

REGIS CHARLOT
Village President

December 20, 2022



RE: Stormwater Utility Fee - Upcoming Information Sessions

Dear Neighbor,

When I decided to run for Village President a few years ago, I knocked on every door in town to introduce myself and ask what issues were at the top of everyone's mind. The top three responses were "stormwater," "stormwater," and... "stormwater."

Stormwater management has been a top priority of the Village Board for a number of years. We have invested in building new storm sewers, creating a comprehensive engineering model of stormwater runoff, and developing plans to reduce flooding of the Scranton Avenue Viaduct as well as multiple neighborhood flooding issues. We have learned that most of the Village's existing stormwater infrastructure is inadequate and over 75 years old, and this system is being asked to handle significant storm events that are increasingly common and increasingly severe. Today, the Village invests about \$500,000 annually to maintain the system. The price tag for a preliminary list of improvements identified by our engineers exceeds \$50 million.

Following two years of study and analysis, the **Village Board of Trustees believes that the best long-term solution will be to create a new dedicated funding source that will allow us to increase the speed at which we build and improve stormwater infrastructure.** The enclosed FAQ describes how a stormwater utility would generate dedicated revenue to address these critical problems.

The Village will be hosting a number of informational meetings to share more about what we have learned during the two-year study process. We sincerely hope you can attend one or more of these meetings, review the same information that we did, and tell us if and how we should change our approach. The meetings, which will be held in the Village Hall Board Room (40 East Center Avenue) are scheduled for:

1. Wednesday, January 25, 2023 (7:00 pm);
2. Thursday, January 26, 2023 (7:00 pm); and,
3. Saturday, January 28, 2023 (9:00 am).

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting. If you are traveling or are unable to attend in person, information on how to participate virtually is on the front page of the Village website, lakebluff.org. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Village Administrator Drew Irvin at (847) 283-6883 or by e-mail at dirvin@lakebluff.org.

Sincerely,



Regis Charlot
Village President

Village of Lake Bluff | 40 East Center Avenue | Lake Bluff, IL 60044

P: (847) 234-0774 | F: (847) 234-7254

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