

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: January 9, 2024

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: John D. Schaefer, Director of Public Works

Topic: Sidewalk Improvements – Cook County Subrecipient ARPA Grant Agreement for Sidewalk Flooding.

PURPOSE

Homewood made a request to Cook County for funding to improve sidewalks and mitigate the flooding of the sidewalks along the east and west side of Ashland Avenue from Maple Road north to the Canadian National Railroad's U.S. Corporate Office and Training Facility (CNRR). Cook County has allocated approximately \$80,000 of their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the purpose of implementing design engineering and construction to correct the issue. The Village is required to enter into a "Subrecipient Agreement" with Cook County to receive the funding.

PROCESS

Public Works has needed to address several issues concerning sidewalks along the east and west side of Ashland Avenue from Maple Road north to the Canadian National Railroad's U.S. Corporate Office and Training Facility (CNRR). There are no sidewalks on the west side of Ashland Avenue; and the existing sidewalk on the east side of Ashland Avenue holds water after rain events. The solution: Install drainage which requires the sidewalk to be raised. CNRR is also requesting to install a crosswalk for their employees crossing Ashland Avenue between the CNRR corporate offices and the training building. However, without sidewalks on both sides of Ashland Avenue, a crosswalk cannot be facilitated. With funding to complete the needed infrastructure improvements (drainage and raised sidewalks) the Village would be able to correct this longstanding issue and facilitate CNRR of installing a safe walk-zone for their employees.

Recently the Village of Homewood requested funding for sidewalk replacement and installation on this portion of the County roadway (Ashland Avenue), explaining that the sidewalks are used by Homewood's largest employer, CN U.S. Headquarters, and adjacent residential areas as access to the Izaak Walton Preserves. In the past, Homewood has performed work on County facilities, with County approval and the County has reimbursed the Village. Such an arrangement on this particular request would be ideal.

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



OUTCOME

Cook County has allocated approximately \$80,000 of their ARPA Funds to the Village of Homewood for the purpose of implementing design engineering and construction along Ashland Avenue in the Village between Maple Road and the Canadian National Training Facility. Cook County will provide reimbursement to the Village of Homewood for eligible expenditures up to a max participation of \$80,000 of ARPA funds for services rendered through December 31, 2026. These improvements will allow the Village of Homewood to provide safe, ADA compliant infrastructure for pedestrians.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:**
- **Budgeted Amount:**
- **Cost:**

LEGAL REVIEW

Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to enter into a Subrecipient Grant Agreement with Cook County for sidewalk replacement/installation, drainage, and crosswalk implementation as part of the Ashland Avenue sidewalk improvement project for a funded amount of \$80,000.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Intergovernmental Agreement
- Map outlining area of improvement