VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
MEETING OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Village Hall – Community Room, 400 Park Ave., River Forest, IL

AGENDA

You may submit written public comments in advance of the meeting by emailing them to publiccomment@vrf.us. Public comments and any responses will be shared with the Commission. If you wish to speak during Public Comments, please email publiccomment@vrf.us by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026. Please note that only those attending the meeting in person will be able to provide Public Comments. The meeting will be available for listening only through Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89153263474 or by phone at 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 891 5326 3474.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes – September 2, 2026
4. Commercial Corridors Update
5. Chamber of Commerce Update
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

ADA Compliance: Any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the Village at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting by telephone at 708.366.8500 or by email: mwalsh@vrf.us. Every effort will be made to allow for meeting participation.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

September 2, 2026

A meeting of the Village of River Forest Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Assistant Administrator Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Meeting started by calling roll. Upon roll call, the following people were:

Present: Chairman Cuyler Brown and Commissioners Elizabeth Muhr, Matt Carolan, and Adam Wilde and Ori Gottlieb (6:03) and Tim Brangle (6:16)

Absent: Commissioner Raj Chiplunkar

Also Present: Assistant Village Administrator Jessica Spencer and Deputy Clerk Luke Masella and Executive Director Melissa Mallinson

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 3, 2026

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Gottleib and seconded by Commissioner Muhr to approve the minutes from June 3, 2026. By a voice vote, the motion passed.

4. COMMERCIAL CORRIDORS UPDATE

Chairman Brown asked Assistant Administrator Spencer for an update on the Village's commercial corridors. She updated the Commission on the ongoing litigation involving Lake and Lathrop. Discovery remained ongoing, and the next court hearing was scheduled for September 15, 2026. Commissioners discussed possible next steps in the proceedings.

Assistant Administrator Spencer provided an update on the Madison Street Development following the August 17 decision. The Developer is looking to submit permit applications in November. Commissioners discussed commercial occupancy, retail opportunities, existing vacancies, and desirable business uses along Madison Street. The Commission expressed interest in encouraging active uses consistent with the Village's Comprehensive Plan and coordinating with the Chamber of Commerce and property owners on business recruitment.

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Assistant Administrator Spencer reported that the Keystone Montessori School property was expected to be offered for sale. Commissioners discussed the opportunity for redevelopment or reuse of the property, including the potential availability of tax increment financing incentives, prior corridor planning recommendations, and outreach to real estate professionals and prospective users. Assistant Administrator Spencer also noted recent contact from an agent representing Yolk regarding opportunities in the Village.

Chairman Brown requested that Assistant Administrator Spencer circulate the previously completed commercial corridor study to the Commission. Commissioners discussed preparing information about preferred uses and available incentives for prospective purchasers or developers. Commissioner Carolan offered to share examples from other communities. Assistant Administrator Spencer agreed to inquire whether Houseal Lavigne could provide examples of potential uses or visualizations for the property.

5. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

Chamber Executive Director Mallinson discussed plans for a free business networking event for River Forest businesses. Following discussion, September 24, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. was selected as the event date and time. She indicated that she would contact Good Earth regarding hosting the event and described anticipated commissioner participation.

Chamber Executive Director Mallinson also provided an update on Chamber membership and upcoming business spotlight awards.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Brangle and seconded by Commissioner Wilde to adjourn the meeting of the Economic Development Commission at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

_____ Date: _____

Jessica Spencer, Assistant Village Administrator

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