



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 – 7:30 PM  
Village Hall – 400 Park Ave., River Forest, IL

You may submit your written public comments via email in advance of the meeting to: [sjansen@vrf.us](mailto:sjansen@vrf.us)  
You may listen to the meeting by participating in a Zoom conference call as follows: dial-in number: 312-626-6799 with meeting ID: 816 4491 8569 or by clicking [here](#). If you would like to speak during public comment, please email [sjansen@vrf.us](mailto:sjansen@vrf.us) by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2026
4. Commissioner Updates
5. Bird City Illinois and Migratory Birds
  - a. Focal Species Monitoring
  - b. Migratory Bird Day Events
  - c. Bird City Proclamation Draft
6. Green Building Guide
7. Pollinator Week Proclamation Draft
8. Communications and Staff Reports
  - a. Quarterly Waste Report
  - b. Battery Recycling
  - c. Village Project Updates
  - d. Communications
9. Schedule Next Meeting – June 9, 2026
10. Adjournment

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Sustainability Commission was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Co-Chair Charrette, Co-Chair Lennon, Commissioners Kadlec, Avalos, and Hoyt

Absent: Student Commissioner Stierwalt

Also Present: Staff Liaison Seth Jansen

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES**

Co-Chair Lennon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Avalos, to approve the meeting minutes from March 10, 2026.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chair Charrette, Co-Chair Lennon, Commissioners Kadlec, Avalos, and Hoyt

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passes.

**4. COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

Co-Chair Lennon noted during a conversation with a local landscaper, regarding the leaf blower ordinance, that battery life has been a major issues landscapers are facing. He indicated the landscaper raised concern that many landscapers will throw the batteries away when they can no longer keep a charger. Co-Chair Lennon indicated that battery recycling is limited to drop off facilities at chain hardware stores. He suggested the Village look into participating in Battery Network and having a drop off location for medium format batteries at Village Hall.

Co-Chair Lennon mentioned that the Recycle Coach app was not working correctly, and Mr. Jansen indicated he would share the issue with his contact at Recycle Coach to work to address.

Commissioner Avalos reminded everyone it is Earth Month and there are a large number of sustainability related events, including screenings of films for the One Earth Film Festival.

**5. BIRD CITY ILLINOIS AND MIGRATORY BIRDS**

Mr. Jansen shared a map provided by Commissioner Hoyt noting observed locations of Nighthawks in the River Forest region. Commission Hoyt shared information on the World Migratory Bird Day events. Commissioner Hoyt inquired about, and Mr. Jansen outlined, the

promotional information that will be put out in the newsletters and on social media. Commissioner Hoyt shared that he may be able to have student observers at Dominican University as well as perform a rooftop observation for nesting sites. Commissioner Hoyt has also been in contact with an ornithologist from Bradley University who has offered his equipment, including camera traps, for the Nighthawk observation process, if the ornithologist is able to find time to travel to the region. If a camera could be utilized, it would be for rooftop nesting observation for institutions who would allow for rooftop observation.

Commissioner Hoyt outlined the map he provided to the Commission, which includes sites identified on eBird as having observed nighthawk activity. These are the locations which will be used for the focal species project, where volunteers will go at dusk to monitor any potential activity. The Commission discussed how the nighthawk observation process will work and which sites would be best for identifying calls and mating activity. Co-Chair Lennon suggested focusing on locations with more recently observed activities. The Commission discussed compiling and managing the data of the observations. Commissioner Avalos suggested having information on the Bird City webpage on the Village website.

Mr. Jansen outlined the draft Bird City webpage for the Village website. Commissioner Hoyt has suggested a separate subpage for the nighthawk observation project once that is ready. Commissioner Hoyt indicated he would write a letter to the Wednesday Journal to announce the nighthawk project. The Commission suggested incorporating more pictures into the webpage. Mr. Jansen further outlined the leaf blower ordinance webpage, and Co-Chair Charrette offered typo corrections for the page.

Mr. Jansen further outlined the action tracking and documentation for the various items relating to Bird City Illinois designation. Mr. Jansen also outlined the planned future actions, including bringing the required Resolution to the Board for their June meeting. Commissioner Hoyt indicated he would forward the information he has.

