

Quarterly Strategic Plan Update Report
First Quarter – FY21
(May to July)

1. FINANCES & SERVICES.

Achieve a balanced budget with funding for prioritized services and infrastructure improvement: Maximize development of open commercial properties, foster healthy businesses, pursue other revenue and funding opportunities, and control expenditures.

<i>Action step/initiative</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Time line</i>
1.1. Take steps necessary short term to address revenue/expenditure imbalance	Mayor, Village Board, Village Manager, Department Directors	First priority beginning in November 2017
1.2. Explore alternative methods for delivering services and collaboration opportunities	Mayor, Village Board, Village Manager, Department Directors	Second priority
1.3. Identify what services/programs/ areas are inadequately funded, by how much and prioritize these needs against existing services. Explore service delivery of these needs and funding of each	Village Manager, Department Directors with Mayor and Village Board	Third priority

Explanation of the project(s) including steps taken and outcome:

- Continued to work with a lobbyist to push for funding for Village’s priority projects with local legislators with commitments but no funding received.
- Applied for grants from MWRD, FEMA, State of Illinois DCEO and the Army Corps of Engineers for Flossmoor Road viaduct and Berry Lane stormwater improvements
- Responded to the COVID-19 Restore Illinois plan by bringing employees back to work site under normal schedules in May and June and re-opening Village Hall to the public with a focus on safety and social distancing, all under a Return to Work Plan. Created a local Resurgence Plan to respond to COVID-19 resurgence that could limit in-person gatherings. Continued staff education on COVID financial assistance/reimbursement
- Successfully filed local motor fuel tax with the State
- Approved sewer rate increase effective July 1, 2020. Consideration of water and sewer rates had been deferred from FY21 budget process.
- Renewed the residential electric aggregation program, guaranteeing the Com Ed rate and the provider contributing a portion of its supply as renewable energy certificates.
- Awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award for the 41st year in a row
- Maintained the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System Class 7 rating allowing residents to receive 15% discount on flood insurance policy premiums in special flood hazard areas.
- Continued to manage a federal grant for the fire station alerting equipment for several fire agencies

Explanation of next steps and/or how the continued success of this project(s) will be re-evaluated through time:

- Monitor FY21 revenues carefully and consider additional steps to reduce expenditures as necessary per the COVID-19 contingency plan.
- Continue implementation of new financial system software.
- Complete biannual 5-Year General Fund projection and analysis and address deficits identified
- Continue to respond to COVID-19 pandemic issues relative to staffing, service and financial reimbursement

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2. INFRASTRUCTURE.

Improve the Village infrastructure: Develop prioritized improvement plans and maintain/improve road, water, sewer and other infrastructure on an appropriate cycle.

<i>Action step / Initiative</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Time Line</i>
2.1. Prioritize the Village’s needed infrastructure investments	Mayor, Village Board and Public Works Director	March/April for FY 2019
2.2. Explore long-term financing options for infrastructure improvements	Mayor, Village Board, Finance Director, Public Works Director	March/April for FY 2019

Explanation of the project(s) including steps taken and outcome:

- Awarded contract for first phase of FY21 street resurfacing program for Hamlin, 190th Street and Sunset Avenue. Also awarded a contract for the FY 21 annual sidewalk replacement program for approximately 224 squares of sidewalk replacement. Prepared for Board discussion for referendum for General Obligation bond issue for street resurfacing and flooding mitigation projects.
- Entered into contract for additional engineering for the Flossmoor Road Viaduct program using Rebuild Illinois Bond funding that will be allocated to the Village over the next few years.
- Worked with Strand & Associates for technical engineering required to switch to alternative water supplier. Entered into intergovernmental agreement with Homewood to further study a partnership under a supply agreement with Hammond and to share the costs of studies required for the switch.
- Received notification that the Village is being awarded the CMAP Local Technical Assistance Grant for a roadway safety study.

Explanation of next steps and/or how the continued success of this project(s) will be re-evaluated through time:

- Pass ordinance placing the referendum for bonds for street, sidewalk and stormwater infrastructure on the November 2020 ballot. Develop education campaign and materials to enable voters to make an informed decision.
- Present revised concepts for the Central Business District Roadway, Pedestrian and Streetscape Improvements.
- Continue to work toward a decision on water supply options and determine financing method if applicable. A significant focus will be on the water quality study and analysis.
- Continue to advance an application for low-interest IEPA loans for the Phase IV Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project.
- Pursue other grant funding for capital infrastructure improvements.

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3. BUSINESS.

Engage in an economic development program: Attract, retain and help revitalize businesses and attain the development of available commercial properties.

