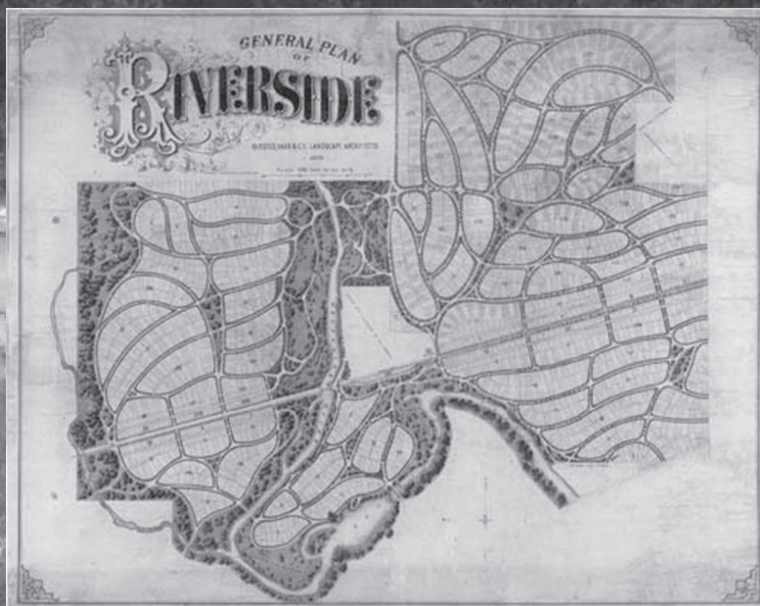


Village of Riverside

SCOTT'S



2011 Annual Report



LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

The Village of Riverside has several ways for residents to receive updates regarding events and news from the Village. Don't miss any vital information.

E-Flash: Announcements sent to your e-mail account. To sign up, go to the Village website www.riverside.il.us and click on the RIVERSIDE E-FLASH link on the left side of the home page. You will be added to our mailing list immediately.

CodeRed: Emergency Notification via your home and cell phone numbers. Used only in an emergency. To sign up, go our website www.riverside.il.us and click on the Code Red link on the right side of the home page.

Nixle: News and alerts from our police department through text messages to your e-mail account and cell phone. Go to www.nixle.com and register using the Residents link.

Twitter: Get up to date information on Village happenings right in your Twitter feed. Follow us @RiversideGov, or check out www.twitter.com/RiversideGov.



The Village Board of Trustees and Village Staff want to hear from you. The best way to contact the Board or Village Manager is by e-mail.

Village President Michael Gorman—mgorman@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee Joseph Ballerine—jballerine@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee James Reynolds—jreynolds@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee Lonnie Sacchi—lsacchi@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee Ben Sells—bsells@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee Mark Shevitz—mdshevitz@riverside.il.us

Village Trustee Jean Sussman—jsussman@riverside.il.us

Village Manager Peter Scalera— pscalera@riverside.il.us

A Letter from the Village President

February 2012

Greetings Fellow Riversiders:

This 2011 Annual Report details the key projects and activities that helped shape our Village over the past year. It also provides a snapshot of the financial position of the Village as of the end of 2011.



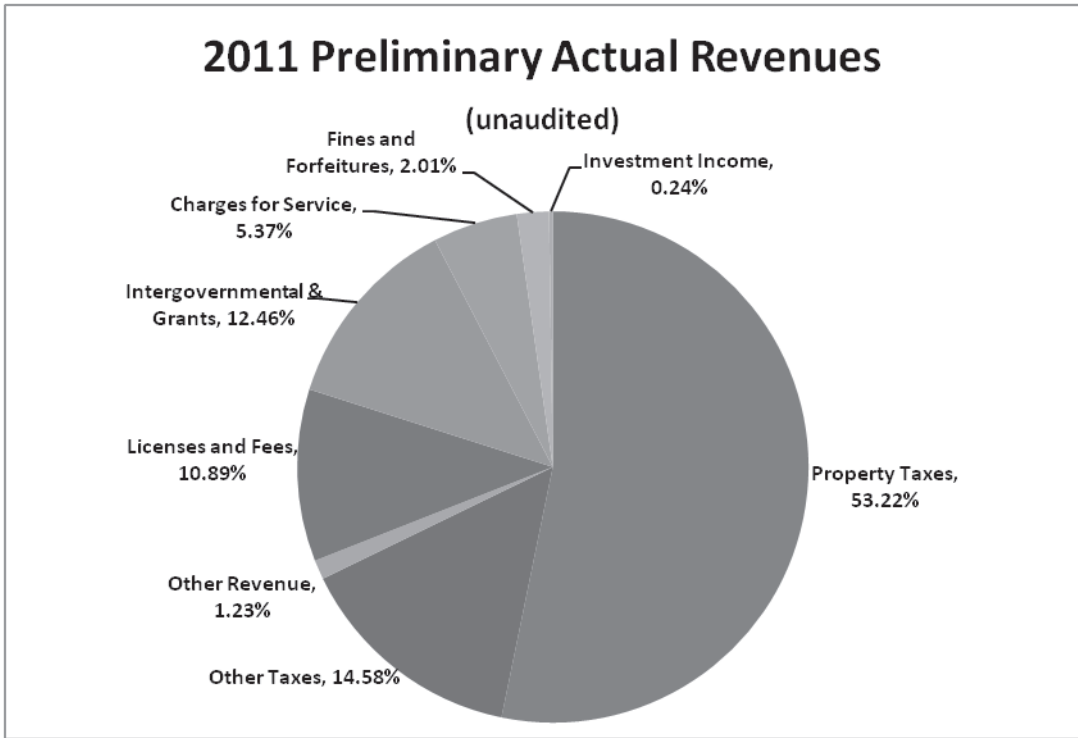
Over the past few years, the economic climate has proved challenging across the Chicago metropolitan region and the nation. While budgets are uncomfortably tight, both for families and governments, the Village of Riverside has been able to hold its own during these times. This Annual Report highlights our progress. With the passage of a balanced 2012 budget in December, it appears that we will continue on solid footing. Under the guidance of the Village Board, the Village will confront the challenges of 2012 and beyond by continuing to implement responsible municipal policy under the watchful eye of fiscal responsibility.

However, Riverside does not exist in a vacuum. As we all struggle to do more with less, we must continue to navigate the “new normal” of the 21st century. The days of seemingly inexhaustible resources and dizzying growth are behind us. The Village must continue to actively monitor actions and legislation by our national, state and county governments which threaten our financial well being. The State of Illinois and Cook County continue in their attempts to either (i) take away from the Village municipal revenues that belong to the residents of Riverside, or (ii) shift their expenses down upon Riverside taxpayers. The State and County should not be allowed to balance their budgets upon the backs of local municipalities and their residents. I will continue to work with all of our federal, state and county elected officials with the single minded focus of protecting the financial health of the Village of Riverside. Over the past year, I have asked you to contact our legislators on issues of importance to Riverside. As the need arises, I will continue to ask for your help in 2012.

