



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP

Sponsored by



Saturday, June 7, 2025, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Village of Thornton Parks & Recreation: 701 Highland Ave, Thornton, IL

7:30 - 8:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast

PROGRAM AGENDA

8:00 - 8:15 Welcome and introductions by Jada D. Curry, President/Mayor of Lynwood, Kristi DeLaurentiis, SSMMA Executive Director, and Peter Danos, Manager of Government Affairs, Comcast
Guest Introductions

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association's Newly Elected Officials Workshop is an education program that provides information in a highly interactive format allowing ample opportunity for mayors/presidents, trustees/alderman and others to exchange ideas and explore topics vital to serving as an elected official.

8:15 – 9:00 Role of Village/City Manager/Administrator, a Partnership with Elected Officials
Regan Stockstell, Village Manager, Richton Park

Richton Park Manager Regan Stockstell will discuss the primary responsibilities of professionals in local government, types of government, managerial competencies and responsibilities, council/board expectations, departments and staff and ethics.

- 9:00 – 9:45 Role of Village/City Manager/Administrator and
Municipal Budgeting & Finance; Budgeting in Difficult Economic Times
Anthony Burton, Village Administrator, Matteson
- Matteson Administrator Anthony Burton will discuss budget planning, revenue policies, expenditure policies, adopting financial policies, the audit process, pensions, financial advisors and investments.*
- 9:45 – 10:00 Questions for Administrator Burton or Manager Stockstell
- 10:00 – 10:15 Break
- 10:15 – 11:45 Overview of Municipal Procedures and Practices, Freedom of
Information Act, Open Meetings Act, Role of Elected Officials, Litigation,
Personnel and Labor Issues
John Murphey, Partner Attorney - Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath Ltd.
- John Murphey, Senior Partner, Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, will focus on key aspects of local government law; how to ensure that your meetings run smoothly; and the role of elected officials. He will also provide guidance on emerging legal decisions facing municipalities.*
- 11:45 – 12:15 General Discussion/Questions
- 12:15 – 12:30 Introduction to SSMMA/Wrap-Up
Kristi DeLaurentiis, Executive Director – SSMMA
- SSMMA Executive Director Kristi DeLaurentiis will review the programs/services of SSMMA.*

For more information visit:

www.ssmma.org





The Role of the Manager/Administrator: A Partnership with Elected Officials

Newly Elected Officials Workshop

**South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
June 7, 2025**

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Regan Stockstell

- Village Manager, Village of Richton Park
- Years of Experience – 27 years
 - Village of Richton Park – Planning Intern
 - Village of Richton Park – Planner
 - Village of Richton Park – Community Development Director
 - Village of Richton Park – Village Manager Since 2016
 - BA in Political Science from Iowa State University
 - Completed 40 hrs. of coursework towards a MPA in Community & Regional Planning at Iowa State University
 - Current Co-Chair of SSMMA Management & Finance Committee, Vice-Chair of SouthCom Emergency Dispatch Center Board of Directors, IL Municipal League Municipal Managers Committee, ILCMA DEI Committee, MMC Metro Managers Secretary (incoming)

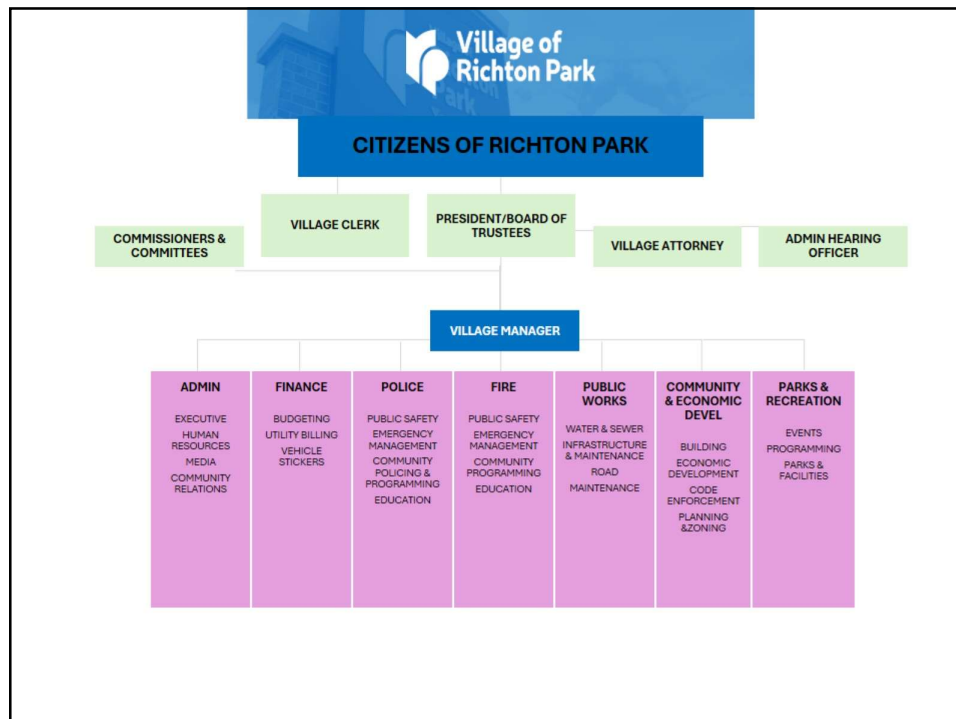
2



Today's Objective Is To Discuss

- Primary responsibilities of professionals in local government
- Various forms/types of government
 - Strong Mayor, Commission
 - Council/Manager, Council/Administrator
 - Established by Ordinance or Referendum?
- Role of the Manager/Administrator
- Questions/Comments

