



Buffalo Grove Village News



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Buffalo Grove Readies for the Future

The Village's Infrastructure Modernization Program will ensure the highest level of services, maintain property values, and minimize service disruptions.

The Village's first-generation water and sanitary sewer infrastructure is now – or will soon be – in need of replacement or rehabilitation. Over the last several months, the Village Board and staff have worked together to ensure infrastructure replacements or improvements can occur in a timely manner and are financially supported. The goals of the Infrastructure Modernization Program are to manage neighborhood infrastructure in a way that ensures high customer service levels, maintain property values, and minimize service disruptions through these planned infrastructure improvements.

The Infrastructure Modernization Program will begin in the spring of 2020. Due to the development patterns of the Village since 1958, much of the water and sewer infrastructure, as well as road deficiencies, exist in the Cook County portions of the Village. However, given the desire to balance the needs of the entire Village with this initiative, several projects are planned Village-wide over the next five years and beyond.

Continued on page 4...



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 Monday 8:00 a.m. to
 6:30 p.m.
 Tuesday-Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Office of the Village Manager
 (847) 459-2525

Office of the Village Clerk
 (847) 459-2525

**Finance and
 General Services**

(847) 459-2500

Building and Zoning

(847) 459-2530

Health Department

(847) 459-2530

Fire Department

(Non-Emergency)

(847) 537-0995

Police Department

(Non-Emergency)

(847) 459-2560

Public Works-Operations

(847) 459-2545

Public Works-Engineering

(847) 459-2523

Arboretum Golf Club

(847) 913-1112

Buffalo Grove Golf Club

(847) 459-5520

BGTV

Comcast Channel 6

AT&T U-Verse Channel 99

Village Board meetings air
 everyday at

8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Village Trustees



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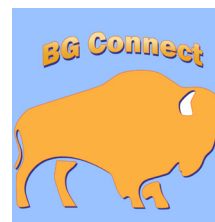
Village Clerk



Janet Sirabian
jsirabian@vbg.org

Village Board Meeting Schedule

January 6	Regular
January 21	Regular
February 3	Committee of the Whole
February 18	Regular



Visit the Village of Buffalo Grove online at vbg.org

Letter From The Village President



Beverly Sussman

bsussman@vbg.org

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays with their loved ones. This year brings a lot of exciting projects to Buffalo Grove. In December 2019, the Village Board approved the 2020 budget. I am happy to report that budgeted expenditures have only increased 3.6-percent compared to the 2019 budget. The budget does not include any additions to staff or expansions of major programs.

The tax levy is conservative again this year with the Village's levy consisting of only 10-percent of your total tax

bill. On pages 6-7 of this newsletter is an overview of the revenues and expenditures included in the budget.

The biggest development in the 2020 budget is the Infrastructure Modernization Program for Buffalo Grove. Due to the Village's first-generation water and sanitary sewer infrastructure now being ready for replacement or rehabilitation, the Village Board and staff teams have worked cooperatively to develop a strategy. The goal here is to ensure infrastructure can be replaced when needed. The Infrastructure Modernization Program is meant to manage neighborhood infrastructure so that service disruptions

are minimized. The results are that customer service will remain strong, and property values throughout our Village will be maintained.

The Infrastructure Modernization Program will begin this spring. Due to the development patterns of the Village since 1958, much of the water and sewer infrastructure, as well as road deficiencies, exist in the Cook County portions of the Village. However, given the desire to balance the needs of the entire Village with this initiative, several projects are planned Village-wide over the next five years and beyond.

Over the next five years, Buffalo Grove will be involved with or managing over \$175,000,000 in Capital Projects. This program moves the Village away from using a debt, to a cash financing strategy over the long term, in order to minimize the overall impact on the property tax levy.

More information on the plan, including information on the timing and locations of projects are included on page 4 of this newsletter.

We look forward to a productive 2020 in the Village of Buffalo Grove. I wish everyone a happy, healthy, prosperous and safe new year.

President Beverly Sussman

Beverly Sussman

Census Day is Coming Soon!

A complete count for the 2020 Census is vital to the Buffalo Grove community, and ultimately to you because federal funding for municipalities, counties and states is based on population. **By way of responding to the Census, you are helping the Village to receive its share of funds which support vital programs - such as emergency preparedness, as well as for schools, hospitals, public works, roads and more.**

All Buffalo Grove residents are urged to respond as quickly as possible when contacted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Communications are expected to arrive in mailboxes over the next couple of months. Please also help to communicate the importance of getting a complete count to friends and family wherever they live – whether they live here in Illinois, or across the country. Every counted resident represents approximately \$1,400 in federal funds (per resident, per year) for 10 years to state and local governments.