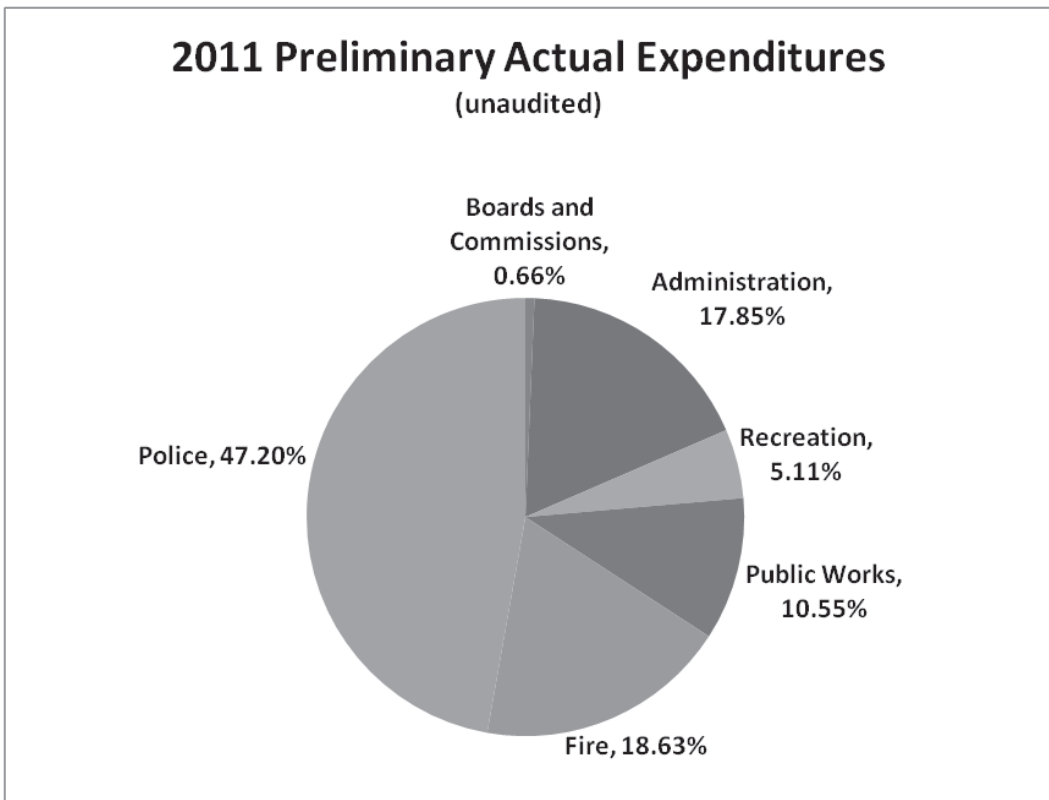
I want to close on a favorite theme of mine, “Riverside - This Place Matters”. You may remember that phrase from the 2009 Arcade Building Mural project. Riverside is a special place. It is not just a place to live. It’s a community. It is where we make our life-long friends. It has been that special place that matters since Frederick Law Olmsted laid down his plan for the Village in 1869. The title of author Justin Martin’s 2011 biography of Frederick Law Olmsted sums it up well: “Genius of Place.” We are all the beneficiaries of that genius.

Thank you for your role in making our National Historic Landmark Village a great place to live and for allowing the members of the Village Board of Trustees, our many resident Commissioners and our Village staff the opportunity to serve you.