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Why a Manager/Administrator



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Elected Officials and the Manager/Administrator – A Partnership

- The Dichotomy of “Policy vs. Implementation” -Exercising the art of politics vs. carrying out Policy, Programs and Initiatives
- The Separation of Legislating Laws/Regulations/Policies/Programs vs. Managing organizational short and long-range affairs
- A Manager/Administrator is only as good as the leadership of the Mayor/President and the Council/Board
- An effective Manager is proportionate to the strength of the Elected Officials

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Managerial Competencies

- Apolitical, professional advice to Council/Board in fulfilling its governance (policy decision-making) role
- Relationship building with the Mayor/President and Council/Board Members
- Advice/Leadership on key and emerging issues.
- Leadership of the Administrative Team
- Fiscal/Resource forecasting and management
- Discharge of all legislative requirements
- Development of community relationships

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Council/Board Expectations

- Respect for Council/Board: “Manager/Administrator Advise; they Decide”
- First-rate advice: clear options; sound recommendations
- Promptness in carrying out Council/Board decisions
- A servant heart: efficient and effective service delivery to the public
- Conduct affairs with integrity
- Model stewardship: public resources treated respectfully

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Council/Board Expectations

continued...

- Be responsive to Council/Board requests
- Operate within policy
- Respect the structure: report to the level above
- Manage performance: don't micro-manage or abdicate
- Keep priorities straight
- Stay away from political games: stick to the knitting!

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Manager/Administrator : Servant Leader

	Set the Example	Can't expect excellence if you aren't setting the example
	Create the Right Mindset	Create a culture of success and motivation
	Allow for Failure	Allowing for failure sets the stage for innovation and creativity
	Right Things	Right thing is not always the easy or popular thing
	Empower Others	Encourage participation
	Do Their Best	Little things and details matter

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Critical Role - Manager/Administrator

- Brokering Good Public Policy
- Strategic Planning and Implementation –V,M,G,O,S.
- Long Range Forecasting- from economy to land use
- Monitoring and Evaluation of all Physical Systems
 - Roads, Water, Sewer, Lighting, Public Lands and Buildings
- Capital Improvement Planning – Infrastructure
- Long Range Financial Planning – Modeling for all revenues and expenditures at least 10 to 15 years out
- Grant Procurement and Grant Management
- Budgeting

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Managerial Leadership and Staff Expectations

- Provide Leadership for Workforce
 - Create positive work environment
 - Advance policies of Board
 - Strive for organizational improvement
 - Set good example for work force
- Establish Solid Relationship with Community
 - Be available
 - Be visible
 - Be believable
 - Be consistent
- Media Leadership
 - Good relationships
 - Strive to be valuable resource
 - Do not overshadow Elected Officials

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Department Head and Staff Expectations of the Manager

- Be effective in dealing with the Council/Board
- Represent us in an ethical and professional manner
- Build a trustworthy relationship with the Mayor/President and Council/Board members
- Seek out advice on all issues; present as “team” ideas
- Create a fair, equitable work environment
- Promote based on caliber not connections
- Discipline effectively/fairly/quickly within policy
- Help team learn in a constructive growing environment
- Be a leader in words, in thinking and practice
- Build up the image in the community
- Make effective partnerships with allied agencies

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Communication is Key

- Village Manager is central to communications
- Helps to bring consistency
- Controls communication
- Helps to bring continuity
- Boards constantly change



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Village Manager as a Communicator

- WITH...Residents (listening, Citizen Engagement, informing)
- WITH...President/Mayor and Board (planning, providing options, informing)
- WITH...Employees (Mission, Goals, progress, recognition)
- WITH...Community partners
- WITH...Legislators
- WITH....Other Gov't Entities
- WITH...Media
- WITH...To anyone and everyone who will listen (market, market, market!)



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ICMA Code of Ethics



Promoting an Ethical Culture

- Promoting an ethical culture is a key leadership responsibility. Equity, transparency, honor, integrity, commitment, and stewardship are standards for excellence in democratic local governance


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ICMA Code of Ethics

- **Tenet 1** - Be dedicated to the concepts of effective and democratic local government by responsible elected officials and believe that professional general management is essential to the achievement of this objective.
- **Tenet 2** - Affirm the dignity and worth of the services rendered by government and maintain a constructive, creative, and practical attitude toward local government affairs and a deep sense of social responsibility as a trusted public servant.
- **Tenet 3** - Be dedicated to the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public and personal relationships in order that the member may merit the respect and confidence of the elected officials, of other officials and employees, and of the public.
- **Tenet 4** - Recognize that the chief function of local government at all times is to serve the best interests of all people.
- **Tenet 5** - Submit policy proposals to elected officials; provide them with facts and advice on matters of policy as a basis for making decisions and setting community goals; and uphold and implement local government policies adopted by elected officials.
- **Tenet 6** - Recognize that elected representatives of the people are entitled to the credit for the establishment of local government policies; responsibility for policy execution rests with the members.