Buffalo Grove has set up the **Complete Count Committee**, which is comprised of government entities, faith-based organizations, schools, libraries, community organizations and businesses. This group will be working through the **Lake Cook Census Collaborative** to help to encourage maximum involvement and response to the Census.

Interested in getting involved? Visit lakecookcensus.org. Contact Village Planner Rati Akash at rakash@vbg.org or **847-459-5592** with further questions, or visit the Village's Census webpage at vbg.org/census2020.

The Census Bureau is also recruiting temporary full- and part-time workers. Training is paid, compensation is competitive, and the hours are flexible. Apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs or call **1-855-JOB-2020**.



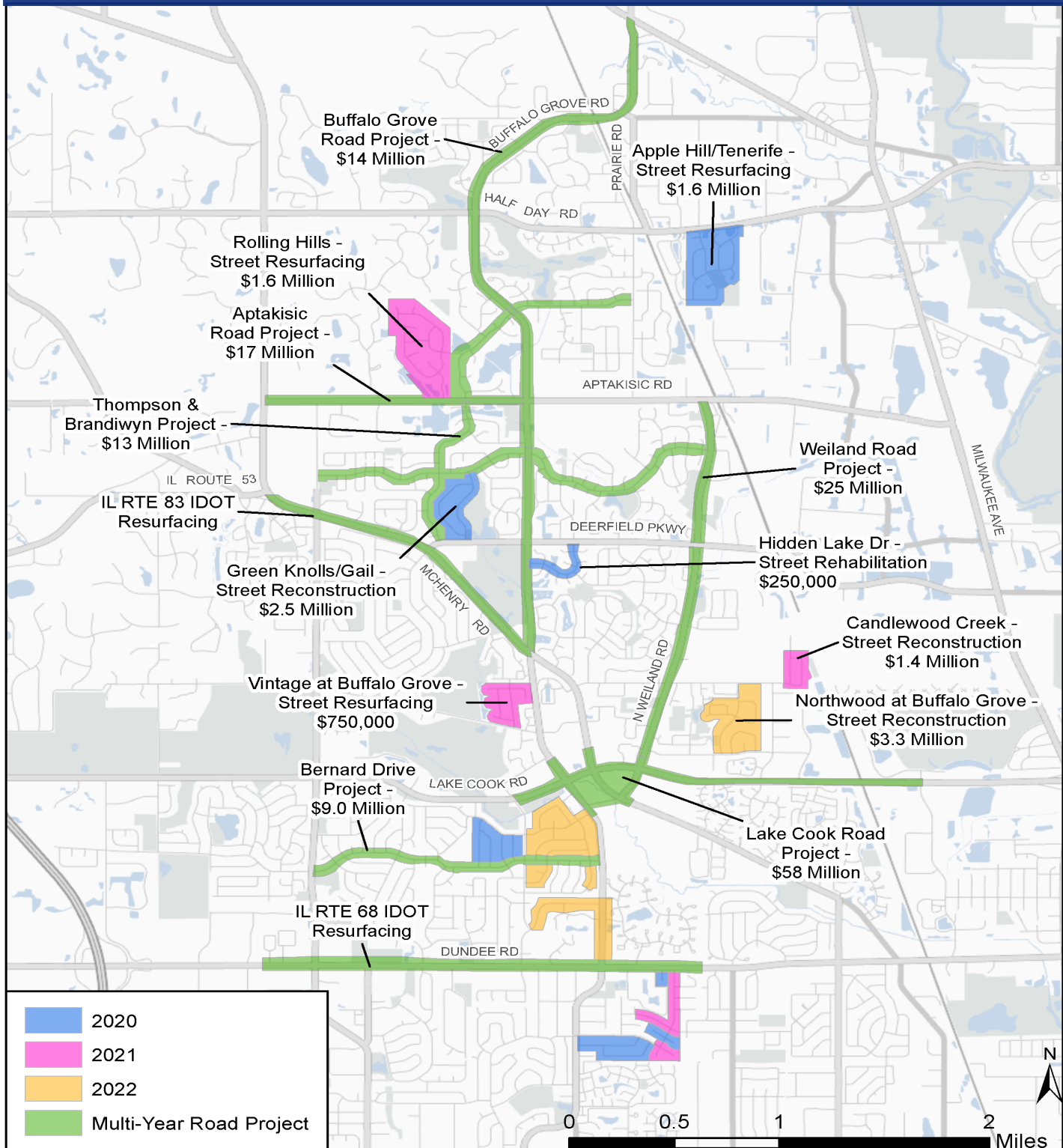
Buffalo Grove

Readies for the Future

Continued from page 1 ...