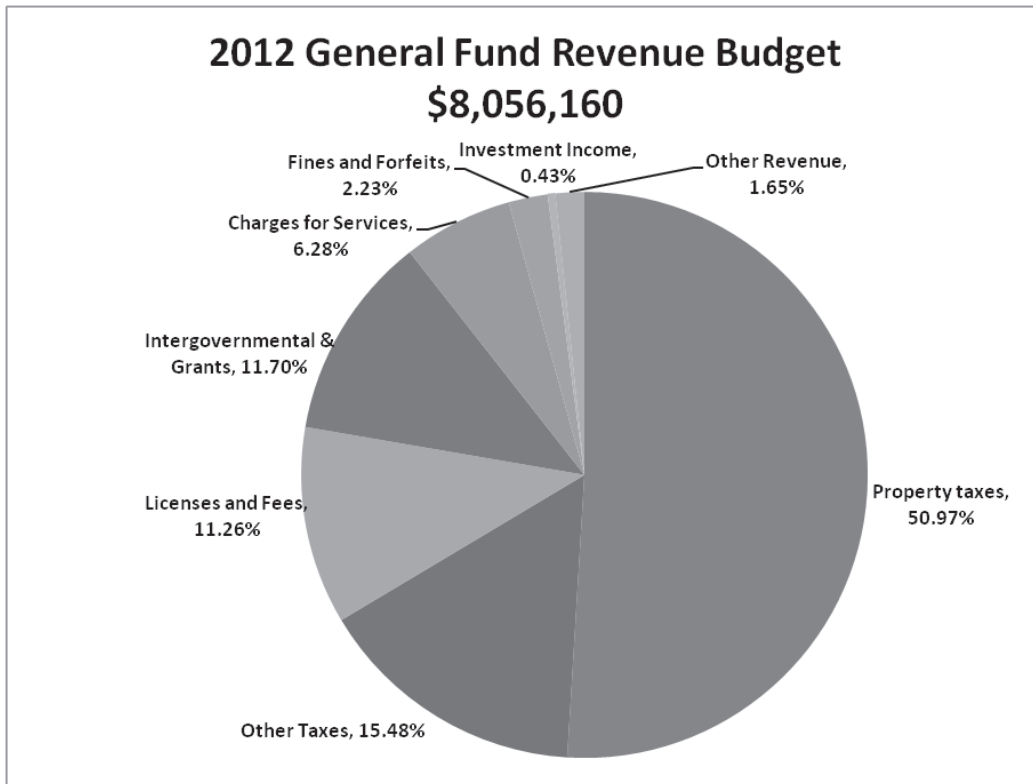
Michael C. Gorman
Village President



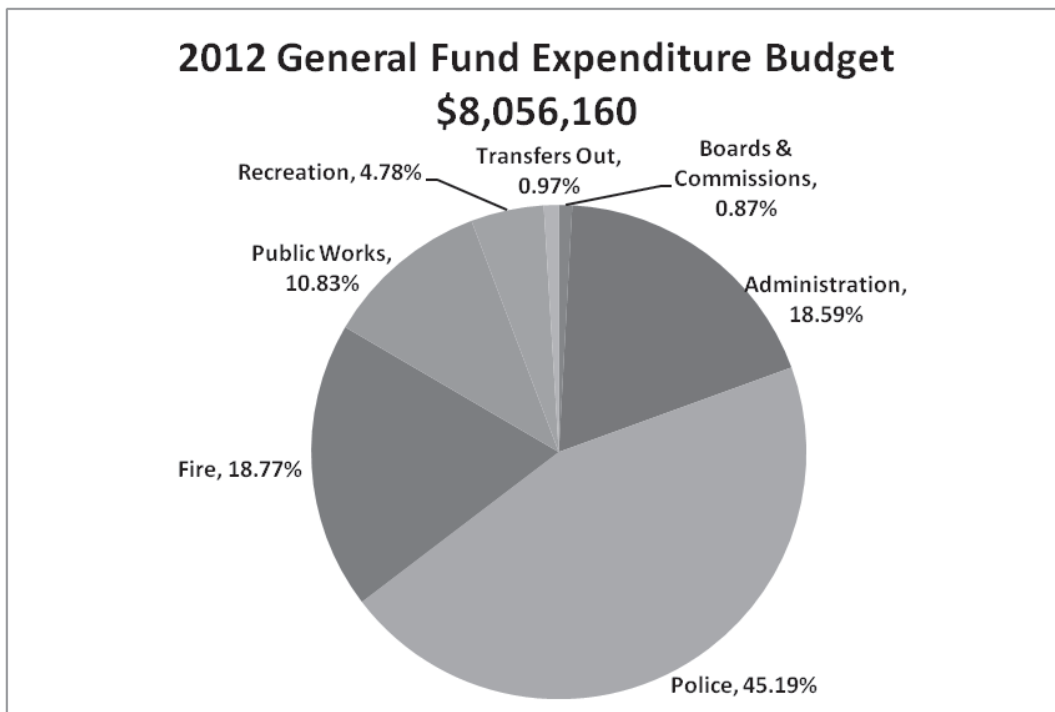
The total revenue received by the General Fund in 2011 was \$8.4 million. In 2011, property taxes continued to be the largest revenue source in the General Fund at 53.22%. There was a 0.70% increase in total property tax revenue received in 2011 as compared to 2010.



Public Safety continues to be the largest area of expense in the General Fund at 65.8%. The General Fund is service driven, therefore, 70.4% of the expense is personnel costs.



In 2012, property tax represents 50.97% of the revenue in the General Fund. In Riverside, the annual property tax increase is limited to CPI or 5%, whichever is less. Property tax will increase by 2.96% in 2012.



The General Fund Budget for 2012 includes 64% for Public Safety (Police and Fire) expense. Public Works represents 10.83% of the fund's expense and provides street maintenance, park and facility maintenance, snow plowing and tree trimming.

Finance Department



Excellent Financial Reporting

Once again, the Village Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. To achieve this recognition, the CAFR must meet a rigorous standard for fairly presenting financial information according to the highest accounting standards. This is the highest distinction awarded by the GFOA and illustrates the Village's commitment to open and honest financial reporting. Riverside has received this award each year but one since 1989. The Village is required by law to provide financial statements, but we choose to go above and beyond to ensure financial transparency to all residents. The award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports since 2003 are available on our website.

Bond Refinancing

In 2011, the Finance Department reviewed outstanding debt issues to determine if any could be refinanced to achieve savings. The 2003 Alternate Revenue Bonds that were issued for water system improvements were refinanced in May. The 2010A General Obligation Refunding Bonds were partially refinanced in November of 2011. The historically low interest rates and remaining debt structure resulted in a savings in excess of \$300,000. The Village will continue to evaluate refinancing debt on an annual basis and seek opportunities to capture savings.

E-billing for utility bills

In 2010, the Village installed and tested an e-billing program for utility bills. During 2011, over 130 households participated in the program. Utility customers can now receive their bi-monthly utility bill in their e-mail inbox. This, coupled with free on-line bill payment or automatic direct debit, reduces printing and mailing expenses for the Village and many residents. It is also convenient for residents and environmentally friendly. Residents can sign up on our website at www.riverside.il.us/ebill or may download a form for direct debit from the Document Center and Online Forms page of the Village website. Eliminate the concern of late payments and penalties by signing up for direct debit for utility bills. Residents can also pay a water bill online anytime by clicking on the "Pay a Bill/Online Registration" link on the home page of the village website. Payments can also be left in the silver lock box in front of the building at any time.

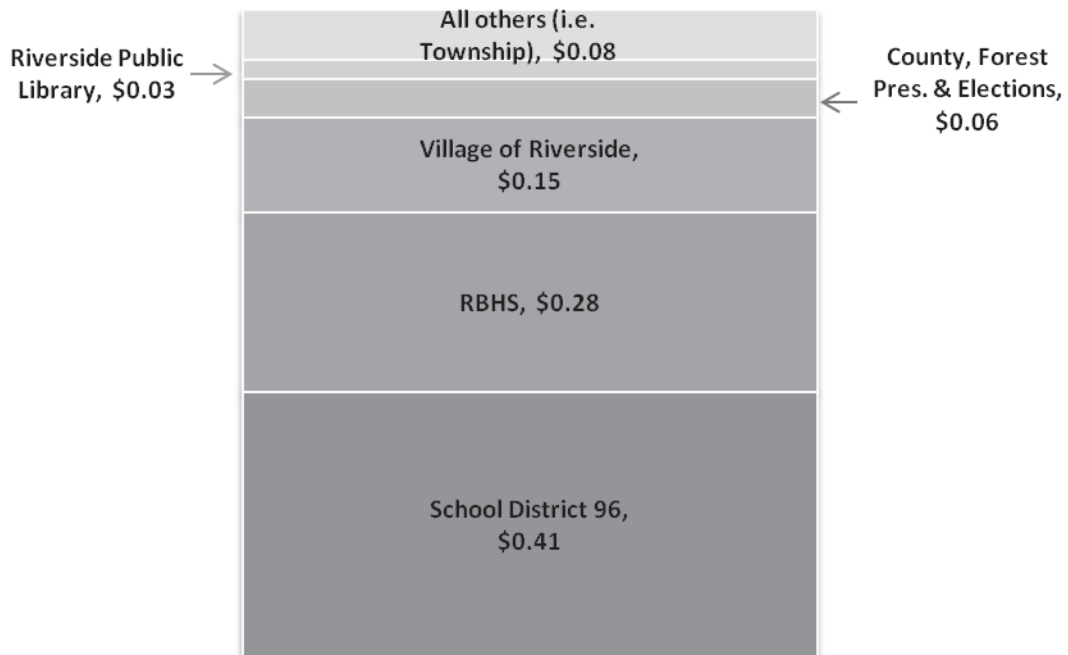
Reaffirmed Debt Rating

As part of the debt refinancing, the Village's bond rating was updated. In 2011, Moody's reaffirmed our Aa2 rating. This rating indicates our debt is considered a high quality investment with very low credit risk. Positive factors included a mature, primarily residential tax base with above average wealth levels and sound financial operations characterized by healthy reserves. Challenges cited were the continued reliance on reserves to fund operations or deterioration of the Village's tax base and demographic profile.



Property Tax Information

Your property tax dollar paid in 2011



*Due to rounding up of Village and RBHS rates, the total presented is \$1.01.

Consistent with last year, less than fifteen cents of every property tax dollar paid by Riverside residents is used to fund Village services, including public safety, park maintenance, recreation and daily street maintenance.

