

## PUBLIC COMMENTS – for the Tuesday, August 12, 2025 Board Meeting

From: Kris Condon

Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 9:22 AM To: Haney, Napoleon; PublicComments

Subject: Re: Olive Road, Problems and Solutions

Many thanks, and apologies for the misprint on the meeting date. I was incorrectly thinking

every other Tuesday, not second and fourth Tuesdays. -kmc

From: Haney, Napoleon

<nhaney@homewoodil.gov> Sent:
Monday, August 4, 2025 8:36 AM
To: 'Kris Condon'; PublicComments

<comments@homewoodil.gov> Subject: RE: Olive Road,

**Problems and Solutions** 

Kris:

Your email, in its entirety, will be included in the Board's Public Comments. Thank you for sharing.

From: Kris Condon

Sent: Saturday, August 2, 2025 6:27 AM

To: PublicComments

<comments@homewoodil.gov> Subject:
Olive Road, Problems and Solutions

Good Morning:

Please include the enclosed public comment in the record for the August 5 Board of Trustees

meeting. Thank

you--Kris

An open letter to the Village of Homewood President and Members of the Board of Trustees:

The most recent spate of gunfire on Olive Road, which resulted in public comment for your consideration at the July 22 Village Board meeting, should not only be a cause for concern. It is an opportunity for you to engage with Village residents in a solution-oriented Town Hall meeting and to provide for a standing Board agenda item on our progress, which can be done without compromising any pending criminal investigation.

Yes, I am once again advocating that you host a Town Hall meeting, a Committee of the Whole, a Listening Tour, a Pop-up Forum—the issue is not how you name it. It's that you do it.

I was at the July 22 Village Board meeting, and I am grateful to hear the Village President's statement that the Chief of Police will receive any and all support she needs. I'm also grateful to hear that trustees were unified in their support of law enforcement to address what is clearly a growing problem.

I ask you to consider that when 50 residents convene at James Hart School for a neighborhood watch meeting on the heels of this latest shooting, you have an untapped, community-oriented policing resource: A neighborhood that wishes to partner with village government, law enforcement, and other neighborhoods to keep Homewood safe for everyone.

Contrary to the opinions of some, a town hall meeting can be a constructive, solution-oriented approach to a problem that affects us all. One Society of Human Resource Management study found respondents believe town hall face-to-face communications build high trust (90%), are more personal than using strictly electronic communication (87%), and reduce confusion and misunderstanding (81%). Additionally, a Center for Effective Lawmaking study of town hall meeting efficacy reflects that legislative offices were twice as likely to positively respond to town hall events if the event focuses on learning from constituents instead of justifying the administration's position.

The Village of Homewood has surveyed residents on topics of interest for future "Pop-up Forums." Again, what you call it is not the issue; that you hold it is the issue. Now is the time for this body to support and enhance community-oriented policing strategies. Even a fully-staffed law enforcement team cannot be everywhere at once, and we only make progress if we all support the Police Department in their efforts. You have a community of engaged and concerned residents who are ready and willing to help keep Homewood the safe, vibrant, secure community that brought us here in the first place. Please help us to help you continue that effort.

Dr. Kristine M. (Kris) Condon Homewood, IL 60430