

**Village of Plainfield Strategic Plan 2021**  
**Completed Items**  
**August 4, 2017**

***Action Item: Lockport Street Bypass Design.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Strand Engineering completed a Phase 1 Design Study for this project and the Village will continue to advocate the construction of this new roadway. Coordination with V-3 Engineering, during the I-55 Interchange expansion planning process, will be required to support this project. (Project #23 on the Village Transportation Plan High Priority Roadway Projects list.)

**Project Summary and History**

Several years ago, when the Village of Romeoville forwarded the idea of constructing a full interchange at I-55 and Lockport Street, the Village Board responded with a requirement that if the new I-55 interchange is constructed, a new bypass roadway will be needed to take traffic from Lockport Street/I-55 to Route 126. This would prevent truck traffic from traveling down residential roadways. In 2014, the Village directed Strand Engineering to complete the Phase 1 Engineering Design for this new bypass roadway. Strand developed three possible options for the location of this new roadway. While the final location of this roadway still needs to be determined, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes that this bypass is an important part of the proposed interchange at I-55.

On June 22, 2015, Strand Engineering provided a presentation to the Village Board regarding the possible options for the bypass. At this meeting, the Board expressed general support for Option 1A. This report has been finalized and the findings were provided to V-3 with the idea that it could be considered as part of the I-55 project.

After reviewing all of the projects in the area, it is generally understood that the Lockport Street Bypass will be a separate project with construction planned to be complete before the interchange improvements.

This Phase 1 Design Study has been completed.

***Action Item: Meadow Lane/Route 126 Traffic Signal Installation.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

The final landscaping will be completed in the fall of 2016.

**Project Summary and History**

IDOT has been working on the design plans for a traffic signal at Meadow Lane and Route 126 over the past two years. This is an important project because Lincoln Elementary School is just north of this intersection and when complete the signal is expected to improve traffic and pedestrian safety. In 2014, the Village entered into a

funding agreement whereby IDOT and the Federal Government will collectively fund over 90% of the construction costs. This project is expected to be completed by 2016.

In July of 2015, IDOT awarded a bid for the installation of new traffic signals at this intersection. Shortly after this project was authorized, the old curb line and storm sewer structures were replaced. Additionally, new ADA compliant sidewalks, LED signals, and a new fiber-optic cable have been installed between Meadow and Wallin Drive. The signals have been synchronized with the other signals along Lockport Street, reducing traffic congestion and improving traffic safety.

During the spring of 2016, this project was substantially completed and the new signal was placed into operation.

This project has been completed.

***Action Item: Downtown Lockport Street Refresh.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Request bids and complete the resurfacing of the asphalt sections of this roadway. Update the landscaping within the planter boxes and islands. Replace trees as required. Power wash walkways and seal concrete sidewalks and pavers.

**Project Summary and History**

The Village is repairing portions of the downtown streetscape. This work will include the replacement of some concrete walkways, repainting of planters, resetting pavers, gum removal, replacing banners, replacing landscaping plantings, and the cleaning/sealing of the walkways.

The replacement of concrete, repainting of the planters, resetting of pavers, and gum removal have been completed. The cleaning and sealing of the concrete was completed in October 2015. Landscaping improvements and tree replacement, as required, will occur in the fall of 2016.

On August 1, 2016, the Village Board awarded a contract for the resurfacing of the blacktop roadway and the installation of new landscaping to the lowest bidder. The Village also hosted an informational meeting with the Lockport Street business owners, on August 25, to discuss the construction schedule.

During the summer of 2016, the resurfacing of the blacktop was completed; the sidewalks and pavers were cleaned; and the landscaping work was also completed.

***Action Item: Establish a Food Truck Policy.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Adopt a formal policy on food trucks and potential permit process that promotes food trucks at appropriate times and locations while providing adequate protections of safety and compatibility with adjacent uses.

## **Project Summary and History**

The Village currently does not permit food trucks on the public right-of-way. Staff would like to explore whether there is any support to change this policy in view of the increasing popularity of food trucks. Instead of the conventional hot dog and ice cream trucks, many food trucks now offer gourmet ethnic foods that are typically not offered by other businesses. Allowing food trucks in Downtown Plainfield can help create opportunities for small incubator businesses and bring additional vibrancy and energy to the area.

The Village Board discussed the Cupcake Law and food trucks during a Committee of the Whole Workshop. Based on these discussions, Staff drafted a Cupcake Ordinance which was approved by the Village Board. The Board determined that they would like to continue to review food trucks on a case-by-case basis at this time.

In the summer of 2016, the Village Board reviewed the topic of food trucks at a Committee of the Whole Workshop. The Board provided direction to implement specific zoning regulations and a permit process to formalize the regulation of food trucks in the Village. The Village Board adopted zoning regulations for food trucks as part of a set of zoning code amendments that were approved in December of 2016. The new rules allow food trucks on private property with the owner's consent. The food truck operator must obtain a Village business license and must demonstrate compliance with the applicable County Health Department as well as with the Illinois Department of Revenue. In addition, the site/host location must also obtain a permit from the Planning Department. The new food truck regulations went into effect in January of 2017.