Public Works Department

Street & Bridge

Street Resurfacing

During 2011, 1.06 miles of Village streets were resurfaced. The resurfacing of Northwood Road north of Delaplaine, Miller Road and North Delaplaine Road between Des Plaines Road and Nuttall Road were funded by Motor Fuel Tax receipts and the resurfacing of Blythe Road was funded by the Non-Home-Rule Sales Tax fund. Prior to resurfacing Village streets, the underground sewer system was cleaned and televised to identify any significant defects to avoid the necessity of excavating the street for repair soon after resurfacing. Approximately 20 feet of sewer main was replaced under Blythe Road prior to the new street surface being installed.



Street Improvements

Preserving roads in good condition and slowing the rate of deterioration is the goal of the crack sealing program. Ideally, streets are crack sealed within 3-4 years after resurfacing. It is 6 times more economical to crack seal a road compared to the cost of resurfacing. Portions of the following roads were crack sealed during 2011: Woodside, Maplewood, Michaux, Fairbank, Akenside, Bartram, Addison, North Cowley and Coonley.

Sidewalk Improvements

The Village's Capital Improvement Program funded \$53,848.60 in repairs as part of the Sidewalk Improvement Program. While primarily a program to correct sidewalk defects, the Program also replaces small amounts of curb and gutter and driveway aprons damaged by underground utility repairs. During 2011 approximately 7,500 square feet, or 300 squares, of defective sidewalk was replaced. Included in the total expenditure was the replacement of approximately 55 lineal feet of curb and gutter, one driveway apron and a crosswalk at the intersection Barrypoint and Fairbank Road. Replacing defective sidewalk improves the Village's appearance, encourages residents to exercise and reduces the Village's liability exposure. Some examples of sidewalk defects that prompt replacement are broken or missing sections of sidewalk, vertical displacement where the height of a sidewalk square exceeds that of the adjacent square by a 1/2 inch or more and the cross or side slope of a sidewalk exceeds 2% in accordance with American's with Disability Act.

Universal Waste Collection

The Public Works Department instituted a Universal Waste Collection and Disposal Program for Village operations. The State of Illinois has classified certain low-level, hazardous items as Universal Wastes. Some examples include florescent and mercury vapor lamps, spent dry cell batteries and pesticides. To date, the program has captured and safely disposed of 160 pounds of batteries and 2 grams of mercury helping prevent the contamination of 44 acres of surface water.

Water & Sewer

2011 was a typically busy year for water and sewer operations. Repairs were made to 6 water main breaks, 4 sewer main collapses and 3 water service line leaks. Three valve boxes were repaired or installed, and four deteriorated storm sewer catch basins were replaced. To help avoid sewer system obstructions and as a condition of the Village's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) permit, the Department aggressively sweeps the Village streets.

From October 2010 through September of 2011 the Village purchased 249,512,000 gallons of water and metered 217,911,848 gallons, accounting for 87.3% of the water purchased. These figures continue Village trends of decreasing water consumption and increasing accountability.



The Village took delivery of a new International Navistar dump truck in 2011 for Public Works operations.

Forestry

Arbor Day Celebration

The Village of Riverside's Forester celebrated Arbor Day with the second grade class of Ames school on April 29, 2011. The students assisted the Forester with the planting of a Black Maple tree. The Forester encourages all Riverside residents to plant a tree! Trees provide many benefits such as increased property values, interception of storm water runoff, and reduced cooling costs in the summer. As part of the celebration, the Forester labeled several trees with "price tags" which show the value of various trees related to their environmental benefits to our community. All participants took part in the actual planting of the tree as part of the requirement to satisfy the Village's Tree City U.S.A. designation. A special thanks to teachers Carol Murphy and Mary Orłowski along with the students who worked so hard to plant the tree!

Arbor Day at Ames
School



Disease and Insect Management



Since the September 16, 2010 notification from the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA), the Village Forester has continued trapping efforts to detect the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in park and parkway ash trees. Trapping efforts in 2011 revealed that the insect population is on the rise and here to stay in Riverside. In the early spring of 2011, six purple traps were installed throughout the Village in collaboration with the IDA to help detect the insect. Three traps located at Repton and Southcote, Selborne and Uvedale, and Indian Gardens detected two adult EAB per trap. This suggests that the insect population is increasing and a subsequent increase in ash mortality is imminent for our community. This will require a significant time and resource commitment on the part of the Department of Public Works for years to come.

Monitoring for the Gypsy Moth and Dutch Elm Disease continued with the help of the IDA. Based on a visual survey by the Forester, a spray was not required to reduce Gypsy Moth populations discovered at Indian Gardens and along First Avenue. No significant defoliation associated with the moth took place in 2011, but monitoring will continue and spraying may be necessary in the future. When compared to past years, the incidence of Dutch Elm Disease was fairly low throughout the community.

Storm Damage

With the assistance of additional Department of Public Works staff, the Forester worked to clean up and inspect park and parkway trees following the significant storm that took place at the end of June. A total of 17 trees were lost as a result of the



powerful winds and rainfall associated with this storm event. The Village staff spent a total of two weeks cleaning up after the storm damage, which generated countless dump truck loads of wood mulch from cleanup efforts. This process was especially challenging due to simultaneous preparations for the Independence Day festivities.

Tree City USA

In 2011, Riverside received its seventh consecutive Tree City USA designation which is for communities who incorporated activities to strengthen their local tree care programs. The National Arbor Day Foundation and the State Forester honored the Village's commitment to Riverside's community forest. The designation will enable staff to pursue grant opportunities and collaborate with governmental agencies to preserve the Village's historic natural resources.



Tree Planting Efforts

In the absence of the Village sponsored Tree Cooperative planting program, the Forester applied for an Urban Forest Restoration grant to install 30 parkway trees throughout the Village in 2011. A \$10,000 assistance grant from the United States Department of Agriculture was awarded to Riverside on February 16, 2011. Only 57 other communities in the entire state of Illinois were awarded this grant through a competitive application process. The Urban Forest Restoration grant funded the

replacement of 30 removed ash trees within the community. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus was the grant administrator in collaboration with the Morton Arboretum and Great Lakes Restoration. The primary objective for the grant is to provide funding opportunities for communities to plan, evaluate, remove, and plant trees in light of EAB infestations.

Thank you Volunteers!

Volunteer Efforts

Volunteer programs for the Village of Riverside surpassed all staff expectations-AGAIN!

Many residents and civic organizations participated to improve and beautify our natural areas along with the Central Business District (CBD). The Department is incredibly appreciative for all the support, time and effort put into our landscape by our volunteers. Department of Public Works staff would like to highlight our partnerships from this past year.

