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Engineering and Public Works Department

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## POLICY FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BRICK STREETS OVERLAID WITH ASPHALT Revised July 8, 2019

## **BACKGROUND**

The Village of Wilmette has approximately 23,000 linear feet of asphalt streets that were originally constructed of clay brick pavers. Over time, the brick pavers were overlaid with asphalt, and the pavers now serve as the road's base.

The residents of the Village of Wilmette enjoy the character of the brick streets and have requested an opportunity to restore the brick streets overlaid with asphalt. The following policy will be used to determine if overlaid brick streets are eligible for restoration.

An economic analysis indicates that the immediate cost of installing the brick streets is more that an asphalt street. But, the brick paver life is estimated at 100 plus years, significantly more than asphalt streets, which require resurfacing after 10-15 years and/or reconstruction after 20-25 years. Over a span of 100 years, the asphalt streets require more maintenance, making brick streets an economical option.

## **POLICY**

If the following criteria are met, the Village of Wilmette will support eliminating the existing asphalt surface and restoring the original bricks to the surface:

- 1. The street must consist of original, clay-fired bricks overlaid with asphalt.
- 2. The street must be included in a given year's annual road rehabilitation program, which is based on pavement ratings.
- 3. More than sixty-percent of the residents with frontage along the eligible street must be in favor of the brick surface.
- 4. A minimum of a three block segment, if applicable, must be endorsed in order to maintain some consistency with the pavement materials. For example, Forest Avenue is nine blocks long. The survey must indicate an affirmative response for at least three consecutive blocks, in order to make a change in pavement material.
- Given that the brick street renovation is more costly than an asphalt overlay, the eligible streets may be completed in shorter segments, so as not to dominate one year's road program budget.

## DISCUSSION

It is assumed that approximately 70-percent of the pavers can be salvaged, and the remaining pavers will be purchased. A supplier in Iowa has a large supply of the bricks on hand and will sell them at approximately \$8.00 per square foot (2018 price) including shipping costs.

During construction, the salvaged brick will be collected, cleaned and placed on pallets. The brick supply at the Village Yard will be used and replenished with brick purchased by the supplier in Iowa.

The following brick streets overlaid with asphalt are eligible for reconstruction:

Street	From	То	Blocks
15th Street	Wilmette Avenue	Highland Ave	2
Elmwood Avenue	15th Street	Green Bay Road	1
Forest Avenue	15th Street	7th Street	9
Linden Avenue	Prairie Avenue	Park Avenue	1
Michigan Ave	Sheridan Road	437-feet North	1
Prairie Avenue	Isabella Street	15th Street	8

Total blocks remaining that are candidates for brick street reconstruction: 22.

The following brick streets are overlaid with asphalt but NOT eligible for reconstruction:

Street	From	То	<b>Blocks</b>
12th Street*	Central Avenue	Lake Avenue	2
Isabella Street***	East Village Limits	15th Street	15
Lake Avenue*	Ridge Road	Michigan Avenue	18
Linden Avenue*	3rd Street	5th Street	2
Linden Avenue*	Park Avenue	Green Bay Road	1
Park Avenue*	Linden Avenue	Lake Avenue	4
Wilmette Avenue *	Elmwood Avenue	Lake Avenue	2

Total blocks that are NOT candidates for brick street reconstruction: 44

The streets with an "\*" are not recommended to be replaced with brick because of the volumes of traffic they withstand.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Isabella is partially owned and maintained by the City of Evanston.