



October 17, 2020

Dear Resident,

In 2016, the Village completed the first phase of its Kenilworth 2023 Infrastructure Improvement Program – Green Streets. The program was designed to substantially eliminate the sewer surcharging problems that had plagued the eastern portion of the Village for decades. With several years and several major rain events under our belt, we are confident that the program has achieved our intended goal. We have not received any reports of storm-related flooding in the Phase I area since the project has been complete.

With the Phase I outcomes known, the Village is developing plans for Phase II of the Green Streets program for Raleigh, Leicester and Warwick. One of the outcomes from Phase I was a determination that the durability of the porous asphalt roadways has failed to meet engineering expectations. The road surface is degrading more quickly than projected and the “pores” of the asphalt are being clogged by sedimentation. Based upon the unsatisfactory performance, porous asphalt is not being recommended for the Phase II project area. Therefore, the Village is reconsidering the use of porous pavers for the road surface. The use of pavers was the first engineering recommendation for Phase I, but a number of residents expressed strong opposition to the use of porous pavers.

As the Phase II design continues to develop, the Village desires to learn your opinion regarding the use of porous pavers in the roadway. The proposed pavers are very similar to what you can see in the parking lot of the Wilmette Public Library. They are comprised of a very dense and colorized concrete, topped with a colored aggregate, and designed to allow water to pass through open channels between the pavers. The L-shape design is intended to interlock each paver and reduce the degree of expected settling after the pavers are installed. It is important to note that these are not street bricks, and will not experience the significant undulation that is frequently associated with brick streets.

The Village has set up a porous paver demonstration area on Richmond Road across from Village Hall. There are three different example areas displayed for your review. Area 1 and Area 2 are provided to show two paver color options. The color of Area 1 was selected to closely resemble an aged asphalt roadway. This color option was selected because a number of residents had previously expressed concern about their street looking different from neighboring streets, or the color of the pavers conflicting with their home color pallet. Area 2 offers a reddish brown color that resembles an aged brick street. And finally, Area 3 shows the intended shape of the proposed pavers. Unfortunately, the color options selected are not available from the manufacturer in the L-shape displayed in Area 3, so we were not able to obtain them for display.

If the decision is made to use porous pavers, the L-shape design would be produced in the chosen color. The color of the filler aggregate will be selected once a paver color is chosen.

Please consider taking a few moments to look at the porous paver demonstration area across from Village Hall. Once you have, please share your thoughts with us. Do you like the gray or red color, let us know. Do you not want porous pavers, please let us know. To share your opinion, you can email info@vok.org, call 847-251-1666, ext. 5251, or simply write your thoughts on this letter and drop it in the drop box at Village Hall. We are hoping to hear from each family on Raleigh, Leicester, and Warwick.

So, what comes next? Currently, Terra Engineering is estimating Phase II to cost approximately \$8M. For comparison, Phase I was \$6M and the new phase involves both a longer street length and a new sewer connection to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD). The Village hopes to fund Green Streets Phase II through a combination of funds on hand (savings), a new bond issuance that would be paid by existing revenues (not a new property tax), and a \$1.5M grant from the MWRD. The Village will not know until later this year if our Phase II project has been selected by the MWRD for funding. If the funds are not granted, the Village Board will need to pause and reconsider the project scope.

Our goal is to have the Phase II project ready for competitive bidding in early 2021 and construction to commence in April if all goes as hoped. Based upon the current scope of work, Phase II should be completed in one construction season.

The Village will be contacting you in the coming months as we reach a more developed project design. Our goal will be to discuss the draft plans, obtain additional feedback, revise the plans as necessary and prepare for bidding. Until then, knowing your thoughts on the porous pavers will be very helpful for our planning process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Brennan", written in a cursive style.

Patrick Brennan
Village Manager