



PUBLIC COMMENTS – for the Tuesday, September 8, 2026 Board Meeting

From: Mary Clare Houlihan
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2026 9:00 PM
To: PublicComments
Subject: Comment to be read at 9/8 Trustee Meeting
Dear Village Board Members,

I am writing to request that the following be read during the Village Board meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

First, I would like to acknowledge the significant challenges Homewood has faced this summer due to severe storms and tornadoes. I appreciate the efforts of Village leadership, staff, and emergency personnel as recovery continues.

I respectfully request that the Village consider reopening discussion regarding flooding, stormwater management, and wastewater infrastructure planning. It is possible these issues have been discussed recently; however, after reviewing Village Board agendas and meeting minutes, I have not seen substantial discussion focused on long-term flood mitigation or wastewater infrastructure. I also recognize I may have missed conversations, as I am not often able to attend evening meetings due to childcare responsibilities and instead rely on publicly available agendas and minutes to stay informed.

Many residents have experienced basement flooding and sewer backups during heavy rain events despite investing in sump pumps and other mitigation measures. While this summer's weather may be unusual, research suggests the Midwest is expected to experience increasingly intense precipitation events in the coming decades, placing additional strain on aging stormwater and wastewater systems (Vose et al., 2023).

I would encourage the Village to consider reconvening the Water/Sewer Committee, or hosting a public meeting focused on stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, to begin developing a long-term strategy for addressing these challenges.

I also encourage the Village to pursue available funding opportunities, including:

- Illinois EPA Wastewater and Stormwater Loans, which provide low-interest financing for sewer, drainage, and stormwater infrastructure improvements (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency [IEPA], 2026).
- MWRD Stormwater Partnership Program, which offers funding and technical assistance for municipal stormwater and flood-control projects (Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago [MWRD], 2026).
- Illinois EPA Overflow and Sewer Grant Program, which supports projects addressing sewer overflows and stormwater management. Although the

current funding cycle is closed, future opportunities may become available (IEPA, 2025).

In addition, I encourage the Village to explore a homeowner flood-mitigation assistance program. Neighboring communities have used rebate or cost-sharing programs to help residents install backwater valves, overhead sewer systems, and battery backup sump pumps. Such programs can reduce the financial burden on residents while complementing broader municipal infrastructure improvements.

While I recognize that recovery from this summer's storms remains a priority, flooding and sewer backups are ongoing concerns that affect residents' safety, finances, and quality of life. Continued investment in stormwater and wastewater infrastructure will help ensure Homewood remains resilient in the face of increasingly severe weather events.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to participate in future discussions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Clare Houlihan
Homewood Resident

References

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. (2025). Overflow and sewer grant (OSG) program. <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/grants-loans/water-financial-assistance/osg-grant-program.html>

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. (2026). Wastewater/stormwater and drinking water loans. <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund.html>

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. (2026). Stormwater partnerships. <https://mwrđ.org/stormwater/partnerships>

Vose, R. S., Wuebbles, D. J., Easterling, D. R., Fahey, D. W., Gleason, B., Hayhoe, K., Horton, R., Kossin, J. P., Loveland, T. R., Mote, P. W., Sweet, W., Weiskopf, S., & Wilbanks, T. (Eds.). (2023). Midwest. In Fifth National Climate Assessment. U.S. Global Change Research Program. <https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/chapter/24/>

From: Roger Warner

Sent: Friday, September 4, 2026 10:49 AM

To: ManagersOffice

Subject: Board of Trustees Document

Attachments: TCM Idlewild Lane 090426.pdf

Please distribute the attached document and signature pages to the Board of Trustees prior to Sep 8, 2026 meeting. I will be presenting this at the open forum session.

Thank you,

Roger Warner
Homewood, IL 60430

From: Joan Stalick
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2026 3:50 PM
To: PD Administration; PublicComments
Subject: Dangerous Driving Speeding

Trees r Us has been speeding and driving with cell phone in hand down 187th Street all weekend. They are going 35 to 40mph past the speed sign near Highland and 187th Street. They often have full loads while they are barreling down the street and keep having near misses with other cars. They do not need to be doing work for the Parks or the Village if they are going to be dangerously driving in the town like this. It needs to stop. There is no emergency anymore regarding tree cleanup.

Sincerely,
Joan Stalick