



Department of Public Works

Director's Monthly Report to the Public Works & Properties Committee

January 4th, 2022

2022 Projects

- Main St. Bike Path Extension. MSA finalized plans and I've shared them with the County for review given the PARC Grant funding.
- Clark & Grove St. Reconstruction Project. The Village has come to an agreement with the landowner to purchase the land needed for stormwater treatment on the west side of Vilas Rd. MSA completed the survey work and drafted the CSM. Our legal team is working to have the purchase agreement signed in the coming weeks.
- E. Taylor/W. Oak/CTH N Urbanization. Strand's team has been on-site surveying and design will begin soon.

Snow

Snow finally showed up. Marty and the staff did a great job, as usual. Given we have one vacant position, our newest hire is still working towards his CDL & for the first event on Monday the 27th, we had two staff out – the team exceeded even the high bar they've set over the years.

Staffing Update

With Jake's departure, we were fortunate that we had a great "runner up candidate" from our last hiring process for the Public Works Technician position only a few months ago.

Officer Vince Jeffords, member of the Cottage Grove Police Department since 1999, will become our newest Public Works Technician, starting on January 10th. This date allows for the smoothest transition for both Departments. The timing also works out well for the Police Department; having just finished a recruitment and interview process, they are set up to fill the vacancy almost immediately.

Obviously, Vince brings a wealth of experience in public service and Village-specific knowledge. More importantly than that, we are confident he will be a great fit with our close-knit, small team. Every one of our staff knows Vince well and has worked side-by-side with him in different situations through the years.

While he will still have to earn his Class B CDL, Vince already has his Class C, and he has passed the written exam portion of the Class B so he's well on his way to helping the team out. He will be required to earn his DNR Water Certification in Groundwater and Distribution in the coming year. We're looking forward to getting him on board and showing him around to the facilities and infrastructure he may not be familiar with yet.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated public servant who recognizes they want a change in career, but still looking to work in service to the citizens of Cottage Grove. I am very optimistic about the future of our Department and the part Vince will play in that future.