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ICMA Code of Ethics

- **Tenet 7** - Refrain from all political activities which undermine public confidence in professional administrators. Refrain from participation in the election of the members of the employing legislative body.
- **Tenet 8** - Make it a duty continually to improve the member's professional ability and to develop the competence of associates in the use of management techniques.
- **Tenet 9** - Keep the community informed on local government affairs; encourage communication between the citizens and all local government officers; emphasize friendly and courteous service to the public; and seek to improve the quality and image of public service.
- **Tenet 10** - Resist any encroachment on professional responsibilities, believing the member should be free to carry out official policies without interference, and handle each problem without discrimination on the basis of principle and justice.
- **Tenet 11** - Handle all matters of personnel on the basis of merit so that fairness and impartiality govern a member's decisions, pertaining to appointments, pay adjustments, promotions, and discipline.
- **Tenet 12** - Public office is a public trust. A member shall not leverage his or her position for personal gain or benefit.

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- Local government does not run like a business!
 - the motivating force in business is “profit” (efficiency); for local government it is “service delivery” (effectiveness).
- Remember we are all “Public Servants”; there is no room for ego, power, self-wealth or self aggrandizement.
- The most effective governing bodies are those who understand the importance of teamwork between the Administration and the Council/Board
- Strive for Transparency and Accountability in all matters
- Have a reverence for democracy!

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For More Information

- International City/County Manager’ s Association (ICMA)
 - www.icma.org
- Illinois City Manager’ s Association (ILCMA)
 - www.ilcma.org
- SSMMA – Kristi DeLaurentiis, Executive Director
 - www.ssmma.org ; (708) 206-1155
- Illinois Municipal League (IML)
 - www.iml.org ; (217) 525-1220

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From the Father of Modern Public Administration...

You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand."

~Woodrow Wilson

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Any Questions?

Regan Stockstell, Village Manager
Village of Richton Park
www.richtonpark.org


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NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP


THE FINANCIAL REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT




1



ANTHONY BURTON




20+ Years of Experience in Local Government Leadership



Village of Matteson

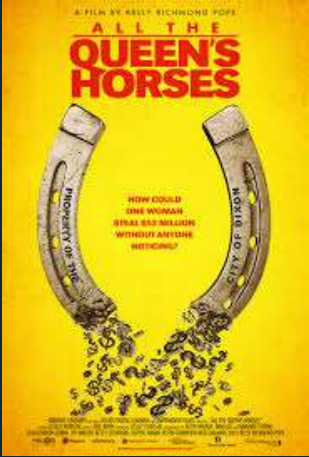
Village Administrator
Department Director
Village Trustee
Planning and Zoning Commissioner



Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
Master of Public Administration (MPA) in Government and Policy

2

1

	<p>https://www.pbs.org/video/all-queens-horses-tells-story-rita-crundwell-bvrrum/</p> <p>Real Example: City of Dixon</p> <hr/> <p>Rita Crundwell embezzled \$53 million from the City of Dixon, Illinois, over 20 years.</p> <hr/> <p>Exploited a lack of internal controls</p> <hr/> <p>The city had no segregation of duties—one person managed everything.</p> <hr/> <p>It became the largest municipal fraud in U.S. history.</p> <hr/> <p>This could have been prevented with a qualified finance team and regular oversight.</p>
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Quick Poll: How Many of You?



HAVE A LICENSED CPA OR CPFO ON STAFF?



RECEIVE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS FROM YOUR FINANCE TEAM?



IS YOUR MUNICIPALITY CURRENT ON ALL REQUIRED AUDITS AND REPORTING?

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How You Know Something's Wrong



Late or incomplete audits



Repeated audit findings



Weak internal controls or lack of segregation of duties



Budget shortfalls or unbalanced budgets



Missing or misused grant opportunities



Lack of timely and reliable financial data

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TODAY'S DISCUSSION OBJECTIVES

