DuPage Water Commission
MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Commissioners

FROM: Robert L. Martin, P.E.
General Manager

DATE: May 10, 2005

SUBJECT: Supplemental Board Package Material

Attached is the following supplemental information for the May 12, 2005 Commission meeting:

1. Revised draft of Resolution No. R-28-05 incorporating the executed version of the Elmhurst Intergovernmental Agreement.

2. Email dated May 10, 2005 sent to Municipal County Task Force regarding incorporate and unincorporated population served.

3. Media Articles

   a. Chicago Tribune dated May 6, 2005 – Lisle task force to study disparities in water bills.

   b. Daily Herald dated May 3, 2005 – Bloomingdale residents can expect water rate hike.

DATE: May 5, 2005

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

AGENDASECTION	Omnibus Vote Requiring Majority Vote	**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT**	Pipeline
ITEM	A Resolution Approving, Accepting, and Ratifying the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Elmhurst Regarding Contract TIB-1/03 Restoration Work Resolution No. R-28-05	**APPROVAL**	

Account Number: WF-7500

In two separate areas along the route of the TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main, Elmhurst desires to have a different method of pavement restoration performed than that specified under the Commission's construction contract.

In the first area, Elmhurst desires that an approximately 2,300 foot segment of the Dorchester Place and Route 83 Frontage Road rights-of-way ("Special Restoration Area A") be fully replaced with asphalt pavement in lieu of in-kind concrete pavement replacement along the west half of said rights-of-way and in-kind concrete pavement patching along the east half of said rights-of-way. Elmhurst will reimburse the Commission for one-half of the actual cost differential between the pavement restoration originally specified under Contract TIB-1/03 and the special pavement restoration work requested by Elmhurst within Special Restoration Area A. Elmhurst's share of this special pavement restoration work is estimated to be $85,500.00. This special pavement restoration work will result in a benefit to the progress of the project by eliminating the framing work and the cure time required for concrete pavement construction.

In the second area, Elmhurst desires that when the Commission restores an approximately 2,900 foot segment of the Route 83 Frontage Road right-of-way ("Special Restoration Area B"), the existing asphalt pavement be widened four feet to the east. Elmhurst will reimburse the Commission for the entire additional cost of the pavement widening requested by Elmhurst within Special Restoration Area B. Elmhurst's cost for this special pavement restoration work is estimated to be $145,000.00.

MOTION: To approve Resolution No. R-28-05.

DuPAGE WATER COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. R-28-05

A RESOLUTION APPROVING, ACCEPTING, AND RATIFYING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DuPAGE WATER COMMISSION AND THE CITY OF ELMHURST REGARDING CONTRACT TIB-1/03 RESTORATION WORK

WHEREAS, the Commission was formed and exists pursuant to the Water Commission Act of 1985, 70 ILCS 3720/0.01 et seq., and Division 135 of Article 11 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-135-1 et seq., for the purpose of securing an adequate source and supply of water for its customers, including the City of Elmhurst ("Elmhurst"); and

WHEREAS, to carry out its duties and responsibilities, the Commission is proceeding with the construction of approximately 10,700 lineal feet of 72-inch diameter transmission main and related appurtenances to connect, along the Route 83 corridor, the Commission's existing 72" Southwest Transmission Main on Butterfield Road in the City of Elmhurst with its existing 72" Northwest Transmission Main on the Illinois Prairie Path just South of Randolph Street (the "TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main"); and

WHEREAS, in two separate areas along the route of the TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main, Elmhurst desires to have a different method of pavement restoration performed than that specified under the Commission's construction contract for the TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Commission and Elmhurst to set forth their understanding regarding the special pavement restoration requested by Elmhurst;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the DuPage Water Commission as follows:

SECTION ONE: The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof as findings of the Board of Commissioners of the DuPage Water Commission.

SECTION TWO: The Intergovernmental Agreement between the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Elmhurst in the form attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof as Exhibit 1, and all things provided for therein, shall be and hereby are approved and accepted by the Commission without further act; the Board of Commissioners of the DuPage Water Commission hereby ratifying, affirming, approving, and accepting all actions of Commission staff related thereto.

SECTION THREE: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2005.