***Action Items: Work on creating a set of guidelines for drive-throughs when they are adjacent to residential neighborhoods.***

## **Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Present the guidelines to the Village Board for consideration.

## **Project Summary and History**

Staff is working on a series of Design Guidelines for drive-through lanes that will mitigate the impact that drive-through lanes have on adjacent residential neighborhoods. With so many subdivisions adjacent to commercial sites, it is important to ensure that commercial development does not have any negative impact on adjacent homes. Through extensive landscaping and proper sound-engineering, Staff is establishing a minimum set of design standards that will minimize the impact of these commercial uses on residential areas.

Staff discussed a buffer of 150 feet between commercial drive-throughs and residences with the Village Board. Based on the Village Board's input, Staff is investigating whether a buffer of 150 or 200 feet is more appropriate.

This topic was discussed at a joint Committee of the Whole Workshop; the consensus was to establish guidelines for drive-through window operations. The guidelines were incorporated into a comprehensive set of zoning code amendments that were approved in December of 2016.

***Action Item: Revise the Village's Site Plan Review Ordinance.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Present the Site Plan Review Ordinance to the Village Board for consideration.

**Project Summary and History**

In the Village's continuing effort to make Plainfield more business-friendly, Staff has identified an opportunity to streamline the Village's Site Plan Review Ordinance while maintaining our commercial and industrial design standards. Simplifying and consolidating the ordinance and using more graphics in the document would make the Village's current ordinances more business-friendly. In addition, Staff would like to simplify the landscape section of the ordinance to make it more user-friendly for the development community.

A new, streamlined Site Plan Review Ordinance was reviewed by the Village Board at a recent Committee of Whole Workshop. The current ordinance was consolidated from 29 to 8 pages and incorporates illustrations to reflect the standards that are required for development in Plainfield. The new Site Plan Review Ordinance also provides some additional flexibility to the development community and introduces some new materials that are being widely used, while maintaining Plainfield's high standards of development. Based on the Village Board's input, Staff is refining the proposed ordinance and will proceed with a formal text amendment in October.

In an effort to consolidate multiple issues and gain consensus, a joint Committee of the Whole Workshop, including the Mayor, Trustees, and members of the Plan Commission was held in January 2016. Staff presented a series of issues and proposed code amendments with Staff recommendations. The meeting provided consensus and clear direction to finalize the Zoning Code amendments.

Staff incorporated various modifications to the zoning code, such as special use regulation of certain uses, improvements to the site plan review ordinance, and regulation of food trucks, into a comprehensive amendment. The amendments were approved in December of 2016.

***Action Item: Create a new design for a War Memorial Plaza at/refresh Settlers' Park.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Achieve final completion of the War Memorial Plaza improvements and Settlers' Park landscaping improvements. Incorporate the regular maintenance of these areas into our work schedule.

**Project Summary and History**

Staff continues to work with a committee of volunteers to support the development of a Memorial Plaza in Settlers' Park. This plaza would become the permanent home of the existing "Veterans" Memorial located on Route 59 and the "Freedom Tribute Memorial" that was located at Plainfield Central High School. Staff is also working on an acceptance policy for future memorials.

On May 20, 2015, the "Freedom Tribute" Memorial and the "Veterans" Memorial were both relocated to Settlers' Park. The Village continues to work with both volunteer committees regarding the installation of lighting, decorative concrete, and landscaping around the monuments.

On February 1, 2016, the Village Board approved an engineering services agreement with Upland Design. Subsequently, Staff worked closely with Upland and developed design plans for the installation of new improvements at the War Memorial Plaza as well as needed landscape and hardscape improvements in Settlers' Park. While most of the Memorial Plaza improvements are complete, some punch list items need to be addressed.

This project has been completed.

***Action Item: Develop a usage policy for Riverfront Park.***

**Goals and Objectives for 2016-17**

Present a draft usage policy for consideration by the Village Board. Revise the draft policy based on feedback from the Village Board and present the final usage policy for adoption.

**Project Summary and History**

Staff has identified that there is a need to create some usage parameters for public use of the Riverfront.

Following the public usage guidelines that were adopted for Settlers' Park, Staff is in the process of creating a series of guidelines that would establish rules and regulations of what public uses would be allowed at the Riverfront. As more and more design elements are incorporated into the riverfront plan, Staff anticipates a dramatic increase in public use of the open space. Based on this fact, reasonable rules and regulations should be created.

In August 2016, Staff presented a draft usage policy for discussion and direction by the Village Board. The policy was modeled after the existing policies for Settlers' Park and the Village Hall Community Room. The Village Board approved the park usage policy in December of 2016 and the new policy and application has been in place since January of 2017.