development, Engineering, and Planning and Development. 2022 was a very busy year for construction activity as the economy continued to recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Through November 30, 2022, the Community Development Department:



- Transitioned to new software to track building permits, contractor registrations and business registrations. The next phase of the project is to implement on-line permit applications, allowing residents and businesses to apply for certain permits at anytime from anywhere.
- Issued permits for 84 new single-family homes, 8 new townhomes, and 4 apartment buildings representing 176 apartments in Lincoln Station near the U.S. Route 30 Metra Station.
- Issued permits for 4 new commercial buildings, including Casey's and Popeyes on U.S. Route 30, and 1 new industrial building in the Plank Trail Industrial Center east of Schoolhouse Road.
- Issued over 1,300 permits for projects such as building additions and remodeling, swimming pools and hot tubs, fences, roofs, doors, windows, siding, lawn irrigation, signs, and driveways.
- Updated the Village's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), identifying major infrastructure projects anticipated to be completed over the next five years.
- Resurfaced 4.3 miles of Village streets through the annual Motor Fuel Tax program.
- Received Phase 1 Engineering approval for the Cedar Road / Haven Avenue Roundabout.
- Oversaw the installation of public improvements at four new residential subdivisions, including Ashton Estates North, Calistoga Units 2-3, Darby



Farm and Prairie Ridge North, which add 237 new single-family lots and 26 duplex lots for future construction.

- Welcomed 65 new businesses that opened in the Village.
- Processed more than 50 applications for annexations, rezonings, variances, subdivision plats, and site plans. These applications represent the annexation of approximately 3 acres into the Village, creation of 32 new lots for single-family residences and 8 lots for new commercial development, and approval for future projects such as Raising Cane's, Jiffy Lube, Speed Trek, and 3 additional industrial buildings in the Plank Trail Industrial Center.

The Community Development Department can be reached at (815) 462-6490.



1 Typical Apartment Bldg. South Elevation



## PUBLIC WORKS YEAR IN REVIEW

The Public Works Department had a very productive year in 2022. We made several improvements to our infrastructure as well as providing many services to our residents.



### WATER

The Water Department had water mains replaced on Oakview Dr. and on North Vine St. These two areas were the source of multiple main breaks over the past few years. We plan to continue replacing the mains in problem areas in 2023. The Water Department also repaired 22 water main breaks and 8 service line leaks, while also replacing 10 fire hydrants and 45 Buffalo Boxes (water shutoffs to homes).

### STREETS

As always, the Street Department along with help from sewer, water, and buildings and grounds, did an exemplary job of snow plowing and making our streets safe for our

## Village Officials

- Timothy Baldermann / Mayor
- Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk
- David Butterfield / Trustee
- Katie Christopherson / Trustee
- Douglas Finnegan / Trustee
- Keith Madsen / Trustee
- Lindsay Scalise / Trustee
- David Smith / Trustee
- Kurt T. Carroll / Village Administrator

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## Village Meeting Dates

**Village Board Meetings:** Second and fourth Monday of each month at 7pm  
**Council of the Whole Meetings:** Third Monday of each month at 7pm  
**Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals:** First and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

All meetings are held in the Village Council Chambers at the Village Hall.

Agendas for Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are posted at the Village Hall and the Village's website, [www.newlenox.net/agenda](http://www.newlenox.net/agenda)

Village Board meetings air on New Lenox Channel 6 starting the day after the meeting.

## New Lenox Village Hall

1 Veterans Parkway  
 New Lenox, IL 60451  
 815.462.6400  
 Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm

[www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net)

residents. They also collected over 4,300 cubic yards of leaves, the equivalent of over 300 semi-trucks! In addition, they had over 1,100 branch pickups. Our Vactor crew inspected nearly 1,500 storm sewer structures and removed 90 tons of debris from the system, which allows the water to flow freely and reduce the chances for flooding during rain storms.



#### SEWER

Our Sewer Department continues to make strides towards a new regional sewer treatment facility to be built at the southwest corner of town off of Laraway Road. They also began use of their new camera truck, which allows them to see what infrastructure is in need of repair or replacement. Over 1,000 manholes were inspected in 2022.

The Village Hall rotunda and community room both got a facelift with new paint in both areas, and new carpet and tile in the community room. We also raffled over 10 free trees to residents in honor of the 150th Arbor Day celebration, and installed 95 new trees in various areas around town.