_____
Chairman

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk

Board/Resolutions/R-28-05.doc

EXHIBIT 1

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
REGARDING CONTRACT TIB-1/03 RESTORATION WORK

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 9th day of May, 2005, by and between the DuPAGE WATER COMMISSION, a county water commission created and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois (the "Commission"), and the CITY OF ELMHURST, a municipal corporation created and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois ("Elmhurst"),

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Commission was formed and exists pursuant to the Water Commission Act of 1985, 70 ILCS 3720/0.01 et seq., and Division 135 of Article 11 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-135-1 et seq., for the purpose of securing an adequate source and supply of water for its customers, including Elmhurst; and

WHEREAS, to carry out its duties and responsibilities, the Commission is proceeding with the construction of approximately 10,700 lineal feet of 72-inch diameter transmission main and related appurtenances to connect, along the Route 83 corridor, the Commission's existing 72" Southwest Transmission Main on Butterfield Road in the City of Elmhurst with its existing 72" Northwest Transmission Main on the Illinois Prairie Path just South of Randolph Street (the "TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main"); and

WHEREAS, in two separate areas along the route of the TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main, Elmhurst desires to have a different method of pavement restoration performed than that specified under the Commission's Contract TIB-1/03: Contract for the Construction of Inner Belt Transmission Main ("Contract TIB-1/03"); and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Commission and Elmhurst to set forth their understanding regarding the special pavement restoration requested by Elmhurst; and

WHEREAS, the matters set forth in this Agreement will serve the public interest and assure that inconvenience to the residents of Elmhurst is avoided to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, the provisions of the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 et seq., and other applicable authority, the Commission and Elmhurst are authorized to enter into this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the Commission and Elmhurst hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are by this reference incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

Section 2. Pavement Restoration Work. The Commission hereby agrees to perform the special pavement restoration work requested by Elmhurst as part of the Commission's TIB-1/03 Inner Belt Transmission Main project (the "Pavement Restoration Work"). The Pavement Restoration Work shall consist of the following items:

A. With respect to pavement restoration along the Dorchester Place right-of-way and along the Route 83 Frontage Road right-of-way from approximately Station 5+25 to approximately Station 28+00 ("Special Restoration Area A"), pavement restoration along the east half of the Dorchester Place right-of-way and along the east half of the Route 83 Frontage Road right-of-way within the Special Restoration

Area A shall consist of the following in lieu of in-kind pavement patching:

Removal of existing concrete pavement; earth excavation to proposed subgrade elevation; placement and compaction of 12" of granular subbase material; placement and compaction of 9" of Bituminous Aggregate Mixture; placement and compaction of 1-1/2 inches of bituminous binder course; and placement and compaction of 1-1/2 inches of bituminous surface course.

The special pavement restoration to be performed along the east half of the right-of-way within Special Restoration Area A is shown on Drawing No. R-2 attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

B. With respect to pavement restoration along the Route 83 Frontage Road right-of-way from approximately Station 29+00 to approximately Station 58+00 ("Special Restoration Area B"), the existing asphalt pavement shall be widened four feet to the east, including the following:

Removal and/ or relocation of existing Elmhurst-owned light standards, traffic and street signs, and fire hydrants when required; removal of existing concrete curb and gutter; 4 foot wide earth excavation to proposed subgrade elevation; placement and compaction of 12" granular subbase material; concrete curb and gutter placement' placement and compaction of 9" of Bituminous Aggregate Mixture; placement and compaction of 1-1/2 inches of bituminous binder course; and placement and compaction of 1-1/2 inches of bituminous surface course.

The special pavement restoration to be performed within Special Restoration Area B is shown on Drawing No. R-4 attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

Section 3. Plans and Specifications. The Pavement Restoration Work shall be constructed and installed in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by the Commission's consulting engineers in consultation with Elmhurst personnel, copies of which have been provided to Elmhurst. Elmhurst hereby acknowledges and agrees that it has reviewed and approved said plans and specifications and shall have no claim

against the Commission, its officers, agents, employees, or engineers with respect to the design or location of the Pavement Restoration Work.

Section 4. Terms of Construction. The Pavement Restoration Work shall be accomplished in accordance with the following terms:

A. Contract TIB-1/03. The terms, provisions and conditions of the Commission's Contract TIB-1/03 shall govern and control the performance of the Pavement Restoration Work.

B. Changes in the Work. Elmhurst shall have the right to make changes in the Pavement Restoration Work. All engineering services required in connection with a change order requested by Elmhurst shall be provided and paid for by Elmhurst. In addition, if any change ordered by Elmhurst causes an increase or decrease in the amount of such Pavement Restoration Work, then an equitable adjustment in the Contract Price set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement may be made. Said equitable adjustment shall be computed on the basis of the net total of the cost savings or additional expense incurred by the Commission pursuant to a duly authorized change order under Contract TIB-1/03.