Landscape Advisory Commissioners Terry Lynne-Culloden and Bob Finn continued to lead efforts to landscape our Central Business District (CBD). The Riverside Springs Ahead initiative received support from various local civic organizations and our business community to beautify the downtown area. Commissioner Finn also provided leadership by coordinating the Adopt-A Bed program that extends into park areas as well as the Central Business District. Several volunteers worked with the Forester and Commissioner Finn to help maintain beds and triangular park areas as well as natural areas around the Des Plaines River. Thank you to Linda Kowalik, Carolyn Huson and ALL the volunteers who donated so freely of their time and hard work to improve these areas.

The Forester continued to work with the Olmsted Society, scheduling several volunteer workdays throughout the Village to improve our park areas. Weeding of invasive species, mulching and general maintenance of our park areas were the primary focus. Areas prioritized were along Riverside Road, Longcommon and Scottswood Common Parks and the triangular parks at Downing Road and Millbridge Roads. Lastly, the removal of invasive woody plants along Riverside Road between Gage and Olmsted Road opened up a clearing, allowing for an improved vista of the Des Plaines River.

Several Girl Scout and Brownie Troops also joined forces with the Village Forester to help maintain the triangular parks in the proximity of Central Elementary School and Hauser Junior High. Troop Leader, Michelle Marconi with Brownie Troop 41020 and Troop Leader, Cathy Louthen with Scout Troops 657 and 4590 worked alongside the Forester to remove buckthorn and other invasive plants from these triangular parks as well as adding mulch to wood chip beds.



Partnerships with a wide variety of individuals and volunteer groups made an extraordinarily positive impact on the community. The Department of Public Works greatly values and appreciates the significant contributions of volunteers toward Village landscape maintenance and is committed to future support and assistance of volunteer activities that will help beautify this special community.

As a way to thank volunteers for their efforts and collaboration, the Village of Riverside hosted its first annual Volunteer Appreciation Event in December at the Township Hall. The event was an excellent opportunity to meet socially and exchange ideas. Residents who are interested in learning more about volunteer efforts should visit the Landscape Advisory Commission page of the village website where they will find a listing of all the areas available for adoption and stewardship. Riverside has the most per capita green space of any community in the United States, so there are plenty of opportunities for landscape volunteers. All are welcome and Community Service hours are available. Contact the Department of Public Works or visit the website for information on the 2012 Schedule of Landscape Work Days.

Police Department

Seatbelt, Speeding and DUI Enforcement

The Police Department completed a year-long nationwide traffic safety enforcement grant plan in 2011. The Department was awarded a grant for \$26,901.14 to reduce the overall number of traffic crashes and related fatalities through enforcement. We reduced the number of traffic crashes by 22 from the same time period last year and had no fatal crashes in 2011. We were also successful in raising the seatbelt use compliance rate to 92% through enforcement and public education.



PEERS Railroad Safety Grant



The Police Department was awarded a Public Education & Enforcement Research Study (PEERS) grant from the Illinois Commerce Commission and Federal Railroad Administration for railroad grade crossing enforcement and safety education. The grant paid for time, educational materials, safety flyers/posters and safety equipment. It also allowed specially trained officers to work within the local schools presenting *Operation Lifesaver* railroad safety classes. Officers trained over 300 students and teachers. Additionally, we continued to broadcast safety messages to residents via monitors installed in the train station and police lobby.

Tobacco Enforcement Grant

Tobacco retailers are inspected throughout the year with a grant from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission to check for compliance with local minimum-age tobacco laws which prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors and educate retail merchants on verifying the age of their customers. This grant also allows us to work with local merchants to train employees to check on age verification techniques.



WEDGE / NIPAS Updates

Riverside Police Department officers continued to participate in West Suburban Directed Gang Enforcement (WEDGE) and Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) operations in Riverside and throughout Northern Illinois.

Police Chief Installed as President of West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association

In September, Police Chief Thomas Weitzel was installed as President of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association. The association was formed in 1960 as an organization representing the near West Suburbs. Today the association promotes networking and training for members, and also follows and promotes legislation affecting the communities within the near west suburbs. Other members of the Chiefs Association include the Illinois State Police, Cook County Sheriff's Police and the FBI.



Major Incidents and Arrests in Riverside During 2011

The following major incidents occurred in Riverside during 2011:

On February 9, 2011, the Riverside Police Department received a 911 call for a missing 79 year old female resident who suffered from Alzheimer's who had left her residence without a coat on, with an outside temperature of about ten degrees below zero. According to the caller, the female had left the residence while he was sleeping. A search of the area was conducted by Riverside PD personnel and the elderly female was located laying underneath a trailer in a neighbor's back yard. She was transported to the hospital where she was treated for hypothermia and frost bite.

On November 2, 2011 the Riverside Police Department took a walk in report from a 47 year old female resident of Riverside who reported that she had been sexually assaulted behind her apartment in the 0-100 block of Forest Avenue the night before. After investigating the incident and re-interviewing the victim it was discovered that the alleged Criminal Sexual Assault never occurred.

On December 7, 2011 the Riverside Police Department responded to the intersection of North Delaplaine Road and Longcommon Road for a report of a single vehicle rollover accident. Upon arrival, Riverside Police Officers observed a heavily damaged SUV and two subjects outside of the vehicle, a male and female. The male appeared to have been ejected from the vehicle during the accident and later died of his injuries. The female was transported to the hospital for treatment and was released a short time later with non-life threatening injuries. This accident is still under investigation at this time.

Notable arrests in 2011 included:

On July 25, 2011, Riverside Police Officers executed a search warrant at an apartment in the 7300 block of Ogden Avenue in Riverside as a result of a traffic stop/drug investigation. Riverside Police Officers executed the search warrant and recovered in excess of 700 grams of Heroin, 20 grams of Cocaine and a firearm. A majority of the narcotics were being packaged and distributed from that location. The 37 year old tenant of the apartment, who had faced prior felony counts, was charged with multiple felonies.

A total of 9 individuals were arrested for Residential Burglary. These arrests led to the clearing of 19 unsolved residential burglaries in Riverside in 2011.

Fire Department

The following report provides an overview of the Riverside Fire Department services and significant events or accomplishments pertaining to fire prevention, fire suppression, and emergency services.



Emergency Response Operations

In 2011, the Riverside Fire Department responded to 1522 calls for emergency services. This number represents 711 responses that were fire related and 811 that were requests for emergency medical services. This is a decrease of 35 calls from 2010, which had a total of 1557 calls (800 for fire and 757 for EMS). During 2011, fire losses were estimated at approximately \$20,000, representing a decrease of 96%. While this is a considerable decrease, Riverside experienced a significant residential fire loss in 2010 with an associated property loss of \$468,000 and one occupant casualty. During 2011, the members of the Riverside Fire Department remained diligent in their efforts towards community risk reduction.

Significant Events

During 2011, the Riverside Fire Department responded to two significant events. The first was a carbon monoxide incident and the other was a significant motor vehicle accident with a fatality.

On November 2, 2011, the Riverside Fire Department responded to a reported activated carbon monoxide (CO) detector in the 300 block of Downing Road. Upon arrival, firefighters found the homeowner's mother and 1 year old child outside the home. The woman stated that the CO detector activated and that she had had a headache since the previous night. Firefighters utilized CO monitoring equipment and discovered readings registering over 1,000 ppm.

