



2009 State of the Village

Moving Forward Together

Mayor Brian K. Reaves

Introduction of Village Board



Village Board Committees

- Debby Blatzer – Public Works and Engineering
- Paul Chialdikas – Economic Development
- Clifford Miklos – Public Safety
- Rick Sniegowski – Finance
- Ronald Stapleton – Community Development
- Jeanette Virgilio – Downtown Development
- Charlene Smollen – Village Clerk

Village Staff

- Gary Holmes – Village Administrator
- Ben Wehmeier – Assistant Village Administrator
- George Schafer – Assistant to the Village Administrator
- Kevin Shaughnessy – Chief of Police
- Dan Fielding – Public Works Director
- Jean Nona – Village Treasurer
- Ed Buettner – Building Commissioner
- James Brown – Community Development Director
- Charity Jones – Village Planner

The background of the slide features a collage of US dollar bills, including a prominent \$100 bill with the portrait of Benjamin Franklin. Scattered across the scene are several three-dimensional, metallic-looking dollar signs (\$).

Village's Financial Condition

Budget Process

- Financial analysis trends projected through the 2011-2012 fiscal year to better prepare the current budget to make it through the current economic conditions
- Specific Goals during process focused on maintaining current service levels
- Limit impact to public safety services (Police, Public Works)
- Maximize smart investment in infrastructure projects
- Reduce personnel costs and capital expenditures.

Revenue Challenges

- Decreasing Building Permits
- Drop in sales tax
 - Cook County Tax Increase
 - Economic Challenges
- Stagnant Real Estate Taxes Beginning 2010
- Unknown State Budget – Potential to Impact Local Levels

Village's Reaction

- All Non-Union Employees Wages Frozen
- Staff Reductions
 - Layoffs
 - Hiring Freezes
 - Natural Attrition
- Utilize Unique Funding Source for Needs
 - Example: New police cars funded by asset forfeiture funds
 - Grants
- Reduction in Village Fleet
 - Surplus/High mileage vehicles donated or sold at public auction
- Limitations on Travel and Training

Public Projects Objectives and Goals

- Increase quality of life and services for the citizens and businesses of Lemont
- Strategically locate new infrastructure to increase opportunities for businesses to locate to Lemont

Recently Completed Major Projects

- Downtown Parking Garage
- Lemont Police Station
- Major Renovation on Two Wells (#4 & #6)
- Front and River Street
- East/Logan/
Moczygemba Streets
- 127th Street



Police Dept. Dedication Ceremony – May 8, 2009

Efficient Use of Resources

- Village maximized use of available capital funds and matching opportunities for this year
 - Federal Stimulus
 - Southwest Conference of Mayors (Federal Funds)
 - IDOT
 - Cook County CDBG
 - Illinois Capital Bill

