

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: August 25, 2026

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Terence Acquah, Assistant Village Manager

Topic: Budget Amendment for Village Crosswalk Project Phase II

PURPOSE

Staff is requesting that the Village Board approve a budget amendment for \$100,000 related to the engineering and design services associated with Phase II of the Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Plan. The project was initiated to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility, and connectivity throughout the downtown area, consistent with recommendations identified in the Village's Downtown Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Master Plan.

PROCESS

Phase I Background

At the July 8, 2025 Village Board meeting, the Board approved the selection of HR Green, Inc. of New Lenox, IL. to provide engineering and design services for Phase I of the project in the amount of \$24,095. Phase I focused on several priority downtown intersections where improved crossings would strengthen pedestrian connections between residential areas, businesses, parking, and other downtown destinations.

The identified crosswalks were:

- Harwood Avenue and Ridge Road
- Ridge Road and Martin Avenue (east intersection)
- Chestnut Road and Harwood Avenue
- Dixie Highway and Chestnut Road

HR Green has since completed the Phase I design work, and construction of the project was awarded to Iroquois Paving, of Watseka, IL to begin work in the upcoming weeks.

Phase II Background

Following the advancement of Phase I, staff identified additional high-priority pedestrian crossings that would benefit from similar improvements. On April 14, 2026, the Village Board originally approved the request to proceed with Phase II of the Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Project for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

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The identified crosswalks were:

- Dixie Highway and Olive Road
- Dixie Highway and Hickory Road
- Ridge Road and Gottschalk Avenue
- Ridge Road and Highland Avenue
- Ridge Road and Gladville Avenue

HR Green is currently conducting the engineering and design work for the project. They anticipate to be done in the upcoming months. The Phase II construction work will not begin until a funding source has been identified.

Budget Carryover and Grant Funding

Although the Board originally approved the Phase II request on April 14, 2026, the approval occurred near the end of the Village's fiscal year. Due to the timing, the project funding was not included in the new fiscal year budget that began May 1, 2026. As a result, a budget amendment is necessary to add the approved funding to the current fiscal year budget.

Importantly, the Village has also secured outside funding to significantly reduce the Village's ultimate cost for the engineering work. The Village applied for and was awarded funding through the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Access to Transit Phase I Engineering Program, which will reimburse the Village for up to \$55,000 in eligible engineering expenses, covering up to 100% of eligible costs.

OUTCOME

The requested budget amendment allows the Village to proceed with the work previously authorized by the Board, and maximize the use of outside grant funding to reduce the Village's overall financial responsibility for these important pedestrian safety improvements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** Downtown TOD Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Funds
- **Budgeted Amount:** \$0
- **Budget Amendment Requested:** \$100,000
- **Grant Funding Awarded:** \$55,000

LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

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RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Approve a budget amendment of \$100,000 to the Downtown TOD Tax Increment Financing Fund for the completion of the engineering and design services associated with Phase II of the Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Plan.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Agreement