Normal OSHA permissible levels are 35 ppm. Firefighters donned personal protective equipment including self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) to ventilate the house and determine the source of the CO. A Nicor technician traced the source of the CO to a faulty boiler unit in the basement. In this case, the resident was fortunate, but the incident stressed the importance of having both working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in residential structures.

On December 7, 2011 at 11:45 PM the Riverside Fire Department was dispatched to the area of North Delaplaine Road and Longcommon Road for a report of a single vehicle accident. Upon arrival, it was determined that this was a serious roll-over accident where one of the vehicle's occupants had been ejected from the vehicle. Riverside Fire Department Paramedics immediately began to treat the victim, provided Advanced Life Support treatment and transport to the Loyola Hospital Emergency Department. The victim succumbed to his injuries due to being ejected from the vehicle. A second occupant in the vehicle was also transported to the Loyola Hospital Emergency Department with non-life-threatening injuries. This was a single vehicle accident which involved the vehicle leaving the roadway, rolling over several times and coming to rest on the front lawn of a residence on Delaplaine Road.

Fire Department Membership

The Riverside Fire Department continued to function as a part-time paid on premise organization during the day Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The Department utilized a paid on call system after 4:00 PM and on weekends or holidays. Due to a turnover in staff, a recruitment process was initiated in September with nine individuals selected and offered Paid-on-call positions in December. Following the completion of the Basic Firefighter Academy and successfully passing the Basic Firefighter State of Illinois Fire Marshall examination, these nine new members will begin to serve the Riverside community.



Promotions & Anniversary Dates

10 Years: Eric Kasperski, Matt Rose, Dominic Pacini

20 Years: Raymund Mizura

Spencer Kimura selected as Fire Chief

Matt Buckley promoted to the rank of Deputy Fire Chief

Congratulations!

Public Education

Riverside Fire Department personnel presented fire safety strategies to a total of 1,428 local area students in 2011. Students received age appropriate items such as junior firefighter helmets, activity books and crayons, pencil cases w/pencils and ruler, sport bottles, LED key tags and erasers. Schools visited in 2011 included: St. Peter and Paul preschool, Riverside Presbyterian Church preschool, District 96 Schools (Ames, Blythe Park and Central), Building Blocks preschool, and St. Mary School.

Riverside Fire Department personnel participated in two 9-11 events last year marking the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The Riverside Explorer Post was given the distinguished honor of presenting a piece of fragmented steel from the World Trade Center Tower #1 during North Riverside Fire Department's "A Celebration of Heroes" ceremony. The Riverside Fire Department participated in the Westchester Fire Department Silent Parade. This parade was established to honor the brave men and women who perished in the attack on the World Trade Center on 9/11. Parade spectators lined the streets waving American flags and showing their support to all first responders.

Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Bureau takes a comprehensive approach that includes the three E's of fire prevention: engineering, education and enforcement. These are absolutely necessary in any successful fire and life safety prevention program. This concept is not new. Historically, if one considers the environment where injuries occur, particularly fire and burn injuries, the mechanism for preventing them includes creating engineered solutions and enforcing them, or educating people about changing behaviors to reduce risks and improve safety outcomes. In 2011, Riverside Fire Department personnel performed 220 life safety inspections consisting of multi-family residential structures and business occupancies.

The Fire Prevention Bureau performs the following:

- Plan review and code evaluation for all occupancy types, advocating fire sprinklers, fire alarms, fire department access and water supply
- Inspections for all phases of new construction and for existing occupancies, including single family residential structures
- Reviewing and interpreting the Village's Fire and Building Codes
- Permitting and oversight of business operations that entail special hazards or processes
- Review of fire evacuation plans
- Coordination of occupancy inspections with preplan programs
- Witnessing and certifying the integrated testing of fire and life safety systems

Emergency Medical Services



On December 23, 2011, the new Riverside Ambulance was placed in service. Riverside personnel spent many hours labeling and installing equipment in time to pass the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) inspection. New features of the 2011 Foster Coach - MedTec Ambulance include intercom/radio headsets for improved communication between the driver and attendant, High Intensity Type III Reflective Chevron Striping for increased visibility, added 74" headroom in the patient compartment, a center-mounted CPR seat and swivel EKG

monitor shelf for improved patient access. The new unit replaces a 1996 vehicle. The previous front line 2003 ambulance was moved to reserve status.

The Riverside Fire Department continued to utilize Municipal Computing Services for EMS billing. The total amount billed in 2011 was \$349,824.56. Municipal Computing Services was unable to recover \$37,423.62 or 11% with a net amount collected of \$312,850.94. This represents an increase of 48% from the 2010 net amount collected.

Fire Department Training

During 2011, the members of the Riverside Fire Department participated in scheduled training including: fire suppression, emergency medical services (EMS), technical rescue, swift water operations, and hazardous material response achieving 5,002 hours of training. The training is designed to incorporate all of the requirements set forth by multiple regulatory agencies including, but not limited to, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Office of the State of Illinois Fire Marshal (OSFM), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL), Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), and Insurance Standards Organization.

Every Wednesday evening and on alternate make-up dates, training drills are conducted that include: use of self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hazardous material recognition and handling, infection control, and vehicle & engineer operations. Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) are also required to participate and test in prescribed Emergency Medical Service (EMS) subject matters to maintain their license and ensure the highest possible standards.

Multiple fire department members pursued additional training in various and distinct levels of state and federal topics to help further develop their knowledge and skills during emergency situations. The result for the community is forty-eight new certifications earned from the Office of the State Fire Marshall, many times due to the member's own initiative. The subject areas included: Basic Operations and Firefighter II, Advanced Firefighter, Technical Rescue Awareness, Hazardous Material Awareness, Instructor I, Fire Prevention Officer, Fire Service Vehicle Operator, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Hazardous Material Technician A, Hazardous Material Incident Command, and Juvenile Fire-setters Specialist.

Community Development Department



During 2011, building permit volume and value were down compared to 2010. Adverse economic conditions have all but halted new residential or commercial development in the Village but home improvement projects that include; new kitchens, baths, decks, roofs, driveways and small additions continue.

There were no teardowns in 2011, but one new single-family residence was started on a vacant property in late fall.

Real estate transfers remained about the same, but foreclosure properties made up the bulk of real estate sales. Other noteworthy projects include:

Village Center

There were no significant changes in occupancy at the Village Center Development in 2011. The majority of residential units have been purchased or leased, but a few remain vacant, and the corner commercial space remains available for lease or purchase.

Arcade

Ninety percent of the Arcade Building's exterior renovation has been completed. Three business spaces were leased and occupied. The owner continued with interior upgrades and marketing of the available spaces.

21 Herbert

This bank-owned property was purchased by a private investor in 2011. The new owner intends to complete the existing five units. How those sales go forward will determine if the remaining five units will be constructed. Plans are pending.