C. Work Site. Elmhurst shall provide the work site at no charge to the Commission. In addition, Elmhurst shall supply at no charge to the Commission all permits, licenses, and approvals necessary from Elmhurst, or from any other governmental agency, for the proper prosecution and completion of the Pavement Restoration Work.

D. Access to Work; Authority. The Commission and Elmhurst acknowledge that the Commission shall inspect the construction and installation of the Pavement Restoration Work to ensure that the same complies with the Plans and Specifications referred to in Section 3 hereof. Elmhurst shall have the right and authority to inspect the construction and installation of the Pavement Restoration Work as it sees fit.

E. Quality of Work; Completion. The Pavement Restoration Work shall be performed in a good and workmanlike manner. When the Pavement Restoration Work has been completed, the Commission shall notify Elmhurst of that fact and that the Pavement Restoration Work is ready for final inspection. Elmhurst shall review the Pavement Restoration Work and report any items that remain to be completed or corrected. Elmhurst shall be the sole judge of whether the

construction and installation of the Pavement Restoration Work is in substantial conformity with the plans and specifications.

Section 5. Conveyance of Facilities. Upon completion of the construction and installation of the Pavement Restoration Work, and final inspection and final approval by Elmhurst, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, ownership of the Pavement Restoration Work, and a bill of sale therefor, shall be conveyed to Elmhurst. Immediately following such conveyance, Elmhurst shall own the Pavement Restoration Work; the Pavement Restoration Work shall become the sole and exclusive property of Elmhurst; and Elmhurst shall have all duty, responsibility and liability to maintain and repair the Pavement Restoration Work and the Commission shall have no obligation or duty with respect thereto except for correcting any failure of the Pavement Restoration Work to fulfill the Contract TIB-1/03 warranty that may be discovered or develop at any time within one year after transfer of ownership of the Pavement Restoration Work to Elmhurst.

Section 6. Payment. Elmhurst shall reimburse the Commission for providing, performing and completing the Pavement Restoration Work in an amount equal to the sum of (i) one-half of the actual cost differential between the pavement restoration originally specified under Contract TIB-1/03 and the pavement restoration specified in Section 2A of this Agreement with respect to pavement restoration within Special Restoration Area A and (ii) the entire additional cost of the special pavement restoration specified in Section 2B of this Agreement with respect to pavement restoration within Special Restoration Area B, within 30 days of receipt of an invoice therefor, together with proper contractor's sworn statements and waivers of lien, as may be appropriate ("Contract Price"). The Contract Price may be adjusted pursuant to Subsection 4B of

this Agreement to reflect changes in the Pavement Restoration Work requested by Elmhurst.

Section 7. Indemnification. Except as otherwise provided in Section 3 of this Agreement, the Commission shall indemnify, save harmless and defend Elmhurst from all damages, costs or liabilities suffered because of injury to or death of any person or persons, or damage to property, or any other cause of action of any sort, that may arise out of or as a consequence of the negligence of the Commission or its authorized agents, servants, employees or contractors in the installation and construction of the Pavement Restoration Work before and within one year after the transfer of ownership of such Pavement Restoration Work pursuant to Section 5 of this Agreement. Elmhurst shall indemnify, save harmless and defend the Commission from all damages, costs or liabilities suffered because of injury to or death of any person or persons, or damage to property, or any other cause of action of any sort, that may arise out of or as a consequence of the installation and operation of the Pavement Restoration Work after the first anniversary date of the transfer of ownership of such Pavement Restoration Work pursuant to Section 5 of this Agreement.

Section 8. Notices. All notices required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed received by the addressee thereof when delivered in person on a business day at the address set forth below or on the third business day after being deposited in any main or branch United States post office, for delivery at the address set forth below by properly addressed, postage prepaid, certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

Notices and communications to the Commission shall be addressed to, and delivered at, the following address:

DuPage Water Commission
600 East Butterfield Road
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126-4642
Attention: Robert L. Martin
General Manager

Notices and communications to Elmhurst shall be addressed to, and delivered at, the following address:

City of Elmhurst
209 North York Street
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
Attention: Thomas Borchert
City Manager

The foregoing shall not be deemed to preclude the use of other non-oral means of notification or to invalidate any notice properly given by any such other non-oral means.

By notice complying with the requirements of this Section 8, the Commission and Elmhurst each shall have the right to change the address or addressee or both for all future notices to it, but no notice of a change of address shall be effective until actually received.