Budget Planning

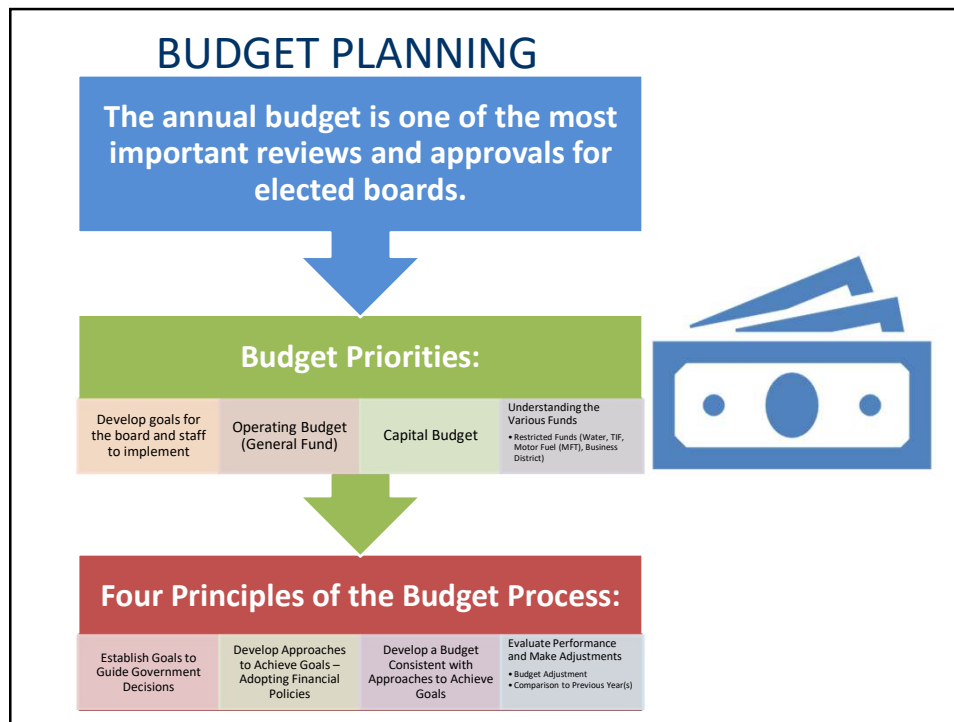
Revenue Policies

Expenditure Policies

Adopting Financial Policies

Other Key Financial Topics

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FINANCIAL PLANNING/POLICY

At a minimum municipalities should have policies that support:

- **Balanced Budget** – encourages commitment to a balanced budget and provides for disclosure when a deviation occurs. (Fund Balance Policy)
- **Long-Term Planning** – supports the financial planning process that assesses the long-term financial implications of current and proposed operating and capital budgets, cash management, and investment policies. (3 – 5 Year Plan)
- **Asset Inventory** – should be used to plan for the ongoing financial commitments required to maximize the public's benefit. (Maintenance Renewal & Replacements)

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REVENUE POLICIES

Understanding revenue streams is essential to prudent planning.

Revenue policies should include:

- **Revenue Diversification** – Encourages a diversity of revenue sources in order to improve the ability to handle fluctuations in individual sources.
- **The Mysterious Property Tax System** – Tax Agency Report
- **Fee and Charges** – Identify the manner in which fees and charges are set and the extent to which they cover the cost of the service provided. (Water, Sewer & Vehicle Stickers, etc.)
- **Use of One-Time Revenues** - Should discourage the use of one-time revenues for ongoing expenditures.



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EXPENDITURE POLICIES

Prudent expenditure planning and accountability will help ensure fiscal stability.

Expenditure policies include:

Debt Capacity, Issuance, and Management – should specify the appropriate uses for debt, the maximum amount of debt, and the amount of debt service that should be outstanding at any time. (Non-home Rule limitations)

Reserve or Stabilization – should maintain a prudent level of financial resources to protect against the need to reduce service levels and raise taxes and fees due to temporary revenue shortfalls.

GFOA guidelines:

16%

Water Fall Theory

Operating/Capital Expenditure Accountability – should compare actual expenditures to budget periodically and decide the actions to bring the actual budget back into balance if necessary.

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USE OF EXCESS FUND BALANCE (EXAMPLES)

25% - Pavement Management Fund

25% - Capital Improvement Fund

20% - Vehicle Replacements

15% - Historic Matteson Revitalization

15% - Economic Development Activities

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ADOPTING FINANCIAL POLICIES

Purchasing Policy

Economic Development Incentive
Policy

Investment Policy

Debt Policy



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Other Key Financial Topics



Audit Process

Timely Completion
Reputable Audit Firm
GFOA Award



Understanding Pensions

Issues for Most communities
Impact on General Fund



Financial Advisor(s)

Every Community Should Have
at Least **ONE**



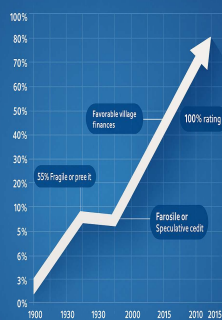
Investments

The Illinois Funds
Negotiate w/ Local Banks

13

Matteson's Financial Turnaround: Real Impact

VILLAGE'S CREDIT RATING



POPULATION

Steady population growth supports expansion of the tax base, helping to provide funding for key services.

FUND OR SURPLUS RATIO

Favorable credit rating reflects responsible stewardship through balanced budgets and management of funds and surplus.

RATING

The lowest and strongest credit grades result in greater borrowing capacity and lower costs for infrastructure projects and future development.

Credit Rating Scales by Agency, Long-Term

Moody's	S&P	Fitch	
Aaa	AAA	AAA	Prime
Aa1	AA+	AA+	High grade
Aa2	AA	AA	
Aa3	AA-	AA-	
A1	A+	A+	Upper medium grade
A2	A	A	
A3	A-	A-	
Baa1	BBB+	BBB+	Lower medium grade
Baa2	BBB	BBB	
Baa3	BBB-	BBB-	
Ba1	BB+	BB+	Non-investment grade speculative
Ba2	BB	BB	
Ba3	BB-	BB-	
B1	B+	B+	Highly speculative
B2	B	B	
B3	B-	B-	
Caa1	CCC+	CCC	Substantial risk
Caa2	CCC		
Caa3	CCC-		
Ca	CC	CC	Default imminent with little prospect for recovery
C	C	C	
/	D	D	
/			In default

WOLFSTREET.com



MUNICIPAL CREDIT RATING

Assesses a local government's ability to repay debt, reflecting financial health and management, and helps investors evaluate bond risk.

IN 2013, the Village rating was considered "JUNK BOND", and in 2015 the rating was withdrawn due to financial instability.