Commercial Construction

Construction was completed at 39 E. Quincy with full tenant occupancy expected in early 2012. Riverside Car Care, 3212 Harlem, reopened after a fire in March 2009 that had destroyed the building. The owner rebuilt at the same location.

Property Maintenance

Thirty-seven court citations were written to obtain compliance with the Village's Property Maintenance Code. Tall grass and weeds continued to be an issue as a result of foreclosures. Exterior maintenance, drainage issues, worn roofs and exterior trash also were concerns in 2011.

Building Permits

Permits	#	Dollar Value	Permit Fee
2011	616	\$ 5,891,373.37	\$122,509.31
2010	715	\$ 7,522,343.00	\$147,770.25
2009	620	\$ 6,242,816.50	\$151,699.25
2008	740	\$ 11,537,957.00	\$222,709.78
2007	759	\$ 15,668,653.46	\$221,037.50**
2006	818	\$ 22,612,356.00	\$297,440.00***
2005	817	\$ 16,403,502.00	\$281,317.26

Permit fees increased 12-17-07 * Village Center Permit

Certificate of Compliance Inspections

Property transfers remain low with the majority of the sales involved in the foreclosure process.

2011	89
2010	95
2009	74
2008	90
2007	125
2006	156
2005	206

Exposed Aggregate Concrete

The Village Board of Trustees, after considering positive recommendations from the Plan and Preservation Commissions, approved the use of exposed aggregate concrete for all new and replacement sidewalks and driveways in the public way.

Drainage Study

The Village retained the engineering firm of James J. Benes to analyze rear yard drainage concerns and help identify causes and possible corrections which residents could use to address individual or neighborhood concerns.



61 + 63 East Burlington Parking Lot

The department processed the Special Use Permit and Site Plan Review Permit required by Village Code to construct a “green” parking lot on Burlington Street in the Central Business District. Construction will be funded by an Illinois EPA Green Infrastructure Grant. This project was reviewed and approved by the Village Board of Trustees, Landscape Advisory Commission, Plan Commission, Preservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Parks & Recreation Department

The Parks & Recreation Department entered 2011 with a new focus and direction to our mission of providing a quality of life value through programs, activities, and park services for the community. The department addressed projects that had been deferred in the past, and expanded the department and its offerings. This also marked the first year of the Parks & Recreation Commission. With these dedicated residents and their input, staff will continue working to plan the future of the department.

Programming

It has been a mission of the department to increase resident awareness of programs and services in 2011. We did this in a number of ways, including our new facebook page which has 215 “fans”. If you are a facebook user, we encourage you to “friend” us! Social media is the newest method of disseminating information to a large number of people. Anyone who has an account can access our page and not only get updates and information on programs, but leave feedback and view pictures. We continued to utilize the Nixle notification system to update residents on field conditions. We never stopped reaching out to the community, utilizing the Village E-Flash system, District 96 Electronic Backpack, our department database and our online brochure.



Online registration continues to grow, and remains the most convenient method to sign up for any of our programs from the comfort of your home. In fact, the online registration e-pay system accounted for 40% of all department revenue last year.

The department developed many new and exciting programs in 2011. There was a decided increase in Toddler and Teen programs, to address our changing demographics. We also introduced new events to compliment our standard offerings. Our “Howl-O-Ween” event was attended by more than 250 people, and our “Back to School Bash” was also very popular for a first time event.

We also created a new tradition in Riverside, with the lighting of the Historic Water Tower for Halloween and Winter Holidays. Watch for this to continue on the 4th of July! These additions, along with our new program offerings, made 2011 an exciting time for the department.



Parks

We were able to complete the majority of the Indian Gardens project that was funded by the Lyons Township grant. The tennis courts were completely replaced, as was the fencing surrounding them. The parking lot was also renovated to eliminate the uneven surface. The painting of the tennis court surface, and repairs to the baseball field fencing are scheduled to be completed in early spring of 2012.

The tennis courts at Blythe Park had been closed for over a year due to unsafe conditions. The department is happy to announce that the Blythe Park tennis courts will re-open in the spring of 2012, providing recreation opportunities not only to residents of the area, but also to students of Blythe School who use the tennis courts for activities.

The maintenance of Patriots Park had been challenging with past budget constraints, but during the summer of 2011, we were able to have weeds and thistle removed from the entire park. This was a major project that improved not only the aesthetic appearance of the grounds, but also cleared the walking path and benches so that residents could enjoy the park to its fullest.

Safety is always of the utmost importance to the department, which is why we installed double the recommended amount of mulch in the playground areas and sand in the sandbox areas. We will continue to add/replace these materials on an annual basis, and monitor levels in the future. While maintenance of our parks remains a challenging task with a small staff, cleanliness and safety of our parks and equipment remains our first priority. Checks are made daily to all parks, but any issues that are observed by residents should be reported to the Department at 442-7025.

Partnerships

We remain committed to working with the community and its organizations. These partnerships allowed the department to offer a broader range of services, without the full cost of supplies or personnel.

We were able to form a partnership with Riverside-Brookfield H.S. in 2011 for the first time in recent history. This allowed us to offer swimming programs (which had over 30 participants in one session), along with cycling/spin classes (which had over 60 registrants). We will continue to foster this partnership and hope to develop it further in the years to come. Thank you RBHS, for sharing facilities that allow the department to expand our program offerings.



We also met with each PTA/PTO organization within District 96 to open lines of communication, and develop cooperative programming. In the past, we have participated in Central School's "Screen Free Week", and this year we plan on overseeing the entire program through the Department. We are also hoping that we can offer this program to the entire district in the near future. For the 2nd year, we will also assist in the "Bulldog Challenge" which allows us to introduce children to our programs, while promoting health and wellness.

The Ice Rink at Big Ball Park was once again funded in part by the Junior Woman's Charity and constructed and maintained by volunteers of The Big Chill Crew; however, 2011 brought mild temperatures, which were not conducive to ice skating or sledding. This marked the first time in many years that the ice rink was not constructed at Big Ball Park. We will continue to work with both organizations for next year, and hope for colder weather.

Collaborative efforts with "The Friends of the Fourth" continue to be invaluable. Without their efforts, Riverside's Concert in the Park, Independence Day Parade and Festivities in Guthrie Park would not be possible. Thank you Friends of the Fourth!

With the support of these organizations, the Village Board, and most importantly the community, we were able to provide residents with the high level of service they deserve.

Other Significant Events in 2011

Personnel Changes



In 2011, the Village welcomed Spencer Kimura as our new Fire Chief. Chief Kimura served as Battalion Chief in the Glenview Fire Department for 30 years before joining Riverside. Chief Kimura brings many years of experience to Riverside and has been a great addition to the Riverside team.

Riverside Farmers' Market

The 2011 Farmers' Market was held on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30—7:00 p.m. in the parking lot between the Township Hall and the Library from June through October. Many residents enjoyed the festive atmosphere and plentiful offerings of the market. The market will return to this location in 2012! Be sure to come out and support our market. Follow us on facebook for timely updates on what's in season and programming notes.