## HOMETOWN HERO BANNER PROGRAM

Now entering its 4th year, Mayor Baldermann and the Board of Trustees are proud to offer our Hometown Hero Military Banner Program here in the Village of New Lenox. This program honors current and former residents who have served or are currently serving our country in any branch of the military. Your Hero's banner will be displayed within our beautiful Village Commons for a two-year period, from Memorial Day through Veterans Day. If requested, banners that are removed at the end of the two-year display period will be given to you as a keep-sake.



The application period for our next banner sponsorship opportunity is open now through March 31st, 2023. To apply for a banner or to get more details about this program, please either visit [www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net) or stop into Village Hall to pick up a copy of our brochure and application form. If you have any questions, please call or email Megan Applegate at (815) 462-6427 or [mapplegate@newlenox.net](mailto:mapplegate@newlenox.net).

## SNOW REMOVAL 2023

Snow removal is one of the most visible programs provided by the Village of New Lenox. This service affects virtually every household, resident and visitor in our community. Careful planning is essential in order to assure a timely response to winter conditions. Public Works staff monitors weather conditions hourly when a snow fall is predicted. Crews are on alert and ready to be dispatched at any hour of the day or night.



The primary goal of the snow removal is to maintain safe travel routes and to restore mobility for the traveling public within a reasonable time frame following a storm. To accomplish this goal the fleet is equipped with plows and computerized salt spreaders. The Public Work staff is trained in the use of snow removal and salting equipment to ensure safety and efficiency.

### Reminder to Residents

#### Safety

Parents, please keep children away from and warn them about the danger of digging tunnels in snow piles, especially those along the road. These are not safe places for children to play and crews may be pushing these snow piles back even after the snow event. Drivers are not able to see inside or behind these piles of snow.

#### Reporting Damage

We apologize, but as much as we try, our drivers sometimes cannot avoid damaging mailboxes due to heavy wet snow, poor visibility, improperly placed mailboxes and those that are already in poor condition. If your mailbox is hit this winter, please notify the Public

Works Department (815-215-4800) and we will repair or replace it with a temporary mailbox as soon as the storm is over. Reporting it to the Public Works Department is important for documentation, so come spring we have the information to provide you with the Mailbox Reimbursement form if you decide to make permanent repairs.

#### Street Parking

With a forecast of 2" of snow predicted, ALL vehicles must be removed from the street. Keep in mind the snow may start falling in the middle of the night and the plows are already out, therefore its best to remove your vehicle from the street prior to the snowfall. Failure to clear the entire road presents dangerous conditions once the snow freezes. Village code provides for ticketing or towing of vehicles in violation of this ordinance.

#### Depositing Snow in the Roadway

Please be advised, the practice of shoveling or blowing snow from private driveways into the public roadways is prohibited. These frozen snow piles create a hazard to traffic and make subsequent snow removal efforts difficult. When clearing your driveway and walkways, place the snow in your yard or parkway. Depositing snow back to the streets simply adds more to your drive after the next plowing cycle. Our snow plow drivers try to minimize any excess snow plow windrowing into cleared driveways, however, the plowing process regrettable pushed some snow back into cleared driveways. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding by keeping private drive snow off public streets.

#### Snow Removal Priority

**Priority 1:** Main thoroughfares, high volume areas and potentially dangerous areas such as railroad crossings, school zones, curves, bridges and intersections.

**Priority 2:** Secondary and residential streets.

**Priority 3:** Cul-de-sacs and dead-ends will be the last areas plowed.

The Public Works Department takes great pride in making sure all the roads within its jurisdiction are plowed and salted during a storm event. Please keep in mind that several state and local agencies other than the Village are responsible for snow removal within New Lenox.

#### Areas Village is NOT responsible for:

Laraway Road  
Gougar Road- Route 6 to Laraway  
Schoolhouse - North of Route 30  
All of Francis Road  
*(The above are maintained by the Will County Highway Department (815-727-8478))*

All of Route 6 (East and West)  
N. Cedar between Francis Road and Route 6  
*(The above are maintained by Joliet IDOT (815-722-1215))*

All New Lenox Township roads outside the Village limits  
*(The above is maintained by the New Lenox Township Department (815-485-6484))*

Parking lots of Commercial Businesses and Restaurants  
*(The above are maintained by private or independent property management companies)*



## WATER / SEWER BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS



The Village of New Lenox offers multiple ways to view and pay your utility bill. Residents can receive and view bills electronically, make a payment with credit / debit card or e-check, and choose to go paperless all on the Village of New Lenox website. A quick, one-time payment can be made without registering or you can create an account to enjoy more features such as setting-up automatic payments, saving payment information for later use and viewing bill and payment history. Residents receive email reminders when your bill is ready, when a scheduled payment is pending and a confirmation after making a payment. You can also now pay via a phone call to (855) 386-9152.