Between now and 2025, Buffalo Grove will be involved with, or managing, more than \$175,000,000 in Capital Projects. This program moves the Village away from using a debt financing strategy to a cash financing strategy. Over the long term, this strategy will minimize the overall impact on the property tax levy. *View the explanatory infographic on the back page of this issue.*

So, what is infrastructure and how does this affect Buffalo Grove residents, businesses and other stakeholders? Infrastructure are fundamental systems and facilities that serve the Village. These include (but are not limited to) what are classified as 'hard' or 'physical' infrastructure, such as electrical grids, the water supply, sewers and roads.



Planting Seeds for the Village's Future

The Village's new Comprehensive Plan kicked off with a public workshop that took place on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at Aptakisic Junior High School. The goal of this plan is to identify a long-term vision for Buffalo Grove, looking 15-20 years into the future. This vision includes the physical environment, including land use, natural resources, transportation, housing, and economic development. It's a large undertaking, and the Village is inviting all residents, business community members and other stakeholders to get involved in this process!



What are your thoughts on what Buffalo Grove should look like in 2040? Are there specific areas where you think the Village can improve? What strengths should we preserve and build upon? Provide your input on the Ideas Exchange – which can be found at engagebg.org. This is the Comprehensive Plan's virtual platform that allows residents to post, comment, and collaborate on ideas and concepts that will drive the overarching themes of this plan. We look forward to hearing from you!



The workshop, which was well attended, began with a presentation of plan's scope. It then transitioned to interactive stations that helped participants to identify strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for Buffalo Grove as far ahead as 2040. For example, one station focused on the Dundee and Milwaukee Road Corridors and featured 3-D models, pictures, and aerial maps to stimulate discussion on the area now, and its possibilities for the future.

Other outreach activities have included small group listening sessions with Buffalo Grove High School students, realtors, members of the local business community, and area civic organizations.

The project team from RATIO has been impressed with the community's enthusiasm and ideas. Lesley Roth, the project lead, stated, "Buffalo Grove residents truly care about the future of this community and we look forward to continuing to engage with them regarding this project." For more information, visit engagebg.org.

Winter 2020 Cycle Tree Trimming

The Village Cycle Tree Trimming Program takes place during the winter months, with a goal to trim trees as routine cycle maintenance every five years. This helps to improve the health and aesthetics of the trees; the Public Works Forestry and Grounds Section is on pace relating to this ongoing effort.

The Forestry Staff consists of seven ISA Certified Arborists. Four of the arborists are also Municipal Specialists – two of which are TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualified). This team of professionals maintain the urban canopy as a team.

Before trimming begins, an arborist inspects each tree, and Village staff evaluates them to determine current value, condition, and any potential hazards. Trees marked for removal have painted yellow dots on their trunk, and removal occurs during the trimming program. Notifications to residents with removals occurs in person, or by letter sent to the home.



2020 Village of Buffalo Grove Annual Budget Summary

In December of 2019, the Village Board adopted the 2020 Annual Budget of \$80,837,127 effective for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2020.

The budget cycle encompasses a yearlong series of public discussions about capital improvements, economic development, debt management, financial forecasting and strategic planning. The annual budget sets forth a financial plan to meet the goals and objectives set forth in the second year of the FY 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

The budget is structured around the programs and services that are either provided to the community directly or help to internally support those programs. This program-based budget is intended to demonstrate the link between Village goal's and priorities and resource allocation. A series of performance metrics for each program then validates whether service targets are met. In order to capture all activity of the Village, the budget incorporates 15 separate funds to track program revenues and expenditures. Many of those funds are dedicated to specific functions (e.g. Metra Parking Lot Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Refuse Funds).