Riverside Arts Weekend

The 2011, Riverside Arts Weekend (RAW) had another successful year, with over 60 artists showcasing their creations and approximately 5000 people visiting the event. In 2012, RAW will expand again to include more musical performances and a fashion show. RAW will be held in conjunction with the Olmsted Society's House Walk on Saturday and Sunday, May 19 & 20, 2012. Save the dates!

Bike Route Designation

In 2011, the Cook County Forest Preserve District agreed to fund bicycle trail signs that will delineate the Riverside Heritage Bike Route that connects the north and south legs of the Salt Creek Bike Trail. This initiative, led by the Riverside Sustainability Council, will help encourage bicycle use and attract riders to the Central Business District. Be sure to visit the village website at www.riverside.il.us to view a map of Riverside's bike routes.

Historic Water Tower

Work made possible through the Illinois Department of Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant was completed in 2011. East Avenue and Pine Avenue were resurfaced and Centennial Plaza was landscaped. The final phase of the project was the installation of new lighting features on the Historic Water Tower which really highlight the beauty of this landmark structure in the heart of the Central Business District.



Green Grants

The Village received \$502,633 in Green Infrastructure Grants from the Illinois EPA in 2011. The grants will allow the Village to convert the York and Kent alleys from an asphalt surface to permeable interlocking concrete pavers and construct a new “green” parking lot for Burlington Street.

Electric Aggregation

The Village Board approved placing a referendum on the March 20, 2012 ballot seeking the community’s input regarding electric aggregation. If the referendum passes, the village, working through the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC), will bargain with dozens of power providers to obtain lower rates for electricity for residential and small business customers in the community.

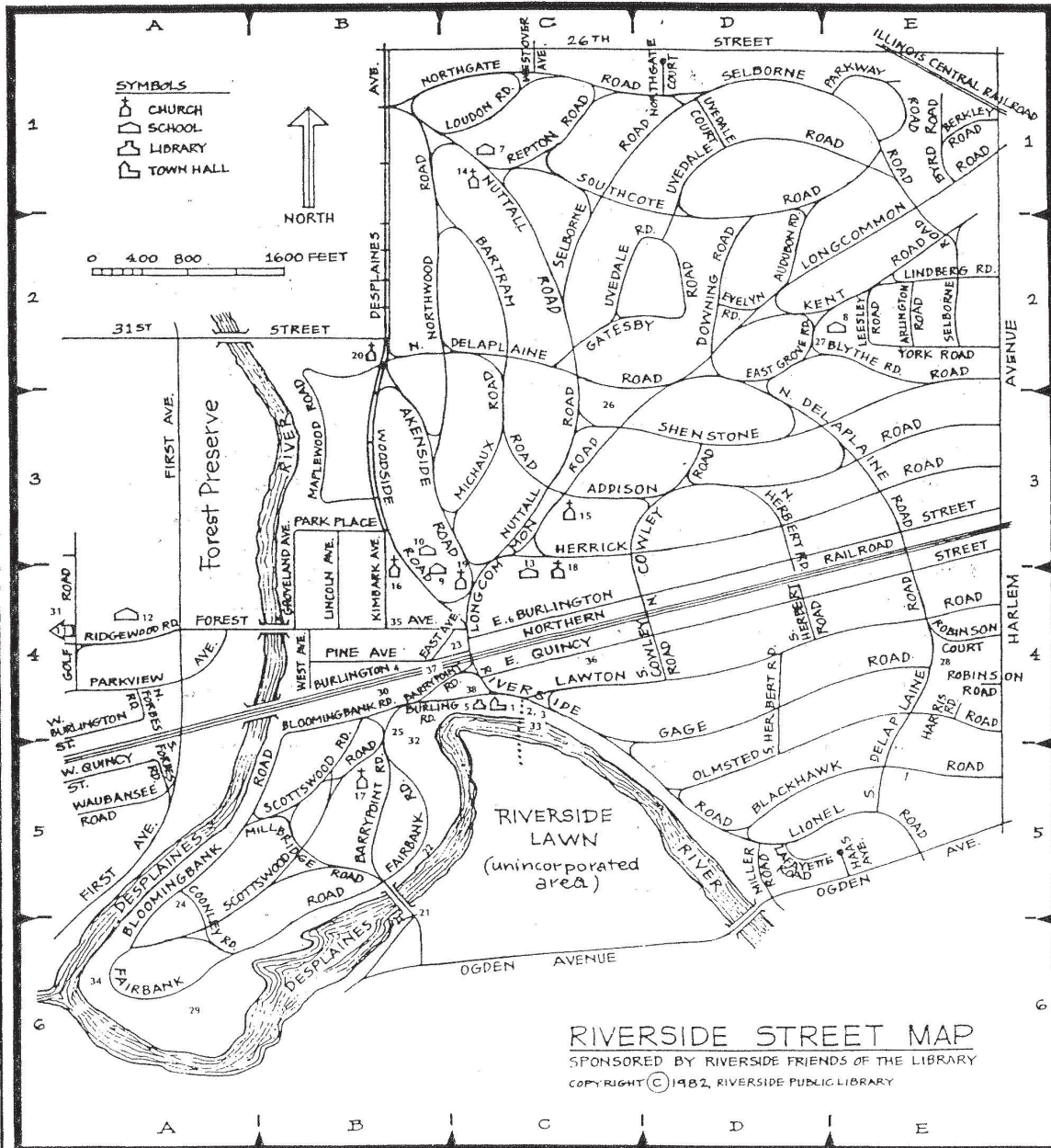
Fairbank Dam, Hofmann Dam & Swan Pond Park

As a part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project to restore the Des Plaines River with the removal of Fairbank Dam and notching of Hofmann Dam in Riverside, Swan Pond Park will undergo a much needed renovation. The park will be getting a face lift. Much of the overgrown bushes and shrubs obscuring the view of the river will be removed and controlled. The crumbling river wall will be shored up and restored, and a new pathway will be installed to provide better accessibility along the river.



WELCOME TO RIVERSIDE

Road & Street Map Index on Back



Village of Riverside
27 Riverside Road, Riverside, IL 60546
www.riverside.il.us

U.S. Postage
PAID
Riverside, IL
Permit No. 10



ECRWSS
Postal Customer
Riverside, IL 60546

Important Contact Information

Village Office: (708) 447-2700
Police Non-Emergency: (708) 447-2127
Fire Non-Emergency: (708) 447-2123
Public Works: (708) 442-3590
Parks & Recreation: (708) 442-7025
Building Department: (708) 447-1241
Museum: (708) 447-2542

Allied Waste - 2012 Holiday Schedule

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Normal Service Date</u>	<u>Holiday Service Date</u>
Memorial Day	Tuesday May 29, 2012	Wednesday May 30, 2012
Labor Day	Tuesday Sept 4, 2012	Wednesday Sept 5, 2012
Christmas Day	Tuesday Dec 25, 2012	Wednesday Dec 26, 2012

Please also note:

Yard waste collection begins April 3, 2012 and continues through November 27, 2012.