IN 2023, the Village Achieved "AA-" Credit Rating (High-Grade Municipal Status)

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Financial Reporting & Recognition: Building Trust



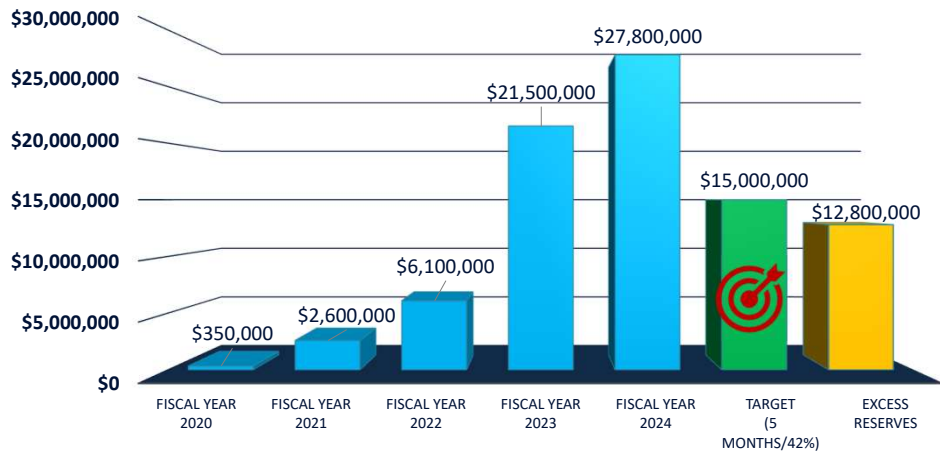
- Current on all required Financial Reports and Audits
- Audited by one of the Top 10 Audit Firms in the Nation
- Received the GFOA "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Finance Reporting" 4 Consecutive Years (2020-2023)
- Committed to obtaining this Award Annually



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General Fund Reserves: Stability in Action




Cumulative General Fund Emergency Reserves



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The Importance of a Strong Finance Team

-  Many local governments operate without an experienced finance team.
-  Often, these entities feel they can't afford it
-  *But the real question is: Can you afford not to?*

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ❖ Illinois Department of Revenue
www.tax.illinois.gov
- ❖ International City/County Manager's Association (ICMA)
www.icma.org
- ❖ Illinois City Manager's Association (ILCMA)
www.ilcma.org
- ❖ SSMMA – Kristi DeLaurentiis, Executive Director
www.smma.org or (708) 922-4670
- ❖ Illinois Municipal League (IML)
www.iml.org
- ❖ Illinois Government Finance Officers Associations (IGFOA)
www.igfoa.org/
- ❖ Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
www.gfoa.org

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QUESTIONS ?

Anthony Burton, Village Administrator
Village of Matteson
www.villageofmatteson.org



June 7, 2025

JBM Direct Dial

(708) 634-0266

**SO YOU THINK YOU WANT TO
BE AN ELECTED OFFICIAL?
NAVIGATING THROUGH MUNICIPAL
PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES WITH THE HELP
OF “NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIAL’S JEOPARDY”**

By: John B. Murphey

To all the newly elected officials in SSMMA, welcome to the world of local government. You will find public service to be gratifying, challenging and ultimately rewarding. Right now, you may be slightly intimidated by the language and procedures of local government. You may even feel you are in jeopardy of losing your mind. For those of you who are experienced and returning for a tune-up, welcome back.

In order to help you navigate through this new world in which you find yourself, we are going to play “Newly Elected Officials Jeopardy.” Below are 24 answers. During the course of our get together this morning, we will try to provide the questions in a way which will hopefully give you a head start on your career in local government. Each answer/question will serve as a springboard to discussion on practices, procedures, Open Meetings, FOIA, and related topics.

Active participation required.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS JEOPARDY

Answer No. 1: Because after 3 months of trying, I still could not install HULU on my TV.

Question:

Answer No. 2: They are usually quite regular, but they can also be very special.

Question:

Answer No. 3: If there are seven of us, it takes four to make one.

Question:

Answer No. 4: Although it sounds like a computer term, the acronym ROM stands for the only ways a municipal governing body may act.

Question:

Answer No. 5: This retired 19th Century military man wrote the book for keeping law and order among unruly elected officials.

Question:

Answer No. 6: This is how many of us must vote whenever we adopt an ordinance or spend money.

Question:

Answer No. 7:

Although it is loaded with old fashioned language from the 1800s, this introductory language is very important to explain to the citizens now and in the future why we are doing what we are doing.

Question:

Answer No. 8:

Sometimes it means yes; sometimes it means no; sometimes it means nothing at all.

Question:

Answer No. 9:

Although she often thinks she has much more power, this person can't pass any laws, can rarely vote, and can be easily overridden.

Question:

Answer No. 10:

You can talk about it, argue about it, but unless it appears here, you can't vote on it.

Question:

Answer No. 11:

You can get a lot done all at once as long as you explain what it is you're getting done all at once.

Question:

Answer No. 12: You can control the when, you can control the how long, but you have to allow it.

Question:

Answer No. 13: This happens when three out of six trustees get together at the restaurant to talk about how they want to vote on a hot zoning issue.

Question:

Answer No. 14: This is what happens when three out of six trustees get together on-line and chat about how they want to vote on a hot zoning issue.