Section 9. Entire Agreement. This Agreement sets forth the entire agreement of the Commission and Elmhurst with respect to the Pavement Restoration Work and the payment therefor, and there are no other understandings or agreements, oral or written, between the Commission and Elmhurst with respect thereto, nor was the making and execution of this Agreement induced by any representation, statement, warranty, agreement or action other than those expressed or explicitly referenced herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Commission and Elmhurst have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective chief administrative officers, pursuant to proper authorization of their respective governing bodies, as of the date hereinabove first stated.

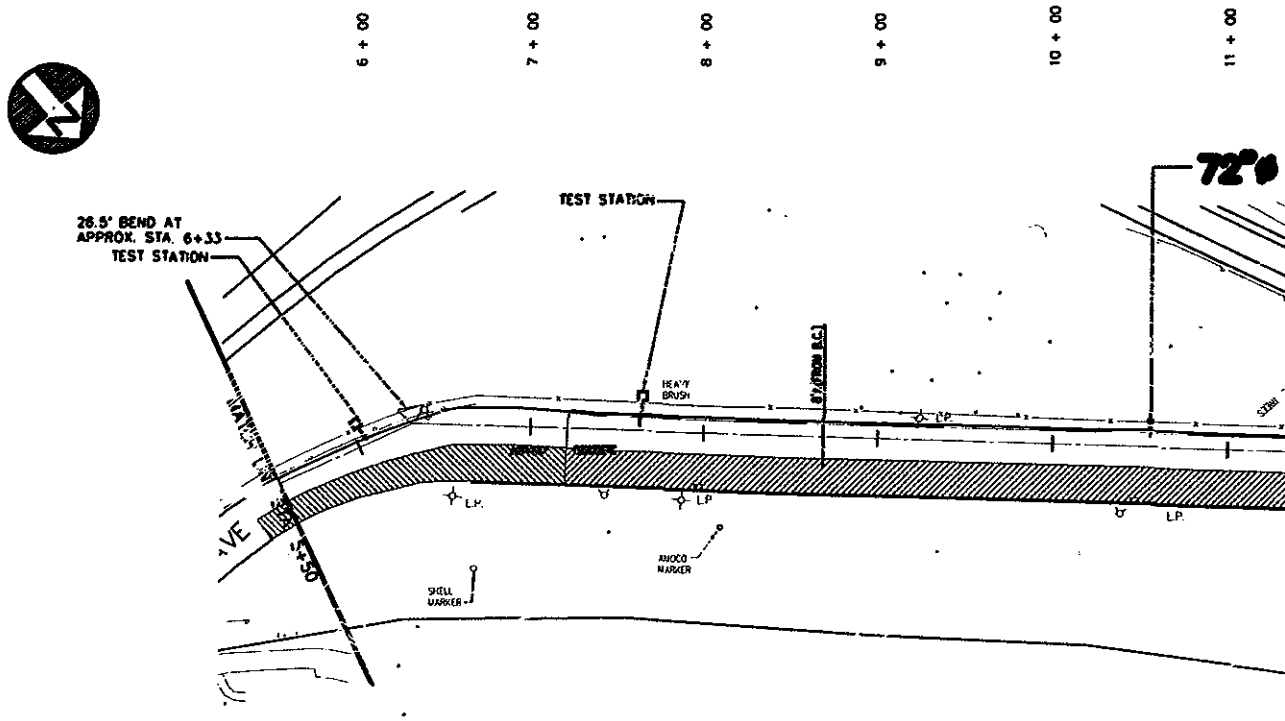
Thomas Borchert
City Manager
City of Elmhurst

