



Village Board adopts new alley repaving program

Cost of the program to be split 50/50 with residents

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 19, 2015

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ELMWOOD PARK – Trustees voted Monday night to adopt a program that offers residents the opportunity to have their alleys improved through a Special Service Area (SSA), allowing homeowners to share the cost of the project with the Village if there is sufficient support among affected neighbors.

"This is another effort we're making to keep Elmwood Park clean, safe and beautiful," said Village President Angelo "Skip" Saviano. "The Village would pay for the initial engineering and estimates once residents submit a petition. The cost of the project itself would be split 50/50 between the Village and residents."

Alley improvements would include new concrete pavement and storm sewers where necessary. A Green Alley with permeable pavers would also be offered.

Establishing an SSA is a multi-step process. The first step is to gather signatures on an Alley Paving Petition from as many neighbors as possible and submit them to the Village. The Village will move forward if at least 75 percent of the property owners sign the petition. The Alley Paving Petition form is available at Village Hall or can be downloaded from the Village's website: www.elmwoodpark.org.

"If residents sign a petition, it does not mean they are committed to paying for the costs of the alley," Saviano said. "Once the engineer prepares preliminary cost estimates, the Village will schedule a public meeting with residents to go over the projected costs. That's when property owners will be asked if they wish to proceed."

If the total "Yes" votes in support of the project are at least 75 percent of the properties on the block, the project would move forward and the Village would begin to establish the SSA. Residents would pay their 50 percent share on their property tax bills over a ten-year period.

"It's a good way for residents to get a newly constructed and improved alley in an affordable fashion," Saviano said.

Actual construction of the alley improvements would normally take six to eight weeks. Garbage would be picked up from the street while the alley is closed.

www.elmwoodpark.org

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