Question:

Answer No. 15: This is what happens when two out of six trustees get together on-line and chat about how they want to vote on a hot zoning issue.

Question:

Answer No. 16: While they may sound like a somewhat shady law firm, these “Three Ls” will help you remember the basic reasons you can go into executive session.

Question:

Answer No. 17: It’s what happens when you take a final vote in executive session.

Question:

Answer No. 18:

Although many times you hate to even think about this even once, you must revisit and review it every six months.

Question:

Answer No. 19:

She can't make a motion; she can't second a motion; she can't vote; but she has the absolute right to attend closed sessions.

Question:

Answer No. 20:

Although it is hard to believe you would really want to, now you may be able to do this when you are called out of town on business.

Question:

Answer No. 21:

This three-letter acronym is what we call the new statewide boss in terms of administering the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act.

Question:

Answer No. 22:

It will cause you a lot of time, aggravation, and potential embarrassment, both on a personal and professional level.

Question:

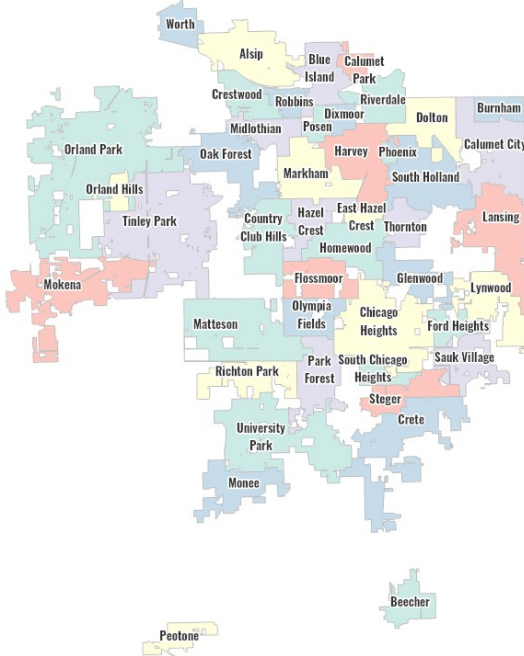
Answer No. 23: The most effective communication device for a newly elected official.

Question:

Answer No. 24: The most brilliant lawyer I have come across in many years.

Question:

NOTES AND QUESTIONS:



SSMMA
SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYORS & MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Village of Beecher	Village of Midlothian
City of Blue Island	Village of Mokena
Village of Burnham	Village of Monee
City of Calumet City	City of Oak Forest
Village of Calumet Park	Village of Olympia Fields
City of Chicago Heights	Village of Orland Hills
City of Country Club Hills	Village of Orland Park
Village of Crestwood	Village of Park Forest
Village of Crete	Village of Peotone
Village of Dixmoor	Village of Phoenix
Village of Dolton	Village of Posen
Village of East Hazel Crest	Village of Richton Park
Village of Flossmoor	Village of Riverdale
Village of Ford Heights	Village of Robbins
Village of Glenwood	Village of Sauk Village
City of Harvey	Village of South Chicago Heights
Village of Hazel Crest	Village of South Holland
Village of Homewood	Village of Steger
Village of Lansing	Village of Thornton
Village of Lynwood	Village of Tinley Park
City of Markham	Village of University Park
Village of Matteson	Village of Worth

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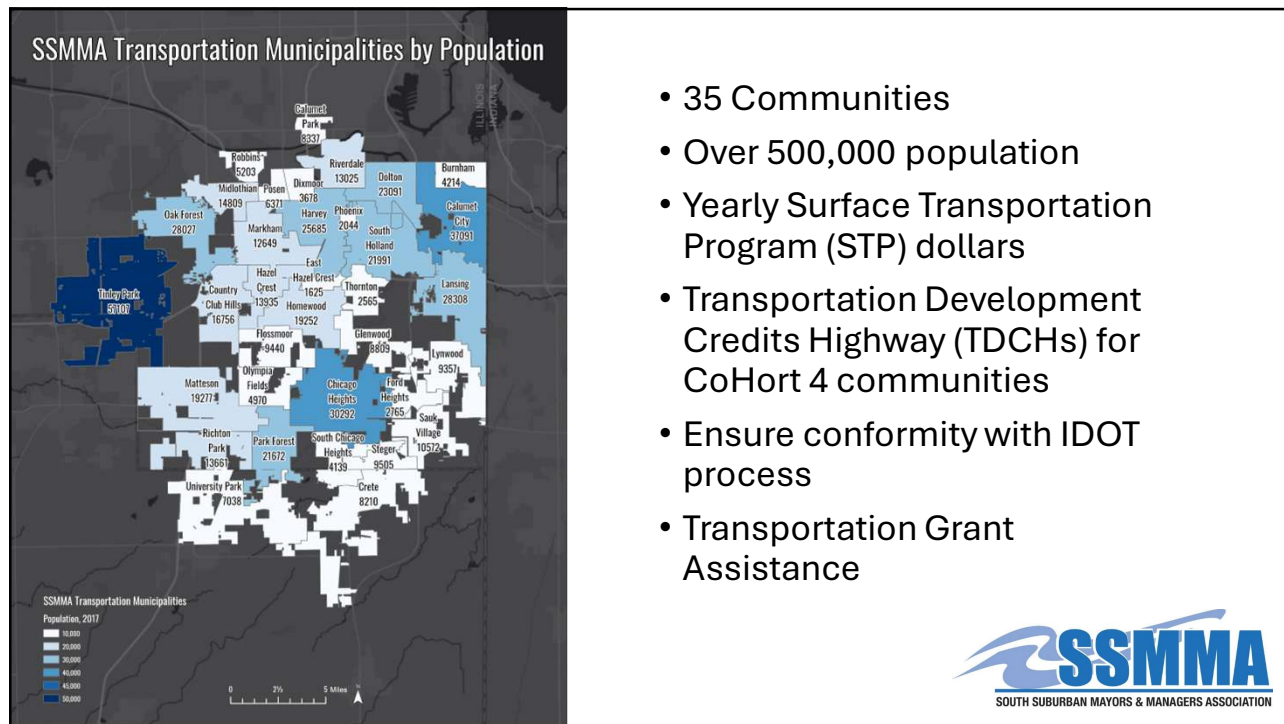
Newly Elected Officials Workshop