## **6. RIVER FOREST MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

Mr. Jansen summarized the memo regarding the Community Aggregation Program, including the preliminary recommendation of the Commission and the response from MC2 to the question of how the civic contribution amount was determined. Mr. Jansen summarized the timeframe of when an ordinance would need to be formally adopted by the Board. The Commission discussed the Renewable Energy Credit vs Civic Contribution options and the reasoning for taking the civic contribution. Commissioner Kadlec inquired about the 12-month vs 24-month options offered. The Commission agreed with their preliminary recommendation to recommend the civic contribution for a term of 24 months.

Commissioner Avalos made a motion, seconded by Co-Chair Lennon, to recommend he Village Board approve an ordinance extending the term of the Master Power Supply Agreement with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC with the Civic Grant for a term length of 24 months and recommend to the Village Board that such funds raised through the Civic Grant go toward public-facing sustainability projects within the community.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chair Charrette, Co-Chair Lennon, Commissioners Avalos, Kadlec and Hoyt  
Nays: None

Absent: None  
Motion Passes.

### **7. INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK**

Mr. Jansen introduced the request from the Illinois Food Scrap and Compost Coalition asking all member communities to adopt the International Compost Awareness Week Proclamation. Mr. Jansen solicited edits from the Commission. Co-Chair Charrette asked that the Village's drop-off sites be incorporated. Commissioner Avalos asked that data regarding compost subscribers and organics tonnage be included in the proclamation. Co-Chair Lennon suggested that the proclamation also highlight how it comes back to the Village and results in finished compost for residents' gardens. The Commission discussed and came to a consensus on the information to incorporate the suggested information to highlight local efforts. Mr. Jansen provided a brief update on the finished compost delivery program.

Co-Chair Charrette made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kadlec, to recommend the Village Board approve a Proclamation recognizing the first full week in May as Compost Awareness Week in the Village of River Forest, incorporating the pending information and statistics on the Village's compost program.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chair Charrette, Co-Chair Lennon, Commissioners Avalos, Kadlec and Hoyt

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passes.

### **8. GREEN BUILDING GUIDE**

Mr. Jansen provided the outline developed by Commissioner Avalos. Commissioner Avalos solicited input for the types of information to include in the guide. Commissioner Avalos stated his plan to envision the guide as a printout for residents. Commissioner Hoyt suggested recommendations of products and contractors who have expertise with heat pumps or electric appliances. The Commission discussed ways to identify contractors licensed with the Village who specialize in or have experience with heat pumps or other appliances such as electric or heat pump hot water heaters and induction ovens. Co-Chair Lennon suggested some language specifics for the guide. The Commission discussed an outline of the benefits of electrification, outlining both the financial and environmental benefits, and then providing information on where to find the best appliances and local contractors who work with these appliances. The Commission discussed potential for developing future guides for green building materials and weatherization if the electrification guide is successful.

### **9. COMMUNICATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Jansen summarized the Quarterly Electric Vehicle Report, specifically highlighting the increase in EV Charger Permits and the change in formation for tracking the public EV Charging Station Usage. The Commission discussed the report data. Mr. Jansen provided brief outlines for the ongoing Village projects and the planned Sustainability communications for the next month.

Commissioner Avalos raised an issue regarding pending federal legislation on the legality of lawsuits toward polluters and the contribution to climate change. Mr. Jansen indicated he would make sure to no any relevant state legislation as a summary for the June meeting, following the conclusion of the state legislative session.

**10. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – MAY 12, 2026**

The Commission reached a consensus to hold its next meeting at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Kadlec made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Avalos, to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chair Charrette, Co-Chair Lennon, Commissioners Kadlec, Avalos and Hoyt

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passes.

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Seth Jansen, Secretary



**Village of River Forest  
Public Works and Engineering**

400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: May 12, 2026  
To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Seth Jansen, Assistant to the Director of Public Works  
Subj: Bird City Illinois Resolution Draft

One of the remaining action items for Bird City Illinois designation is adoption of a Bird City Illinois Resolution. This resolution must be adopted every 3 years, upon application and renewal of a community's Bird City Illinois designation.