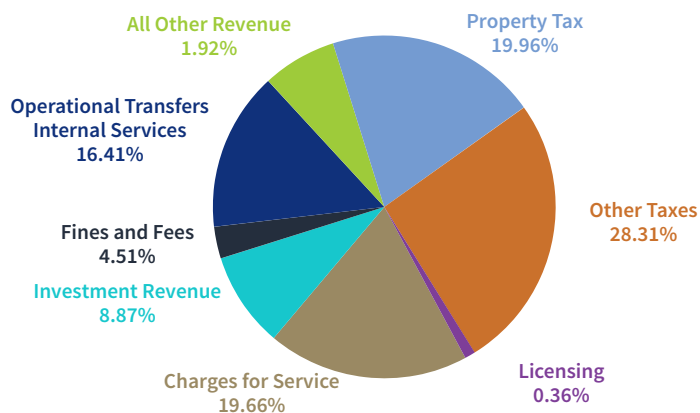
The FY 2020 Annual Budget is balanced, meaning that its expenditures do not exceed the amount of revenue estimated to be received during the year.

Revenue

The Village maintains a diverse revenue base to support its services. The total revenue budget for FY 2020 is \$85.8 million which is a 3.9-percent increase from 2019.

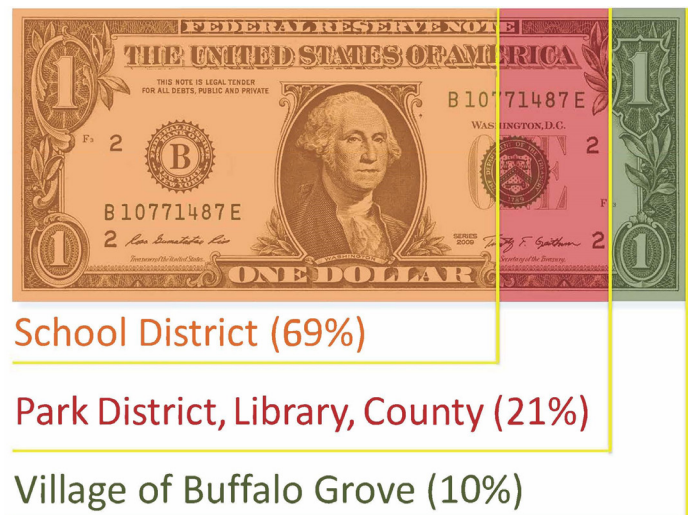
The chart below shows the distribution of revenue collection in the FY 2020 budget.

Revenue Types



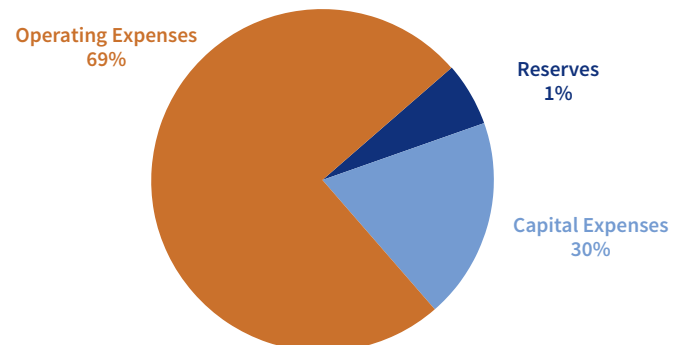
Property taxes fund 20-percent of the annual budget. Over half of the levy supports public safety (police and fire) operations. The remainder of the property taxes collected is allocated to service debt and employer pension contributions. The Village's portion of the property tax rate for 2020 will be \$1.016 per \$100 of assessed value.

The Village's portion represents approximately 10-percent of the entire property tax bill. The graph below depicts how property taxes are allocated.



State shared and local taxes account for approximately 30-percent of all revenues. Direct charges for service, including water utility billing, account for 20-percent of all collections. The water rate increased by 11-percent for FY 2020 and is \$7.07 per 1,000 gallons metered. A breakdown of the water rate is shown below.