About SSMMA

GIS	TRANSPORTATION	LEGISLATIVE	PLANNING
BROWNFIELDS	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PUBLIC SAFETY	HOUSING
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	SUBURBAN PURCHASING COOPERATIVE	MEETINGS AND EVENTS

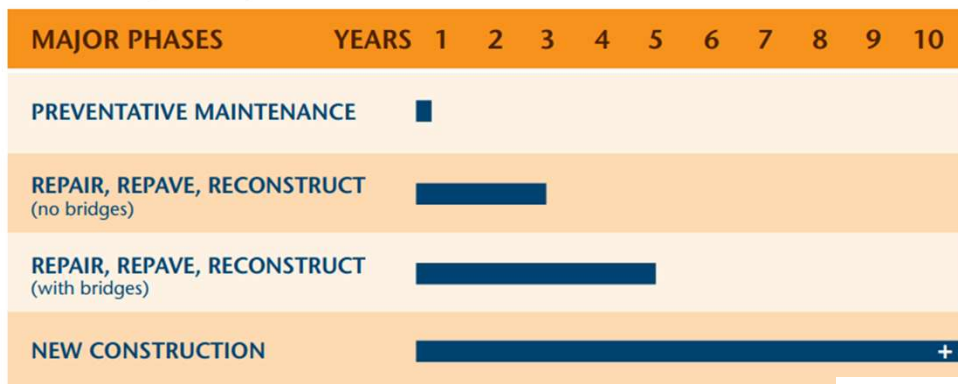
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Transportation Projects Take Time

TIME TO REHABILITATE OR BUILD AN ILLINOIS HIGHWAY
From Funding to Completion*



* Simplified time frame. Actual completion time varies from project to project.

9



MANY COMMUNITIES
ONE VISION
FOR THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS


2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



SSMMA advocates for municipal priorities– but your voice is most important!

- Get involved.
- Meet with your legislators regularly.
- Be an advocate for your community.
- Stay engaged.
- Have an impact.

10



Since 2011, over \$10B in Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) has been held back from local governments.

By December 2024, the South Suburbs– some of the hardest hit communities within Illinois– have lost over \$500,000,000 (and growing).

This impacts Property Tax Bills, especially for communities that do not have diversified funding streams.

Municipalities must still:

- Deliver public services- snow removal, garbage pick up, road maintenance and public works activities
- Support current staff salaries, including police and fire personnel
- Address public safety needs
- Tackle public infrastructure projects- water, sewer, roads, bridges, broadband
- Pay down public safety pension obligations
- Support other local projects

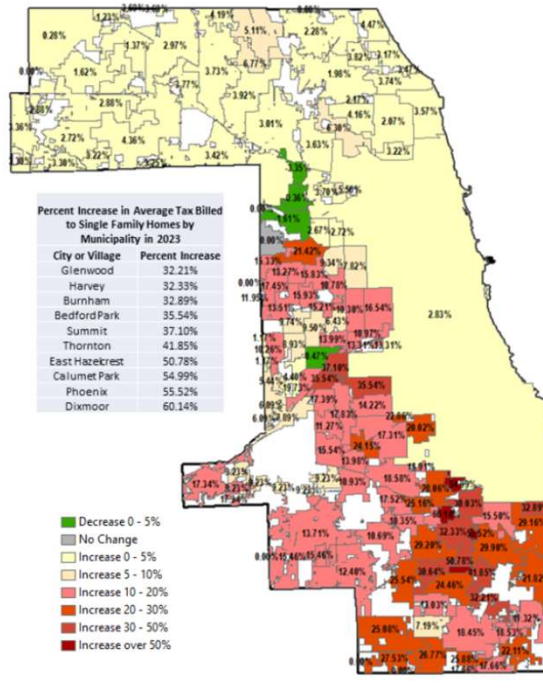
STATEWIDE TOTALS	FY2011-FY2024
Total Collections	\$305,062,000,000
LGDF@10%	\$30,506,200,000
Actual Disbursement	\$19,902,119,923
LOST LGDF REVENUE	\$10,604,080,077
Cannabis Use Tax Revenue	\$76,341,319
Video Gaming Revenue	\$908,710,431
"REPLACEMENT" REVENUE	\$985,051,750
SSMMA TOTALS (45 Municipalities)	FY2011-FY2024
Actual Receipts	\$1,023,411,889
LGDF @10%	\$1,568,110,467
LOST LGDF REVENUE	\$544,698,577
Cannabis Use Tax Revenue	\$3,602,595
Video Gaming Revenue	\$69,750,735
"REPLACEMENT" REVENUE	\$73,353,329
CHICAGO HEIGHTS	FY2011-2024
Actual Receipts	\$45,893,986
LGDF @10%	\$70,248,813
LOST LGDF REVENUE	\$24,354,827
Cannabis Use Tax Revenue	\$157,002
Video Gaming Revenue	\$2,641,190
"REPLACEMENT" REVENUE	\$2,798,191