Attached in the Village Resolution format is the standard template language provided for a Bird City resolution. Also attached are the resolutions adopted by the Town of Normal and City of Evanston. Both communities incorporated language to reflect specific actions undertaken by the communities in their Bird City efforts. Commission input is sought with regards to the language of the the resolution.

Once edits and additions to the proclamation are agreed upon by the Commission, a formal recommendation vote will be taken, and the resolution will go to the Board for adoption. Once the resolution has been formally adopted by the Board, the compiled documentation of Bird City Illinois efforts taken by the Commission and the Village will be submitted as an application for official designation. The intent is for the resolution to be adopted by the Board at one of their meetings this summer.

**Attachment:**

- Bird City Resolution Template Language
- Town of Normal Bird City Resolution
- City of Evanston Bird City Resolution



## RESOLUTION NO. 26-\_\_

### A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST BECOMING CERTIFIED BY THE BIRD CITY ILLINOIS PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, many citizens recognize and value birds that are residents and those that pass through during their migration seasons; and

**WHEREAS**, birds play an important ecological role in our community, controlling insect pests and contributing to pollination and seed dispersal; and

**WHEREAS**, birds and their habitats are declining throughout Illinois and North America, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, public education, awareness, and concern are crucial components of bird conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens enthusiastic about birds, informed about the threats they face, and empowered to help address those threats can directly contribute to maintaining healthy bird populations; and

**WHEREAS**, birds contribute to an increase to the economy by attracting tourists and generating revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is the number one threat to birds and local leaders should adopt environmentally sound policies and practices that protect birds and their habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 is important legislation that we need to continue to uphold in our local communities to ensure the protection of migratory birds; and

**WHEREAS**, Bird City Illinois is an initiative to build relationships with local municipalities and citizens of the community for a call to action to protect and conserve birds.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Village of River Forest President, by adoption of this resolution, hereby shows its support of the Bird City Illinois Initiative and endorses the application to become a certified Bird City Illinois community.

**IN WITNESS, THEREOF**, I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Village of River Forest, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2026.

**AYES:**

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

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Catherine Adduci, Village President

**APPROVED** by me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2026.

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Rosa Castellano, Village Clerk

DRAFT

# Town Council Action Report

May 19, 2025

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## Resolution in Support of the Town of Normal Becoming Certified by the Bird City Illinois Program

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**Prepared By:** Mercy Davison, Director of Planning and Zoning

**Reviewed By:** Pamela S. Reece, City Manager  
Jason Querciagrossa, Corporation Counsel  
Doug Damery, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Staff Recommendation:** Approval

**Attachments:** Proposed Resolution; Bird City Illinois Application

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### Community Impact

Designation as a Bird City Illinois participant will reinforce the Town's commitment to many sustainability goals that will benefit the Town, its residents, and its visitors. Key outcomes include the preservation and expansion of passive natural spaces and increased opportunities for the enjoyment of native wildlife throughout the community.

### Budget Impact

N/A

### Strategic Alignment



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## **Background**

Passed in 2024, the Town's Vision 2050/Sustainability Plan includes seven main goals for the Town to work toward (Res. No. 6295). A staff committee representing 11 departments has been working since February 2025 to determine what actions the Town could take to make progress toward these goals. Pursuit of the Bird City Illinois designation would touch upon several goals.