Residents can sign up for FREE ACH WITHDRAWAL as well.

Customers may sign up for automatic payment withdrawal from a checking or savings account by filling out the [Automatic Payment Withdrawal Form](#). This form can be found on the New Lenox website ([www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net)) by clicking on Pay Your Water Bill. Submit the completed form with the requested information to the Village Hall. Your water / sewer bill will automatically be deducted from your account on the due date. You will still receive a monthly bill so you will know how much money will be deducted from your account.

## PREVENTING FROZEN PIPES

The water inside pipes can freeze when outdoor temperatures drop below freezing. As the frozen water expands, the pressure inside the pipes increases, which can lead to bursting pipes and water meters.



### How do I prevent pipes from freezing?

- Insulate pipes, especially those close to outside walls, attics, or crawl spaces
- Seal air leaks surrounding or near pipes
- Keep garage doors closed
- Open cabinet doors below sinks on outside walls to allow warm air to circulate
- Disconnect all outdoor hoses and turn off water to exterior faucets
- Keep heat at 55 degrees F or higher even when you are out of town
- During extreme cold, allow both hot and cold faucets near outside walls to trickle
- If you are going to be away from home for a prolonged period of time, drain the water system

### What do I do if my pipes freeze?

- Open all faucets
- Remove insulation
- Apply heat to frozen pipes in the form of a hair dryer or heat lamp. DO NOT use an open flame because of the fire hazard it creates

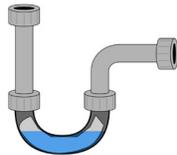
### What do I do if my pipes burst?

- Shut off water supply immediately using valve by water meter. If this cannot be done, call the Water Department at (815) 215-4800 between the hours of 7:00am and 3:30pm or (815) 485-2500 after hours or on weekends. They will turn water off at the main.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact the Water Department at (815) 215-4800.

## SEWER TIP: P-TRAP REFILL

Every year the Village of New Lenox receives calls about a sewer or rotten egg odor in residents' homes. The majority of the time it's a simple fix and something all residents can and should do on an annual basis at a minimum. And that is to fill your P-Traps.



### What is a P-Trap?

A P-Trap is a plumbing connection that is designed to hold water so that sewer gas doesn't come into your homes. Sinks, tubs, floor drains and any other fixture that connects to your homes sewer drain system should have a P-Trap.

### Why is it Dry?

Most P-Traps in your home will stay filled because you use that sink, tub or drain on a daily basis. Those traps will never dry out if used regularly. It's the drains that rarely get used that dry out. Oftentimes it's a basement shower, sink or utility sink that people don't use on a regular basis will dry out and let sewer gas into the home.

### Just Add Water!

The simplest solution to rarely used drains is to just add some water. Run the shower or sink for a minute and that will refill your P-trap and stop those sewer gases from coming back into your house. Another option is to add a diluted bleach water mix to the drain, a mix of 20%

bleach to 80% water would be sufficient. It won't last longer than just water but may add a fresher scent to the space.

The Wastewater Department is available 24/7 - 365. Any time you suspect a sewer issue, call the Village first to determine if the problem is located in the sewer main or your service line. During normal business hours you can call Public Works at (815) 215-4800. If your issue occurs after normal hours, you can call the Village non-emergency number (815) 485-2500 and a Wastewater Department employee will contact you.