Water Rate Breakdown

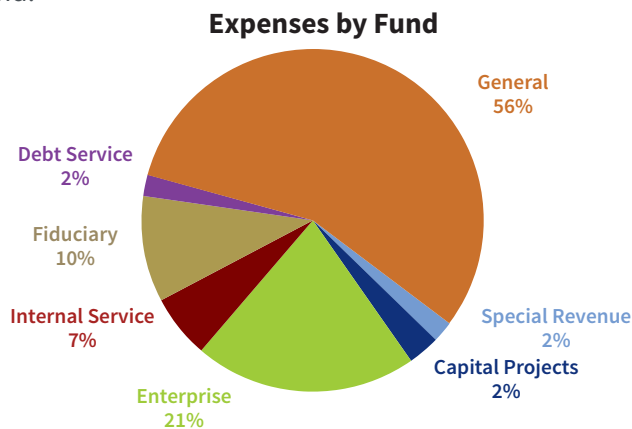


2020 Village of Buffalo Grove Annual Budget Summary

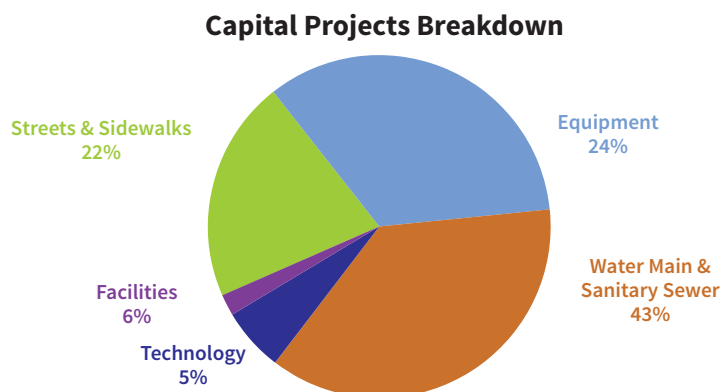
Expenditures

The total budget for all Village expenditures in 2020 is \$81 million and is a 3.6-percent increase over the 2019 Annual Budget. Over half of the budget (56-percent) supports the activities of the General (operating) Fund. The General Fund accounts for most of the core services provided to the community, including police and fire service, street maintenance and snowplowing, forestry, engineering, code enforcement and general administration. Of the General Fund expenditures, more than 75-percent of the budget supports the employees who provide these services.

The chart below shows the distribution of expenditure by Fund.



Eight-percent of the budget (\$7.2 million) is allocated to capital improvements and the purchase of capital equipment. The Village saves funds to make capital purchases such as public safety vehicles. The following chart shows where resources for capital projects are spent.



The entire document can be viewed at vbg.org/budget. Reviewing Sections 1 and 4 of the budget provides the reader with a high-level summary of budget strategies.

The Village also publishes a Popular Annual Financial Report to supplement both the budget and annual audit.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Budget: \$81 million
Operating Budget: \$45.4 million
Total Capital Budget: \$7.2 million

Operating Budget Expenditures

Public Safety: 67%
Public Works: 18%
Finance & Administration: 10%
Community Development: 5%

Capital Spending

Streets & Sidewalks: \$1.6 million
Water/Sewer System: \$3.1 million
Tech. & Equipment: \$2.1 million
Facilities: \$.4 million

Total Debt

\$11,840,000*
\$1.3 million will be retired in 2020
80-percent of all debt was issued
for road improvements

Financial Distinctions

Distinguished Budget Award
Certificate of Achievement for
Excellence in Financial Reporting

Bond Ratings

Standard & Poors AAA
Moody's Aa1

*Does not include planned debt in 2020

2020 Citizens Police Academy



Enrollment for the popular Buffalo Grove Citizens Police Academy opened on January 1 - so sign up now! The new and improved course allows residents to learn the inner workings of the Police Department; topics covered include active threats and responses, information about crime scenes and evidence, firearms, traffic stops and building searches.

New education for the 2020 Academy relates to life saving techniques—including a certification in CPR. Applications can be completed online at vbg.org by searching 'Citizens Police Academy'.

This 10-week course begins Wednesday, February 12 and runs through April 15, 2020. Classes start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m. Space is limited, and acceptance is based on a first-come, first-served basis.

Questions can be directed to Officer Amy Cholewa at acholewa@vbg.org or at **847-459-2560**.

New Officers on the Job

Did you know it takes more than two years before newly hired Buffalo Grove police officers make it through the police academy, field training, and their probationary period?

Upon being hired by the Village, a new police officer is required to attend a 14-week Police Academy at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy, located at the Homeland Security Institute at the College of DuPage. There, course work focuses on criminal and traffic law, as well as courtroom testimony. Rigorous physical training is also a part of the curriculum, and includes defensive tactics, firearms training and crisis intervention, as well as training in how to conduct traffic stops.

When an officer graduates from the Academy, the next step is to be paired with a field training officer (FTO's). The FTO and a new officer will work together for several weeks, going over general orders, responding to calls together, and getting to know the ins and outs of the department. Each new officer will spend approximately five weeks on each shift (days, evenings, and midnights), with a different FTO to gain familiarity with Buffalo Grove at different times of the day.