The Bird City Illinois program is run by the Audubon Council of Illinois under the auspices of the National Audubon Society. The goal of the program is "to encourage all communities in Illinois to implement sound bird-conservation practices by offering public recognition to those that succeed in enhancing the environment for birds and educating the public about the relationship between birds and people and how that contributes to a healthy community." In order to be certified as Bird City Illinois, a community must meet the following criteria:

1. Pass a resolution in support of the Bird City designation with a renewing resolution every three years
2. Sign a proclamation annually to recognize "World Migratory Bird Day," an international celebration during spring and fall migration seasons
3. Hold a public event to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day annually
4. Meet at least three actions from the Habitat category
5. Meet at least three additional actions for any of the categories (Habitat, Threats to Birds, Education/Engagement, and Sustainability)

Town staff believe that with the approval of this resolution, the signing of a proclamation, and the celebration of World Migratory Bird Day on May 24, the Town's existing sustainability and bird-friendly activities qualify for Bird City Illinois designation. Examples follow:

### Habitat Category

1. Participation in the Mayor's Monarch Challenge since 2021, which has involved the conversion of turf grass to native, pollinator-friendly plantings, among other activities
2. Creation of a bird-friendly water feature adjacent to the Connie Link Amphitheatre, which includes extensive native plantings and a fully accessible path connecting to the trail
3. Certification as a Tree City USA community since 1999
4. Restoration of creek banks throughout the parks and elsewhere, including the planting of native vegetation and ongoing prescribed burn maintenance

### Education and Engagement

1. Partnership with the Grand Prairie Bird Alliance on bird walks at Town parks, including Hidden Creek and Maxwell
2. Publication of bird-related information and photography via the Town's social media channels
3. Provision of accessible birdwatching locations, including the new water feature and Hidden Creek
4. Coordination of a birdwatching "lunch and learn" for Town employees

### Sustainability

1. Energy audits of Town-owned buildings with an aim toward greater energy efficiency
2. Purchase of some amount of renewable energy for municipal operations
3. Commitment to green transportation, including the Constitution Trail system, on-street bicycle accommodations, and the Town's Bike Friendly Community certification since 2014
4. Construction of two municipal buildings with LEED certification (Children's Discovery Museum and Uptown Station)

The Town's application also benefits from other bird-related activities conducted by the Grand Prairie Bird Alliance, including the Spring Bird Count and the Christmas Bird Count, the latter of which has been conducted for almost 50 years.

More can be found in the attached Bird City Illinois application.

### **Discussion**

Designation as a Bird City Illinois community by the Audubon Council of Illinois will help the Town address four of the seven goals within the Vision 2050/Sustainability Plan:

1. Increase reliability, convenience, safety, and appeal of non-car transportation in Normal
2. Promote biodiversity by preserving and expanding natural habitats and planting more trees in a wider variety of species
3. Expand green infrastructure to protect sources of clean drinking water and improve stormwater and wastewater management
4. Increase energy efficiency and adoption of renewable energy technologies

The designation will also align with the sustainability goals with the Town's Comprehensive Plan, the transportation alternatives supported by the Master Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, the conservation and habitat goals of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, and the Town's ongoing commitment to the Tree City USA program.

For these reasons, Town staff recommends the Town Council adopt the resolution in support of the Town becoming certified by the Bird City Illinois program. The application would then be submitted in late May.

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**Keywords:** Bird City Illinois; Sustainability

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE TOWN OF NORMAL BECOMING CERTIFIED BY THE BIRD CITY ILLINOIS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Bird are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our community.

WHEREAS, Many citizens recognize and value birds that are residents and those that pass through during their migration season.

WHEREAS, Birds play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance, contributing to pest control, pollination, and seed dispersal.

WHEREAS, Birds and their habitats are declining throughout Illinois and North America, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter habitats.

WHEREAS, Public education, awareness, and concern are crucial components of bird conservation.

WHEREAS, Citizens enthusiastic about birds, informed about the threats they face, and empowered to help address those threats can directly contribute to maintaining healthy bird populations.

WHEREAS, Birdwatching and related activities contribute to local economies through ecotourism.

WHEREAS, The Town's Vision 2050/Sustainability Plan identifies the need to promote environmental stewardship, biodiversity, native habitat restoration, tree planting, and bird habitat resilience, and the Town recognizes the importance of protecting and enhancing bird habitats.

WHEREAS, The Bird City Illinois program provides a framework for communities to promote bird conservation through habitat creation, education, and sustainability initiatives.

WHEREAS, Participation in the Bird City Illinois program aligns with the Town's commitment to environmental stewardship and community engagement.