## WINTER WEATHER QUIZ

- 1) How many sides does a regular snow crystal have?
  - a. Four
  - b. Five
  - c. Six
  - d. Eight
- 2) Car A and Car B are traveling down ice-glazed roads at the same speed in two different locations. The temperature where Car A is traveling is 30 degrees Fahrenheit; the temperature where Car B is traveling is 0 degrees Fahrenheit. The drivers of both cars hit the brakes at exactly the same moment. If both the cars and the roads they travel are otherwise identical, which car will come to a stop first?
- 3) How quickly do snowflakes fall from the sky (in miles per hour)?
- 4) What's more dangerous: hypothermia or frostbite?
- 5) What is the width of the largest snowflake on record?
  - a. Three inches
  - b. Five inches
  - c. Ten inches
  - d. Fifteen inches

### Answers:

- 1) *Even if they look irregular, all snow crystals start with an underlying six-sided structure.*
- 2) *Car B will stop before Car A. The car driving on ice at 30 degrees Fahrenheit needs a braking distance twice as long as the car driving on ice at 0 degrees Fahrenheit, since ice is more slippery near the freezing point than at lower temperatures.*
- 3) *Snowflakes fall at an average speed of 3 to 4 miles per hour.*
- 4) *Hypothermia.*
- 5) *Fifteen inches wide! No kidding. According to Guinness World Records, this snowflake was recorded in 1887 in Montana by a rancher. But there's no photographic evidence!*

## CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS

Residents and visitors were invited to experience the magic of the holiday season at the 2022 Christmas in the Commons events. On Saturdays and Sundays throughout the month, the New Lenox Village Commons came alive with activities and entertainment, all set against the backdrop of a dazzling display of holiday lights.

These events would not be possible without the time and dedication of an incredible number of people and organizations, including (but not limited to) Village of New Lenox staff, C.E.R.T., E.S.D.A., and the New Lenox Community Park District. Additional thanks to our incredibly generous sponsors, with special thanks to our platinum partner, Kee Firearms & Training. We are extremely grateful to have such outstanding support from so many wonderful people, and we appreciate each and every person who assisted with these events.



We hope that all of the New Lenox residents and neighbors who came out to the Village Commons during the holiday season enjoyed the festivities that were brought to the village. We look forward to seeing you again in 2023!



## COMING SOON



- **Ace Handyman Service of Lincoln Way**, 12410 W. Horseshoe Dr. (off Schoolhouse Road), is part of the Ace Hardware family and provides home improvement and home repair services to residential and business customers in the Lincoln Way Area. Multi-skilled craftsmen provide services relating to carpentry, drywall repair, doors, furniture assembly, flooring, painting and staining, and preventative maintenance. Tentative Opening: January 16, 2023. [lincolnway@acehandymanservices.com](mailto:lincolnway@acehandymanservices.com) or 815-418-6336.
- **JC Light Benjamin Moore Paint**, 2405 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the strip mall with Five Guys Burgers & Fries). Retail store that sells paint, sundries, window treatments and wall coverings. <https://jclight.com/>. Tentative Opening: January, 2023.
- **Kohler Dog Spa**, 2071 Calistoga Dr. (by Arrowhead Ales Brewing off Laraway Rd.). Grooming services offered, e.g., haircuts, nail trims, baths, ear cleaning, etc. [www.koehlerdogspa.com](http://www.koehlerdogspa.com) and 708-639-3142. Tentative opening: April, 2023.
- **Popeye's**, 1715 E. Lincoln Hwy. (on a portion of Fuller's Car Wash property). Fast food restaurant that distinguishes itself with a unique New Orleans-style menu featuring spicy chicken, chicken tenders, fried shrimp, and other regional items. [www.popeyes.com](http://www.popeyes.com) Tentative Opening: March, 2023
- **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers**, 552 E. Lincoln Hwy. (formerly the parking lot for Hickey Funeral Home). Restaurant specializing in chicken fingers. [www.raisingcanes.com](http://www.raisingcanes.com) Tentative Opening: Spring, 2023