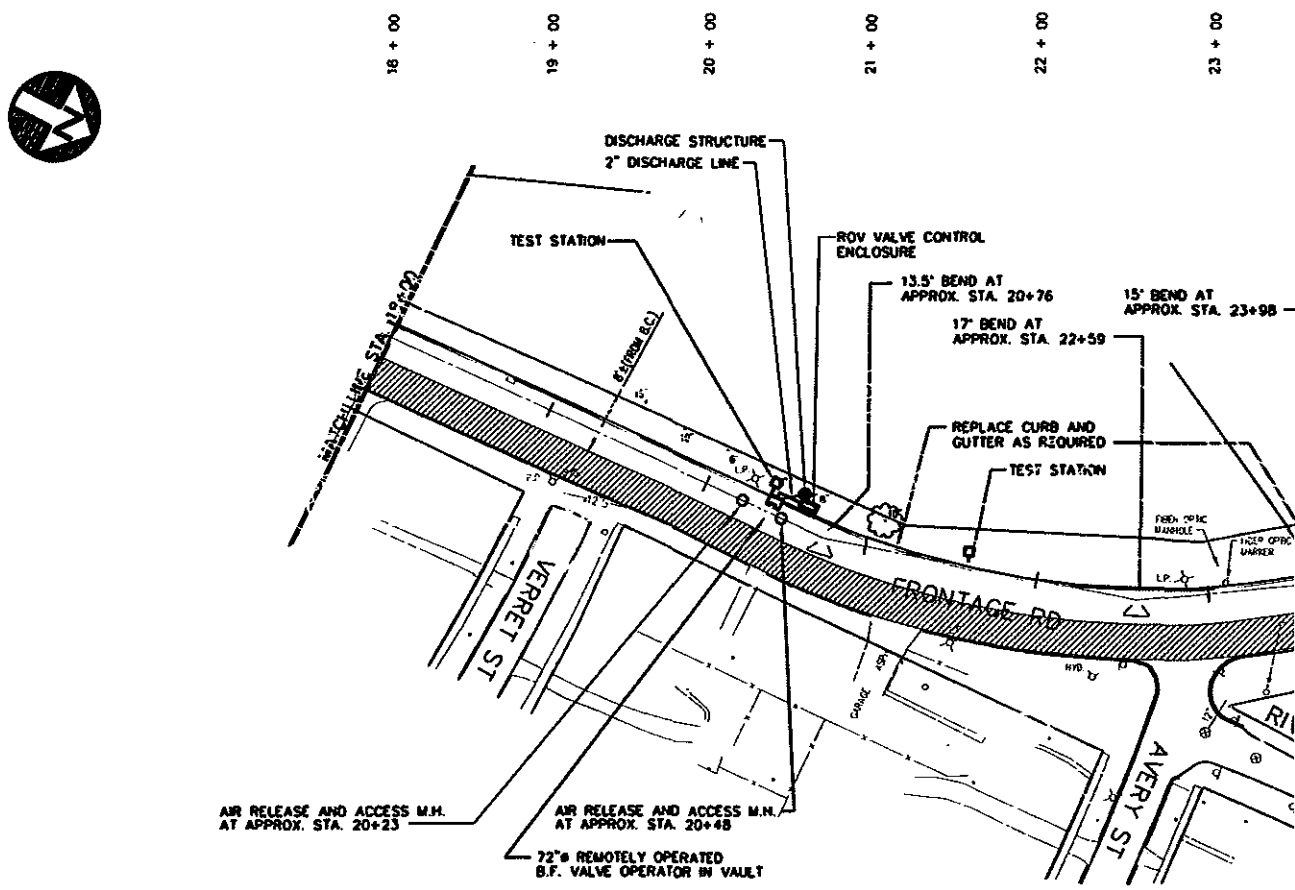
Robert L. Martin
General Manager
DuPage Water Commission

ATTEST:

Patty Spencer
City Clerk
City of Elmhurst

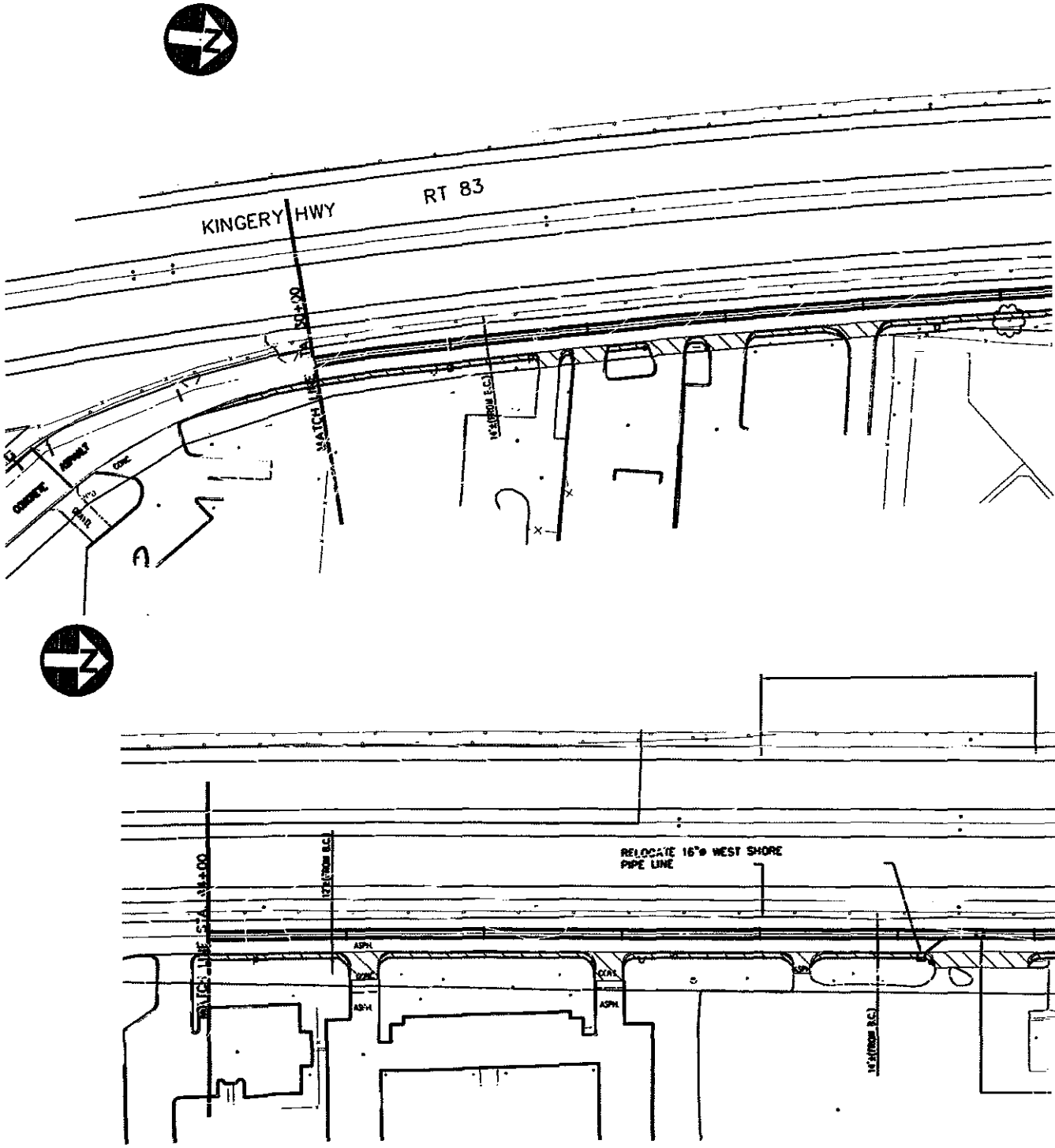
Maureen A. Crowley
Clerk
DuPage Water Commission





AT APPROX. STA. 20+40

ALVORD, BURDICK & HOWSON, L.L.C. ENGINEERS CHICAGO 2003	DuPAGE WATER COMMISSION	DATE	INIT.	REVISIONS	RES
		07-16-2003		ADVERTISED-DATE	
		04-22-2005		RESTORATION	



ALVORD, BURDICK & HOWSON, L.L.C. ENGINEERS CHICAGO 2003	DuPAGE WATER COMMISSION	DATE	BY:	REVISIONS
		07-16-2003		ADVERTISING DATE

PL

Robert Martin

From: Robert Martin
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2005 1:45 PM
To: Kevin Buoy (E-mail)
Cc: Lynn McIlwain (E-mail); Sheryl Markay (E-mail); William F Murphy Jr. (E-mail); James H. Knippen II (E-mail); Peter Burchard (E-mail); Maureen Crowley
Subject: Municipal Task Force

Kevin,

Attached is the information that Greg Wilcox stated you were looking for.

2005 Population and Service Es...

Robert L. Martin, P.E.
General Manager
DuPage Water Commission
600 E. Butterfield Road
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone: 630-834-0100
Fax: 630-834-0120
E-mail: martin@dpwc.org
www.dpwc.org