<i>Action step/initiative</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Time line</i>
3.1. Re-evaluate soliciting the developer community without the No Cash Bid properties	Village Manager, consultant	First priority
3.2. Evaluate resources and partnerships	Mayor, Village Board and Manager	In conjunction with first priority
3.3. Develop a marketing program to achieve development of open commercial properties in Southwest Flossmoor	Village Manager, Mayor, Village Board	Third priority
3.4. Evaluate a business retention strategy	Manager, Building and Zoning Administrator	Fourth priority
3.5. Consider a Comprehensive Plan update and/or sub-area plans for business corridors	Mayor, Village Board, Manager and Building an Zoning Administrator	January 2018 (planning for FY 19 budget)

Explanation of the project(s) including steps taken and outcome:

- Held a business Zoom meeting with several businesses and Village officials to discuss Village efforts during COVID pandemic and ways in which to support business during the pandemic.
- Created outdoor dining space by blocking off parking spaces in Downtown Flossmoor for Dunning’s Market and Bistro on Sterling to allow them to continue serving customers during the pandemic-related restrictions. Made amendments to the liquor code to permit serving of alcohol in outdoor dining spaces and “cocktails to go” and relaxed regulations to permit outdoor dining on private property.
- Continue discussions with developer interested in developing approximately four acres on Vollmer Road to the east of the Meijer gas station for commercial use.
- Held grand opening for Glow Salon & Spa within the former Marc Alan Salon space located in the Flossmoor Commons. Little Fern Salon in the former Pop N By space had a soft opening in June.
- Approved the renewal of a Class 8 tax incentive agreement with Alliance Real Estate.

Explanation of next steps and/or how the continued success of this project(s) will be re-evaluated through time:

- Evaluate options for winter outdoor dining
- Continue to market Village-owned properties
- Continue to look for opportunities to support local businesses and the Flossmoor Business Association

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4. DIVERSITY & COMMUNICATIONS.

Foster a diverse, united and inclusive community: Pursue activities to maintain Flossmoor’s diversity, promote inclusiveness, and build communications, understanding and unity among residents across neighborhoods and throughout the community.

<i>Action step/initiative</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Time line</i>
4.1. Identify models and measures for communications and diversity/inclusion	Mayor and Village Board, Community Relations Commission (CRC)	First priority
4.2. Identify partnerships and resources for communications and building unity	Village Manager’s office, CRC	Second priority
4.3. Develop a method to evaluate communications and what perceptions or misperceptions exist, and implement that method	Village Manager’s office	Third priority
4.4. Work through the Community Relations Commission and identified resources to continue communication methods that are successful and improve where necessary	Village Manager’s office	Fourth priority
4.5. Work through the Community Relations Commission and identified resources to continue diversity/inclusion methods that are successful and improve where necessary	Village Manager’s office	Fifth priority

Explanation of the project(s) including steps taken and outcome:

- With direction from the Village Board, continued research into methods and practices to advance the Village’s goals of diversifying the pool of vendors
- Celebrated Juneteenth by sharing Kalind Haynes’ rendition of Lift Every Voice and Sing and a reading list from Flossmoor Public Library
- Celebrated Pride Month with a reading list provided by the Flossmoor Public Library
- Held Coffee with a Cop in Downtown Flossmoor on June 26 and a Q&A session with the HF Kings football team and the Police Department on July 18
- Held first-ever One Book One Flossmoor virtual book club featuring Shonda Rhimes’ book *The Year of Yes*
- Rescheduled New Resident Event to September 26
- Initiated conversations between Youth Against Inequality and Flossmoor Police Department with the intention to host a forum in the future.

Explanation of next steps and/or how the continued success of this project(s) will be re-evaluated through time:

- In lieu of public events, continue to plan virtual and distanced events to continue to build community and evaluate opportunities to hold in-person events as the Restore Illinois Plan proceeds.
- Assist You Matter 2 in planning the 2021 Juneteenth event
- Present findings and recommendations regarding supplier diversity
- Continue conversations with intergovernmental partners to determine shared path forward on diversity and inclusion.
- Enroll in YWCA training sessions on equity to evaluate training village-wide.

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5. HOUSING.

Enhance the Village’s housing stock and increase property values: Promote Flossmoor to attract homebuyers, beautify downtown and neighborhoods, and assure maintenance of residential properties.

<i>Action step/initiative</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Time line</i>
5.1. Identify code enforcement options and assess options for more effective enforcement	Village Attorney, Building and Zoning Department	First priority
5.2. Review and consider code enforcement options and options for more effective enforcement	Mayor, Village Board, Village Manager	Second priority
5.3. Plan for and implement any approved additional code enforcement options	Village Manager, Building and Zoning Department	Third priority
5.4. Develop a marketing plan to attract new residents, retain residents and promote increased housing values	Village Manager	Year 2 of the plan

Explanation of the project(s) including steps taken and outcome:

- Launched Discover Flossmoor website and digital marketing campaign on social media, Google ads, Crain’s Chicago Business and Chicago Magazine.
- Continued first phase of Historic Building Survey, enlisting volunteers to photograph more than 1,000 buildings
- As of July 31, 2020 there were 82 vacant or foreclosed properties registered through ProChamps, a decrease of four from the previous quarter.
- Placed two new sculptures in Ballantrae Park after delaying installation due to the Stay-At-Home order.
- Explored Neighbor Mediation Services as an alternative to police intervention when neighbors cannot get along.

Explanation of next steps and/or how the continued success of this project(s) will be re-evaluated through time:

- Roll out digital ads for BMW Championship highlighting local golf and Flossmoor restaurants
- Continue the Historic Building Survey with the assistance of the Carlile Group and resident volunteers.
- Staff is currently evaluating the feasibility of a rental registration program.

Other significant items to note during the most recent quarter:

- With the Census closing on September 30, staff has renewed Flossmoor’s “Be Counted” campaign