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South Suburban Heat Map Depicting 2023 Tax Bill Spikes

- SSMMA works on tax policy and legislative remedies.
- Tracks revenues, state funding, more.
- Works to spur economic recovery.



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SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYOR AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION PENSION VS LEVY (2020-2023)

Blue Island	Police Pension	Fire Pension	IMRF	Total Pension	Total Levy	% of Levy
2023	\$ 3,245,935	\$ 2,113,458	\$ 71,029	\$ 5,430,422	\$ 9,152,019	59%
2022	\$ 3,016,415	\$ 1,993,659	\$ 132,355	\$ 5,142,429	\$ 8,618,696	60%
2021	\$ 2,538,858	\$ 1,693,731	\$ 157,793	\$ 4,390,382	\$ 8,098,403	54%
2020	\$ 2,430,830	\$ 1,463,580	\$ 233,940	\$ 4,128,350	\$ 7,987,687	52%
Calumet City	Police Pension	Fire Pension	IMRF	Total Pension	Total Levy	% of Levy
2023	\$ 7,378,728	\$ 4,914,123	N/A	\$ 12,292,851	\$ 32,226,681	38%
2022	\$ 4,059,897	\$ 2,921,659	N/A	\$ 6,981,556	\$ 31,359,413	22%
2021	\$ 3,962,660	\$ 2,872,881	N/A	\$ 6,835,541	\$ 30,839,001	22%
2020	\$ 4,246,395	\$ 2,971,246	N/A	\$ 7,217,641	\$ 30,319,037	24%
Chicago Heights	Police Pension	Fire Pension	IMRF	Total Pension	Total Levy	% of Levy
2023	\$ 5,610,000	\$ 5,280,000	N/A	\$ 10,890,000	\$ 27,954,681	39%
2022	\$ 5,912,500	\$ 5,362,500	N/A	\$ 11,275,000	\$ 27,953,358	40%
2021	\$ 5,912,500	\$ 5,362,500	N/A	\$ 11,275,000	\$ 27,953,254	40%
2020	\$ 5,027,167	\$ 4,514,107	N/A	\$ 9,541,274	\$ 27,954,827	34%
Harvey	Police Pension	Fire Pension	IMRF	Total Pension	Total Levy	% of Levy
2023	\$ 1,626,524	\$ 3,788,723	N/A	\$ 5,415,247	\$ 21,514,236	25%
2022	\$ 3,658,028	\$ 3,303,142	N/A	\$ 6,961,170	\$ 21,068,520	33%
2021	\$ 2,084,203	\$ 2,610,530	N/A	\$ 4,694,733	\$ 20,641,245	23%
2020	\$ 3,137,720	\$ 2,356,965	N/A	\$ 5,494,685	\$ 20,647,397	27%

Data Sources: Dept. of Insurance
Cook County Clerk

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2025 Legislative Priorities

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA), an intergovernmental agency representing 45 municipalities and nearly 750,000 residents, serves diverse communities across the Southland, many that have long struggled for inclusive economic growth. We look to partner with state lawmakers on a shared agenda that lays the groundwork for a strong and equitable recovery for our Southland region so that current residents and future generations thrive and succeed. The following are SSMMA's legislative priorities for 2025:

1. *Preserve Current Public Safety Pension Commitments*

- Halt Efforts to Return or Roll Back Tier II Benefits to Tier I Levels
- Prohibit Pension Enhancements that Destabilize Municipalities & Impact Taxpayers
- Advance State-National Firefighter and EMT Test Remedy
- Enhance Public Safety Recruitment Initiatives

2. *Ensure Stability and Sustainability - Address Property Tax Crisis and Disparity*

- Implement a Minimum Property Tax Amount or "Base" to Stabilize Tax Bills
- Support a State-funded Circuit Breaker Program
- Halt Unfunded Mandates That Impose Hardship to Resource-Limited Communities
- Prioritize Resources and Direct State and Regional Funds to Struggling Areas

3. *Secure and Protect Promised Revenues*

- Work Towards Full Restoration of Local Government Distributive Funds (LGDF)
- Ensure LGDF is Indexed to Any Future Increase in State Income Tax Rates
- Stabilize Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT)
- Modernize Revenue Structure to Account for Shifting Consumption Patterns

4. *Improve Community Quality of Life and Equitable Opportunity*

- Accelerate Infrastructure Investments in Southland Region
- Address Northeast Illinois' Transit Crisis and Access to Jobs
- Foster Economic Development and Recovery by Updating Fiscally Distressed Cities Law
- Preserve Existing Municipal Authority to Implement Housing Programs and Ordinances

QUESTIONS?

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Newly Elected Officials Workshop



**Please use our website as a resource
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