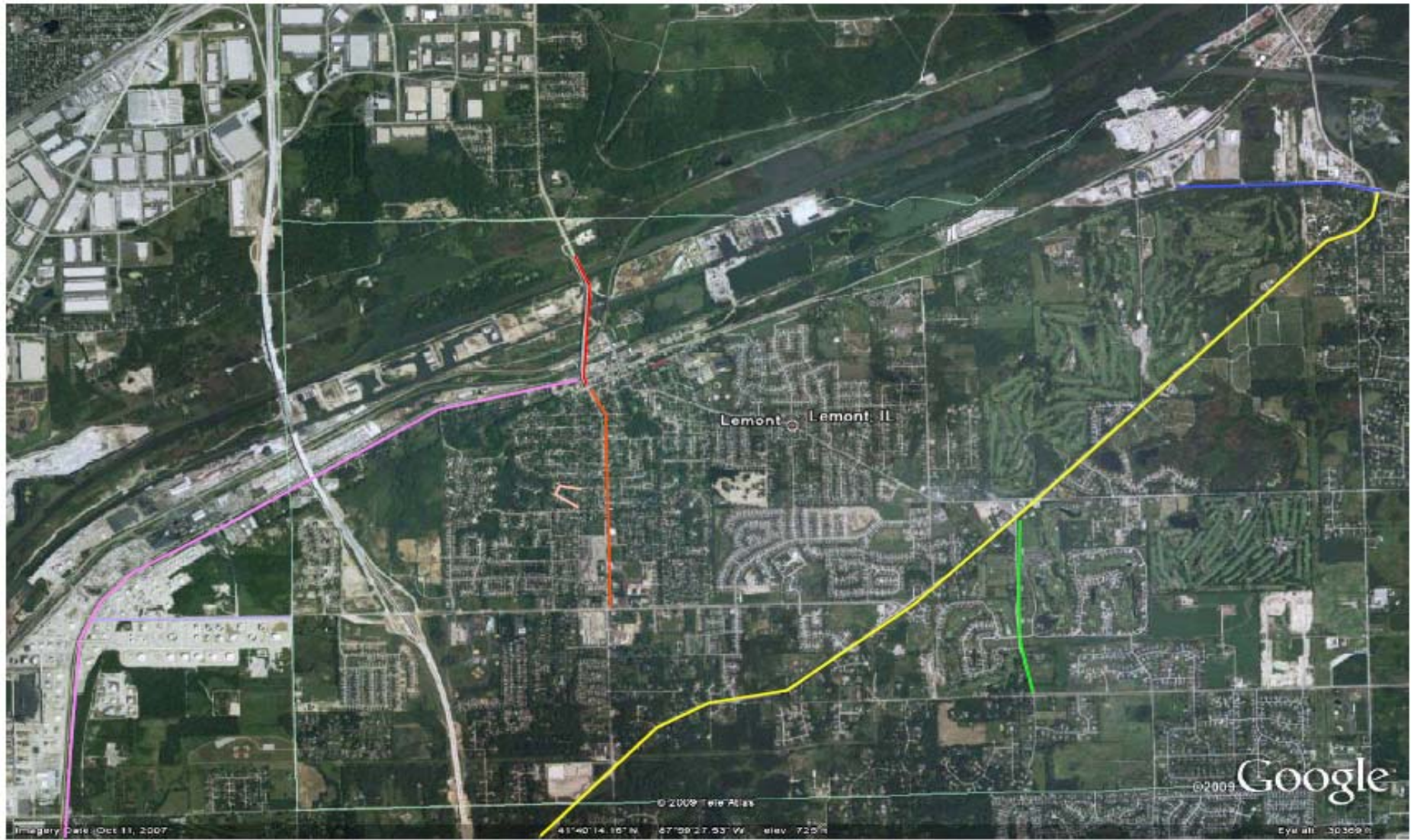
2009 Projects

- Water and Sewer Main Projects
 - Main Street Water and Sewer Main Extension Project
 - \$2.9 Million project that will expand Village services east of HWY 83
 - Village's portion is \$1.2 million with remainder paid for and built by Cook County Forest Preserve
 - Opens opportunities for commercial development not available before
 - Illinois Street Water Main Replacement
 - Phase V of replacing WPA era water main on Illinois Street
 - 75% paid for by Cook County via CDBG

2009 Projects

- Resurfacing Projects
 - Archer – HWY 83 to 135th (IDOT)
 - New Avenue – Lockport to Archer (IDOT)
 - Derby – Archer to 131st
 - 127th – Smith to New Avenue
 - State Street – Illinois to 127th
- Other Road Projects
 - Norton Reconstruction – Phase II
 - Lemont Bridge Reconstruction (IDOT)

2009 Projects



Future Projects 1-4 years

- Warner Ave. Storm Sewer – 100% funding in Capital Bill
- Main Street Surfacing – LAPP Project for 2010
- 127th Street and Timberline Signalization–
100% Stimulus Funding
 - Engineering and permitting 2009
 - Construction early 2010
- Talcott Reconstruction and utility undergrounding
- Walker/McCarthy – intersection
reconstruction/signalization (70% Federal funding)
- Derby/Archer/McCarthy Triangle – intersection
reconstruct and signalization (70% Federal funding)

Economic Development

*Local Business and Local Government
Moving Forward Together*

New Business Licenses

- Sales tax revenue – down (reduced vitality)
- Lemont remains attractive for (new) businesses

Business Licenses



New Businesses in Past Year



Aldi, 1237 State Street



Wine Emporium, 1243 State Street



Inspired Needle, Ltd., 315 Illinois Street

New Businesses in Past Year



Belle De Jour – In Style
114 Stephen Street



Mike-Eez Pizza
1066 S. State Street

Other New Businesses



- 1 Happy Girl, 314 Canal Street
- All Lamp Recycling, 310 Illinois Street
- American Mattress, 1217 State Street
- Bottles, 439 Talcott Street
- Coldstone Creamery, 1251 State Street
- DM Foot & Ankle Clinic, Derby Plaza
- Gamestorm, Inc., 238 Main Street
- Jakk's Apparel, 445 Talcott Street
- Shell Gas Station, 12135 Archer Avenue
- Kitaro Grill & Sushi Lounge, 1224 State Street
- PLM Trailer Leasing, 11135 Lemont Road
- Saban's Carpet Care, Inc., 508 Talcott Street
- Southwest Digital Printing, Inc., 16135 New Ave.
- Stonehouse Pub, 103 Stephen Street
- The Inn at Smokey Row, 112 Stephen Street
- This Must Be The Place, 206 Main Street