	DuPage County Population			DWC-Lake Michigan Water Service Outside Municipal Boundary		
	2000 CENSUS (DuPage Cty Data)	2005 ESTIMATE AS OF 03/09/2005	Notes	Water Services	Township Population Equivalent	Population Served
Addison	35,914	36,767	(4)	46	2.90	133
Aurora *	38,905	38,905	(5)			
Bartlett *	24,508	24,508	(5)			
Bensenville	20,703	20,668	(4)	342	2.90	992
Bloomingdale	21,675	22,181	(1)	12	2.84	34
Bolingbrook *	1,748	1,721	(2)			
Burr Ridge *	6,785	6,785	(5)			
Carol Stream	40,438	40,438	(1)	0	2.84	0
Clarendon Hills	7,610	7,610	(1)	25	2.59	65
Darien	22,860	22,871	(4)	1,100	2.59	2,849
Downers Grove	48,724	50,589	(1)	1,200	2.59	3,108
DuPage Cty - Glen Ellyn Hts.*						
DuPage Cty - Greene Rd.*						
DuPage Cty - NRWF*	Population included with Un-Incorporated Estimate					
DuPage Cty - SERF*	Below					
DuPage Cty - Steeple Run*						
DuPage Cty - York Center*						
Elmhurst	42,762	42,762	(1)	0	2.56	0
Glendale Heights	31,765	32,848	(4)	14	2.84	40
Glen Ellyn	26,999	27,210	(4)	153	2.69	412
Hanover Park *	17,523	17,523	(5)			
Hinsdale	15,209	15,715	(2)	1,000	2.59	2,590
IAWC - Arrowhead	Portions Included in Wheaton Data			645	2.69	1,735
IAWC - Country Club				343	2.90	995
IAWC - DuPage/Lisle	Portions Included in Lisle Data			2,915	2.66	7,754
IAWC - Lombard Heights	Included in Lombard Data					
IAWC - Valley View				3,354	2.69	9,023
IAWC - Liberty Ridge West				1,330	3.09	4,109
IAWC - Liberty Ridge East	Portions Included in Wheaton & Glen Ellyn Data					
Itasca	8,302	8,382	(4)	0	2.90	0
Lemont *	6	6	(5)			
Lisle	21,182	21,656	(4)	90	2.66	239
Lombard	42,322	42,971	(4)	30	2.56	77
Naperville	90,984	93,401	(2)	918	3.20	2,938
Oak Brook	8,702	8,847	(4)	5,297	2.56	13,560
Oakbrook Terrace	2,300	2,270	(4)	112	2.56	287
Roselle	19,655	19,655	(5)	15	2.84	43
St. Charles *	169	169	(5)			
Villa Park	22,075	22,517	(2)	2	2.56	5
Warrenville *	13,363	13,286	(4)			
Wayne *	1,303	1,303	(4)			
West Chicago *	23,469	25,573	(2)			
Westmont	24,554	25,954	(2)	4	2.59	10
Wheaton	55,416	55,016	(4)	83	2.69	223
Willowbrook	8,967	8,983	(4)	3	2.59	8
Winfield	8,718	9,393	(4)	22	3.09	68
Wood Dale	13,535	13,451	(4)	0	2.90	0
Woodridge	30,934	33,695	(4)	800	2.66	2,128

Incorporated Population	800,084	815,629	Estimated Un-Incorporated Water Service	53,424
Un-Incorporated Population	104,077	103,936 (3)		103,936
Total County Population	904,161	919,565	Estimated County Population Without DWC Water Service	50,512
Percentage of Residents in Un-Incorporated	11.51%	11.30%	Percentage Not Served	5.49%

* - Non-DWC Customers
(1) Information from Municipality's Published Comprehensive Financial Reports
(2) Special Census Data Provided by Municipalities for 2003 or 2004
(3) Provided by Regional Planning Division of DuPage County March 02, 2005
(4) Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau-Annual Estimates of the Population for Incorporated Places in Illinois (SUB-EST2003-04-17) Release Date: June 24, 2004
(5) Population Estimates for Municipalities with boudaries in DuPage County - Exhibit 2.2 of the DuPage County Statistical Handbook 2002
(6) Population Estimates Derived from January 23, 2004 Annual Billing Memorandum for Fiscal 2003

Robert Martin

From: Robert Martin
Sent: Saturday, May 07, 2005 7:04 AM
To: Robert Martin
Subject: Lisle task force to study disparities in water bills

This story was sent to you by: Robert Martin

Lisle task force to study disparities in water bills

Neighborhood's homes paying 2 times more

By Bob Goldsborough
Special to the Tribune

May 6, 2005

Lisle officials this week formed a task force to study possible remedies to a quirk of history that causes one area's water bills to be two to three times higher than those in the rest of the village.

The 398 houses in the village's Oak View neighborhood, which was built in the late 1950s and early 1960s, are served not by Lisle's Lake Michigan water system, but instead by a small system owned by the private utility Illinois-American Water Co. The utility, which operates seven small water systems around DuPage County, is a full member of the DuPage Water Commission and delivers Lake Michigan water to all of its systems.

