



NEW LENOX

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January 27, 2021

Dear Homer Township Residents,

As a mayor who represents the residents of one of the villages that comprise Homer Township, I am writing to express my support for the transfer of stewardship of the Township's Road District to the Village of Homer Glen.

Currently, only 18 of the 234 miles of roads in Homer Township are located in unincorporated portions of the Township. The remaining streets are all located within the boundaries of New Lenox and the other local municipalities, whose respective public works departments maintain without assistance from the Road District.

The current system is not only unfair to our residents, but, especially, to our taxpayers who are getting double taxed. Under the proposed agreement, our residents would no longer have to pay taxes to a Road District that does not maintain the streets where they live.

In 2020, the officials from Homer Glen and the Road District approached us with a transfer proposal after presenting it to the Homer Township Board. In November, voters in the Homer Township overwhelmingly rejected a referendum that would have shifted the Road District's authority to the Township Board and would have obstructed the transfer of stewardship. This demonstrates widespread public support for the transfer.

The Village of Homer Glen is currently working with the Village of New Lenox on an intergovernmental agreement that will fairly compensate our Village for a portion of the equipment, assets and real estate that our taxpayers have purchased.

While we still need to finalize the details, we support the concept of transfer and appreciate Homer Glen's diligence to put forward an equitable, innovative plan that will save taxpayer dollars for ALL of the communities located in the Township. The goal is to complete the transfer within 2021.

The people have spoken. As a mayor representing residents and taxpayers, I support this action. There is no reason for delay.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Baldermann
Mayor, Village of New Lenox