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Normal to apply to become a certified Bird City Illinois community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TOWN OF NORMAL, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1. The Town of Normal supports and endorses the application to become a certified Bird City Illinois community.

SECTION 2. The City Manager or her designee is directed to take all actions reasonably necessary to support the Town’s certification as a Bird City Illinois community.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Board of Trustees  
Town of Normal, Illinois

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk  
(seal)



## Memorandum

To: Members of the Human Services Committee  
From: Ike Ogbo, Health & Human Services Director  
Subject: Resolution 11-R-23, Registering the City of Evanston's Support of the  
Bird City Initiative.

Date: February 6, 2023

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### Recommended Action:

Councilmember Revelle's referral of Resolution 11-R-23, Registering the City of Evanston's Support of the Bird City Illinois Initiative, is recommended to be passed by the Human Services Committee and forwarded to City Council for adoption.

### CARP:

Education & Outreach

### Committee Action:

For Action

### Summary:

The passage of Resolution 11-R-23 by the Human Services Committee and its adoption by the City Council will demonstrate the City's support for the Audubon Council of Illinois Bird City Illinois initiative and an annual Proclamation of World Migratory Bird Day in Evanston. The mission of the Audubon Council of Illinois, as a coalition of Illinois chapters of the National Audubon Society, is to cooperate with cities in promoting sound environmental legislation emphasizing the natural conservation of resources and sponsoring environmental educational initiatives and activities that aid in these efforts.

The City's participation through an application process for recognition as a Bird City acknowledges Evanston's active and ongoing commitment to the protection and conservation of bird populations and their habitats. The recognition would acknowledge and celebrate steps that the City and community members have taken and are willing to take to protect and expand support for birds, including the recent approval of the Bird-Friendly Building Design Ordinance and the ongoing work of volunteers to maintain and enhance the Clark Street Beach Bird Sanctuary.

Many Evanston groups, such as the Citizens' Greener Evanston, Natural Habitat Evanston, Evanston North Shore Bird Club, Bird-Friendly Evanston, Edible Evanston, and Canal Shores golf course, plus other community groups and members recognize and value birds and are working to create and restore their habitats and reduce threats to birds. Evanston community members and groups devote many volunteer hours to maintaining healthy bird populations at the Clark Street Beach Bird, Sanctuary, Perkins Woods, and along the North Shore Channel at Harbert Park, Ladd Arboretum and Canal Shores Golf Course, and at the Civic Center.

The vision of the community groups and members regarding these efforts, which align with Audubon's mission, include but are not limited to the following:

- Protect existing bird habitats such as Perkins Woods which volunteers currently manage with the Cook County Forest Preserve.
- Planning for the future by adding additional bird habitats, such as the proposal to reinvigorate the Jens Jensen Gardens.
- Supporting the establishment of natural lawns and native landscaping by promoting the reduction of conventional lawns with native plantings, mowing less, and transitioning to native landscaping.
- Managing Canal Shores golf course to benefit birds.
- Adopting an ordinance that requires new buildings to be built following bird-safe design, construction, and operation guidelines. City Council approved the Bird-Friendly Building Design Ordinance in 2022.
- Educating residents about strategies to control invasive species, practice integrated pest management, mitigate climate change, and support natural habitats and initiatives to promote pollinator health.

These many efforts and more will be recognized and celebrated by Evanston receiving Bird City Illinois certification.

Attachments:

[Resolution 11-R-23 Resolution City's Support for Bird City Illinois Initiative](#)

**11-R-23**

**A RESOLUTION**

**Registering the City of Evanston's Support  
Of the Bird City Illinois Initiative**

**WHEREAS**, Evanston is a globally significant stopover for migratory birds and research shows that millions of migratory birds pass through Evanston in spring and fall; and

**WHEREAS**, bird populations are declining by 5% each year and maintaining and augmenting bird habitat is of increasing importance; and

**WHEREAS**, many residents of Evanston find cheer and beauty in birds; and

**WHEREAS**, many Evanston community groups recognize and value birds and are working to create and restore their habitat and reduce threats, including: Citizens' Greener Evanston, Natural Habitat Evanston, Evanston North Shore Bird Club, Bird-Friendly Evanston, Canal Shores Golf Course, and Edible Evanston; and