When the new officer is finally released from field training, they will rotate through each shift for the remainder of their probationary period, which lasts for 18 months.

Snow Plowing: Which Agency Handles What Roads?

Did you know that the Village of Buffalo Grove works with other governmental agencies so that all roads are passable during a winter storm event? It's true! Even though they are located within Buffalo Grove, Public Works does not - and cannot - perform activities such as snow removal, on certain roads.

The Village partners with the departments of transportation for Lake County (LCDOT), Cook County (CCDOT) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for snow removal efforts, because each of these agencies have jurisdiction (ownership) over certain roads in the Village. Below is a list of the roads and which agency is responsible for them:

- **LCDOT:** Buffalo Grove Road north of Lake Cook Road, Apatakisic Road, Deerfield Parkway and Arlington Heights Road (from Lake Cook to Route 83)
- **CC DOT:** Buffalo Grove Road south of Lake Cook Road, Arlington Heights Road (from Lake Cook Road to Dundee) and Lake Cook Road.
- **IDOT:** Half Day Road, Milwaukee Avenue, Route 83 and Dundee Road

Please visit the Village website at vbg.org to view an interactive map displaying the routes and contact information for other jurisdictions. When you visit the website, go to the 'HOW DO I' tab and click on 'Snow Plowing' under the 'Learn More About' section to view this material. For any questions, please contact Public Works at **847-459-2545**.

Buffalo Grove Civics Forum 2019



The yearly Buffalo Grove Civics Forum provides the opportunity for local high school students to learn about municipal government by participating in a mock Village Board meeting. There, they act as either a Village department head or an elected official on the Village Board. Through this experience, students learn the importance of becoming involved in the community, and that voting in local elections affects their daily lives. These young people also come away with a new understanding that volunteers are what can make a good community, a great one.

I say it every year – this year’s Civics Forum was the best! And, I also say every year that our future is secure in the hands of our very bright young people.

On October 28, 2019, Buffalo Grove and Stevenson High School students met at Village Hall. They were given an orientation about municipal government and then took an in-depth tour of all the different departments located on the Village campus. These included Administration, Finance, Community Development, the Fire and Police Departments and Public Works.

Each of the students was assigned to - and met with - their counterpart department head or elected official to prepare for a mock Village Board meeting. Before the meeting began, Village staff, elected officials and the students had dinner together at the Wild Buffalo (located behind Village Hall) to get to know more about each other. At the meeting that followed, each of the different ‘department heads’ presented their requested needs, with a goal for the ‘elected officials’ to approve one of them.

The mock Village Board allowed all participants to discuss the benefits of each proposal, and ultimately it decided to select an 8’ personalized bench, an ADA compliant picnic table, and landscaping for the Police Department Headquarters entrance. The goal behind the request was to send a more cordial, welcoming, and accommodating impression and message to individuals needing to conduct business at the Police Department.

Since 2020 is also the year of the U.S. Census, students also learned the importance of **EVERY** resident completing the 2020 Census; every counted resident represents approximately \$1,400 in federal funds (per resident, per year) for 10 years to state and local governments.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the Village staff members who participated in our Civics Forum, and to the students and advisors for their participation. This experience is always an educational and enjoyable day for all of us!

Janet Sirabian, Village Clerk



Village of Buffalo Grove
50 Raupp Boulevard
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

PSRTD SRD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #26
BUFFALO GROVE, IL

WS-CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT
LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
BUFFALO GROVE, IL 60089

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Factors Regarding the Infrastructure Modernization Program

Buffalo Grove will...

1.



Embark on the largest infrastructure project in the Village's history.

November 4, the Village Board approved two significant revenue streams for this purpose, the implementation of a fixed facility fee and water/sewer rate increase for water and sewer main replacement and a local motor fuel tax to fund road improvements.

2.



Make significant Investments into infrastructure upgrades and replacements.

In 2020, the Board will consider a bond issue totaling \$24 million - \$14 million for water/sewer and \$10 million for streets, to begin our infrastructure modernization project. with minimal impact on the property tax levy.

3.



Complete planned Capital Improvements over time.

Over the next five years, the Village projects investing over \$50 million into water, sewer and streets.

4.



Minimize resident disruption.

To the extent possible, project sequencing will be arranged such that entire neighborhoods will be completed within one to three years based on outside funding in an effort to reduce service interruptions and overall disruption.

5.



Secure sustainable funding into the future.

The Village Board and staff have devoted a great deal of time to developing sustainable practices to improve and maintain our core infrastructure.