



Village of Mount Prospect Press Release

Village of Mount Prospect Presents Plans for Aging in Community and Sustainability

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At the March 14 Committee of the Whole meeting, Village of Mount Prospect staff presented an Aging in Community Action Plan and Sustainability Plan to the Village Board for discussion and next steps. Both aging in community (aging in place) and sustainability were identified as priorities in the Village's strategic planning processes and are long-term goals of the Village Board.

Aging in Community Action Plan

The Village's Age-Friendly Task Force, consisting of residents and stakeholders who serve older adults, has been gathering and reviewing data for the last year and a half to formulate a three-year action plan. In 2019, the Village joined the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Age Friendly Communities Collaborative. Through this collaborative, the Village learned of an "Aging in a Changing Region" grant opportunity and was selected to participate. Following grant workshops and survey data analysis, the Age-Friendly Task Force began the planning phase for the draft action plan.

The plan identifies goals and objectives to create a livable community for all in Mount Prospect. Five priority areas were chosen by the Task Force out of 11 community assessment themes: housing, transportation, social engagement, information/communication, and health/wellness.

In 2021, the Village was accepted into the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, a country-wide effort to help cities prepare for rapid population aging and the parallel trend of urbanization. Joining this network provided the foundation for the Village's aging in community initiatives. Following the presentation and discussion, the action plan will be finalized and submitted to AARP for final approval.

Sustainability Plan Report and Implementation Guide

In response to the 2021-2022 Strategic Plan, staff was directed to create a "Sustainability Plan Report" reviewing Village operations for sustainability processes and activities. The 2022-2023 Strategic Plan proposed forming an Ad Hoc Committee, preparing an initial report from the Ad Hoc Committee, and report review and feedback with the Village Board.

The Village's Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee, which first met in September 2022, includes members from existing boards and commissions and several members of the public, all with an interest or experience in related fields. The Committee was tasked with reviewing the initial report and identifying long-term goals for a draft "Implementation Guide." Seven goals were prioritized, and the top three include promoting environment friendly alternatives for landscapes throughout the community; helping reduce solid waste tonnage; and constructing new shared-use paths and sidewalks to promote walking and biking.

"Both of these initiatives were prioritized by the Village Board in our strategic planning process in 2022," said Mayor Paul Hoefert. "We have engaged community members to contribute ideas and innovations that may support our senior citizens and advance sustainable practices within our organization and community. We look forward to making further progress this year in both of these priorities," stated Hoefert.

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Julie Kane, Director of Human Services, presenting on Aging in Community



Alex Bertolucci, Assistant to the Village Manager, presenting on sustainability