The Oak View system doesn't connect directly to the Lake Michigan water agency's pipes. Instead, Lisle, which does connect directly to the commission's system, charges Oak View customers to "wheel" water, or to use its system as a pass-through. Lisle also assesses Illinois-American customers a charge for the additional, Water Commission-mandated storage that the village's system provides them.

Also, all Illinois-American customers pay a slightly higher rate to the Water Commission, because their utilities joined the commission after the original 23 DuPage communities did in the 1980s.

The upshot is that Oak View residents' water bills end up being at least twice those of other Lisle residents, for the same Lake Michigan water.

The rate disparity strikes Oak View resident Susan Srail as profoundly unfair. Srail first raised the issue with village officials in December and has consistently brought it up since then.

"I want the village to give us the same services they're providing to the rest of the community," Srail said. "The biggest service that Lisle offers is water and sewer, and there are 398 homes here that have been paying taxes to the village for more than 45 years but not receiving equitable services. We want direct water from our village, and we want Illinois-American out."

Mayor Joseph Broda said the village is willing to do "whatever we can" to bring the area's water rates to parity with the village's, including forming the task force.

Possible options, some of which would be costly, include building competitive village-owned water pipes into the area so customers could switch to direct water service from Lisle, buying or condemning Illinois-American's system and filing a rate protest or seeking some kind of rate-reduction deal with the Illinois Commerce Commission, which regulates private utilities.

"There may be some options we haven't even thought of yet," he said. The Oak View water system predates that of Lisle's own water system, which the village didn't build until

1965. Lisle bought up several other small distribution systems in the area in the 1980s, but never acquired the Illinois-American system.

Broda noted that the users of Lisle's water system fund improvements to it. As a result, Oak View residents' property taxes do not support the village's water system, he said.

However, he acknowledged that Oak View residents' current water bills do include the additional charges for storage and "wheeling."

Srail complained that Lisle officials even have spent money recently to extend the village's water system to serve unincorporated properties, but they haven't expanded it to serve the houses in her neighborhood.

"The mayor said the village eventually would make the money back that it spent to hook up those unincorporated areas," she said.

"But they're guaranteed to make similar money back by hooking us up."

Oak View is not the only region in DuPage County where a rate disparity of this kind exists. Two of Illinois-American's six other water systems in the county provide water, largely, if not entirely, to residents who live in towns that also operate their own Lake Michigan water systems at lower rates. They are the Lombard Heights system, which provides water to residents just south of North Avenue and inside the villages of Lombard and Villa Park, and the Liberty Ridge East service area, which provides water to residents in northwest Glen Ellyn.

Also, Illinois-American's Arrowhead system southwest of Wheaton provides water to at least one customer inside Wheaton's city limits, Wiesbrook Elementary School.

Copyright (c) 2005, Chicago Tribune

Big Picture | Local Focus
Daily Herald
SUBURBAN CHICAGO'S INFORMATION SOURCE

Bloomingdale residents can expect water rate hike

By Justin Kmitch
Daily Herald Staff Writer
Posted Tuesday, May 03, 2005

Bloomingdale residents will likely see a 20-cent decrease in their $3.14 per 1,000 gallon water bills this year.

However, a $30.4 million expansion of the village's Water Reclamation Facility could cost them an extra 57 cents per year for the next four years.

Trustees said during a Monday committee meeting they intend to pass along the 20 cent savings implemented last month by the DuPage Water Commission, but admitted they may have to get "pretty creative" to avoid passing on the costs of the facility expansion.

Traditionally, the village has ensured that the water and sewer fund operates at a one-to-one ratio of water rate revenues to operating expenses and sewer rate revenues to sewer expenses, ensuring the fund rarely makes a profit.

Finance Director Gary Szott, however, said it could be about a month before trustees decide exactly what they're going to do. Trustee Robert Czernek said by that time, he hopes board members will have been able to study several different financing options, so as to lessen the impact on water customers.

Szott said there are several funding combinations available, including reducing the water rate by a designated amount and moving the difference to the sewer fund to lessen the impact of the proposed increase.

"There's several things we can look at and we'll be doing that in the next month or so," he said. "Hopefully we can come up with something everyone can agree with."

The village needs to expand the sewage facility to comply with state environmental protection agency discharge standards. The agency is expected to review and approve the 20-year facility plan this summer. If approved, the $30.4 million addition will be constructed in four phases beginning with design engineering in April 2006.

dailyherald.com