## OPEN NOW



- **Carly Olczak, LCSW**, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy., Suite 205 (in Atrium Point on the southwest corner of Route 30 and Schoolhouse Road). Licensed Master Social Worker specializing in treating conditions such as anxiety, depression, trauma, ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder)/ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), adjustment disorder and other areas. <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/carly-olczak-new-lenox-il/996767> (contact info available on website)
- **Casey's**, 2601 E. Lincoln Hwy. (northeast corner of Route 30 and West Circle Drive across the street from Lowe's). Gas station and convenience store. [www.caseys.com](http://www.caseys.com) and 815-463-9517.
- **Ethos Family Dental, PLLC**, 1425 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the same plaza as Coldwell Banker and 1 Happy Girl Boutique) is a dental office. <https://www.ethosfd.com/> and 708-614-1111.
- **European Wax**, 521 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the strip mall in front of Walmart with Jersey Mike's) is a waxing salon. <https://waxcenter.com/> 815-200-8266.
- **Fast Kasch Performance**, 12623 Old Plank Drive (off Schoolhouse Road) resells automotive parts. [fastkaschperformance@gmail.com](mailto:fastkaschperformance@gmail.com) or 708-860-9188.
- **Happy Sprouts Pediatric Health and Wellness**, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy., Suite 207B. Colleen LaMonte, APRN provides holistic pediatric primary care, natural and homeopathic treatment options, supplements, and natural remedy sales. [www.myhappysprouts.com](http://www.myhappysprouts.com) and [info@myhappysprouts.com](mailto:info@myhappysprouts.com).
- **HBK Engineering**, 2081 Calistoga (in the two-story office building that is west of Arrowhead Ales Brewing Company off Laraway Road). The firm provides professional engineering services. [www.hbkengineering.com](http://www.hbkengineering.com) and 312-432-0076.
- **Lenny's Gas N Wash**, 1951 E. Laraway Rd. (on the northwest corner of Laraway and Schoolhouse Roads). Gas station, car wash, video gaming, and convenience store. <https://www.gasnwash.net/> and 815-215-3669.

- **Makasta Spa & Lash Studio LLC**, 1005 W. Laraway Rd. (in the tenant space west of Nutrition Hub on Laraway & Nelson). Makasta offers spa services such as facials, waxing, lash extensions, microblading, and laser hair removal. <https://makastaspacom/> and 815-641-6858.
- **Marketplace Creations**, 227 W. Maple St. (in the green building that is directly east of Speedway across the street from the United Methodist Church on Route 30) is a retail store with handmade home décor. Classes will be held during which time retail sales will be closed. <https://www.marketplacecreationsdiy.com/> (contact through website)
- **Positive Changes Counseling**, LLC, 1234 North Cedar Rd., is a counseling agency providing psychotherapy services, mostly to children and adolescents, but also to some adults. [www.positive-changes-counseling.com](http://www.positive-changes-counseling.com) (contact through website)
- **Silver Pharmacy**, 1890 Silver Cross Blvd., Suite 120 (at Silver Cross Hospital in the location formerly occupied by Walgreens). Retail pharmacy that sells prescribed medications to patients, OTC (over the counter), DME (durable medical equipment), snack foods, and drinks. <https://www.silverpharmacy.com/> and 815-800-3100.
- **Systemic Wellness**, 2081 Calistoga Dr. – Suite 2N (in the two-story building that is west of Arrowhead Alehouse off Laraway Road). Services offered that relate to mental health are: intensive outpatient program; individualized outpatient psychotherapy; and treatments for anxiety, depression, trauma and eating disorders. Clientele served are adolescents (13+ year olds) and adults. <https://systemicwell.com/> and 815-320-2410.
- **Ta Canijo Tacos**, 1951 E. Laraway Rd. (inside Lenny's Gas & Wash on Schoolhouse and Laraway Roads). The restaurant serves tacos, tortas, burritos, and appetizers such as cinnamon sticks, corn in a cup, chicken wings, tamales, and French, cheese and nacho fries. <https://www.tacanijo.com/> and 815-717-8036.
- **Uniquely You Behavioral Health**, 400 E. Lincoln Hwy., Suite 102. In the lower level of the New Lenox Pediatrics building across the street from Aldi on Route 30). Individual and group therapy are offered. <https://uniquelyyoubehavioralhealth.com/services/> and 779-707-3717.

## NEW OWNER

- **CoVantage Credit Union**, 1000 E. Lincoln Hwy. CoVantage's acquisition of Lincolnway Community Bank is effective January 1, 2023. A member-owned, not for profit financial cooperative, CoVantage offers a full range of loan products including vehicle loans, mortgages, home equity loans, business loans, credit cards, and deposit products including free checking, money market accounts, certificates, IRAs, and health savings accounts. [www.covantagecu.org](http://www.covantagecu.org) and 815-462-4300.



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING "SHIFT YOUR SHOPPING"

The Village and the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce want to thank all residents who supported the 21 local businesses in the Shift Your Shopping promotion that was held on Black Friday, November 25th and Small Business Saturday, November 26th. Approximately 82% of the participating businesses received additional customers from the promotion. It's SO important to continue to support our local establishments throughout the year.



Shop Local. Shop New Lenox.