Economic Development at Village

- Who is the contact for the Village?
 - With the support and guidance of the Mayor and Village Administrator, the Community Development Department is responsible for staff functions relating to economic development: Economic development planning, business contacts, coordination with Chamber, assistance to new businesses.
 - To indicate the importance of these staff roles, the Community Development is now renamed Planning and Economic Development Department

Village Outreach

- Improve(d) communications
 - Chamber Forum, Oct 2008
 - Increased staff contact and coordination with Chamber leadership
- New Village Website
 - Better organization of info (“user-friendliness”)
 - Links and pages devoted exclusively to business issues
 - Estimated launch date: Oct 2009

Village Initiatives

- Breakfast club (Village as leader for monthly stakeholder meetings)
- Community Profile (info/marketing tool)
- Policy to purchase from local businesses
- Lemont Green Initiative (positive exposure for Lemont, will make Village more attractive place to live, work)



Economic Development and Downtown Improvement Plan

We listened to Chamber concerns!

- Preserve America Community - Community designation that gives exposure to Village and opens up funding opportunities
- Heritage Travel (NTHP) (marketing tool/downtown)
- Urban design efforts: kiosks, bike racks, signage (downtown)
- Downtown Canal landscaping
- I-355 signage/tough (are working with the tollway)
- Business Start-Up Guide



Joint Chamber-Village Initiatives

Projects we are embarking on together

- Shop Lemont Local Campaign

- **3/50 Project**

*Pick 3. Spend 50.
Save your local economy.*



SAVING THE BRICK & MORTARS
OUR NATION IS BUILT ON

the350project.net

Joint Chamber-Village Initiatives

Projects we are embarking on together

- LemontEvents.com (Community Calendar)
- Commercial recycling (part of Green Plan, will follow lead taken by Ryan Sullivan, Chamber President)



Potential Joint Initiatives

Possibilities for Cooperation

- Joint marketing studies – existing businesses
 - Focus resources to best return for Village as a whole
- Business recruitment – Economic Development Commission
- Potential for “shared space” in long term plan of old PD renovation
 - Business Incubator Space
 - Chamber Space
 - Arts Commission
 - Intergovernmental
 - Open to Ideas

Comprehensive Plan

Last updated 2002

- Update Needed
- Needs to address land use allocations, types of commercial, new traffic patterns, etc.
- Type of development: fast-food, chains, aesthetics, mitigation of adverse impacts, etc.

Village Development Toolbox: TIF

- Allows property tax increment to be devoted to infrastructure improvements and other development programs in designated area
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
 - HWY 83 and Main TIF established in 2009
 - Canal TIF established in 2006
 - Downtown TIF active until 2014
- Cook County tax incentive programs (6B)
- Open to other incentives

Projects Completed in TIF

- Downtown Infrastructure Improvements
 - Road/Utility Reconstruction of Stephen, Canal, River, Front Street, Main Street
 - Construction of Downtown Parking Structure
 - Talcott Reconstruction (future project)
- 2009 Downtown Projects: Bike racks, informational signage and kiosks
- Gateway TIF District goals: extend utilities to area, clean up junkyard properties and attract commercial development

What Village Does Not Do

- Limited budget to advertise/promote Lemont in media
- Business recruitment:
 - We don't cold call national chains and expend energy to woo them
 - We do attempt to work with various brokers, seek out brokers, and aggressively pursue any inquiries or interests

Commercial Opportunity Corridors

(Potential commercial development)

- HWY 83/Main – Retail and Office
- Bell Road – Retail and Office
- New Avenue – Industrial/Transportation
- Tri-Central – Commercial/Office/Institutional/Recreation
- Sanitary Shipping – Office/Industrial/Transportation
- 127th and State Corridor

Other Economic Development Efforts/Thoughts

- *Increase foot traffic. Attracting institutional and office uses needed to generate foot traffic for retail.*
- Develop Heritage and Eco-tourism (Quarries, bike paths, I&M, forest preserves, golf courses should be touted as regional attractions)
- “Asset-based community development”
 - Capitalize on demographic strengths (high education level, median HH income, good age pyramid)
 - Address our comparative weaknesses (location, Cook Co., low density). Compensate for relatively low density – address.
 - Find balance between chains and locally owned businesses

Capital Planning

- Look at key gateways – internal and external – for enhancement opportunities
- Examples
 - Route 83 & Main (External)
 - Illinois and Stephen (Internal)
- Work with Federal Government and State for High-Speed Rail

Economic Development Conclusion

- Tough economic climate not limited to Lemont
- Due to poor economy Village needs to re-evaluate involvement in promotion of businesses, i.e. past approach of free market vs. possible incentives (stronger emphasis on economic development—*Example: 3 trustee liaisons devoted to development*)
- Focus will no longer be exclusively on downtown, but recognition that downtown makes Lemont unique
- This is a community issue; all key stakeholders must be involved. ***Not Village Alone — Move Forward Together!***