**WHEREAS**, Evanston volunteers enthusiastic about birds and informed about the threats they face are empowered to maintain healthy bird populations at Clark Street Beach Bird Sanctuary, Perkins Woods and along the North Shore Channel at Harbert Park, Ladd Arboretum and Canal Shores Golf Course, and at the Civic Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Evanston has recently adopted an ordinance to require bird-safe buildings in new planned developments; and

**WHEREAS**, Evanston's Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) recognizes the importance of our city for bird conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is the number one threat to birds and Evanston has adopted environmentally sound practices such as a Green Building ordinance, bike trails and public transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, Evanston is committed to improving pollinator habitat, by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, and becoming a National Wildlife Federation-certified Community Wildlife Habitat and has been a Tree City USA member for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 is important legislation that we need to continue to uphold in our local communities to ensure the protection of migratory birds; and

**WHEREAS**, Bird City Illinois is an initiative to build relationships with local municipalities and residents of the community for a call to action to protect and conserve birds; and

**WHEREAS**, Evanston community members are active in working to preserve habitat and reduce threats to birds and a Bird City Illinois certification will recognize all of these strengths.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:**

- 1. The above recitals are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.
- 2. The City of Evanston, by adoption of this Resolution, hereby shows its support of the Bird City Illinois Initiative.
- 3. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held invalid, said invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution.
- 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Biss, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Mendoza, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas E. Cummings, Corporation Counsel

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023



**Village of River Forest  
Public Works and Engineering**

400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

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**MEMORANDUM**

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Date: May 12, 2026  
To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Seth Jansen, Assistant to the Director of Public Works  
Subj: Pollinator Week Proclamation Draft

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For a second year, the Village of River Forest is participating in the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. The pledge is an annual program at no cost which requires a community to commit to three out of 30 listed Monarch-friendly actions each year and submit an annual report by December 1<sup>st</sup> each year. One of the actions the Village committed to as part of the pledge is: "Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat". The adoption of the attached draft proclamation, raising awareness of monarchs as part of Pollinator Week, will accomplish this commitment. Commission input is sought with regards to edits to the proclamation. A vote will be taken on the proclamation, incorporating any additional language agreed upon by the Commission, at the June meeting. The proclamation is intended to be adopted by the Board at their June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**Attachment:** Pollinator Week Proclamation Draft



## PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING JUNE 22 THROUGH JUNE 28, 2026 AS POLLINATOR WEEK

**WHEREAS**, River Forest is home to many native wildlife and pollinator species such as birds, bees, and insects which keep our environment healthy and biodiverse; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of River Forest recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems and that biodiverse regions can better support food production, healthy soil and air quality and can foster healthy connections between humans and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of River Forest is working to build a healthy, sustainable and wildlife-friendly community that brings the many benefits of nature to all corners of our community, including increasing native planting on public property; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinators play an important role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Local plant species, wildlife, and urban agriculture all depend on pollination from bees, butterflies, and other insects; and

**WHEREAS**, in urban communities, pollinators play a crucial role in maintaining sustainable urban agriculture and local community gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinator species are in decline due to habitat loss and the use of pesticides, causing species like the monarch butterfly to decline significantly in the past 25 years; and

**WHEREAS**, National Pollinator Week is a national initiative that offers opportunities to individuals and communities to help restore native habitat, support local pollinator species; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of River Forest will continue to support local, state and national efforts that protect, restore, and conserve habitat for pollinators, as well as foster a greater connection between residents and wildlife.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CATHERINE ADDUCI**, President of the Village of River Forest, do hereby proclaim June 22, 2026, through June 28, 2026, as Pollinator Week in the Village of River Forest, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Earth Day, and encourages all residents, businesses, and organizations to participate in activities that promote environmental awareness and action.

**IN WITNESS, THEREOF**, I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Village of River Forest, this 22nd day of June, 2026.

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Catherine Adduci, Village President



**Village of River Forest  
Public Works and Engineering**

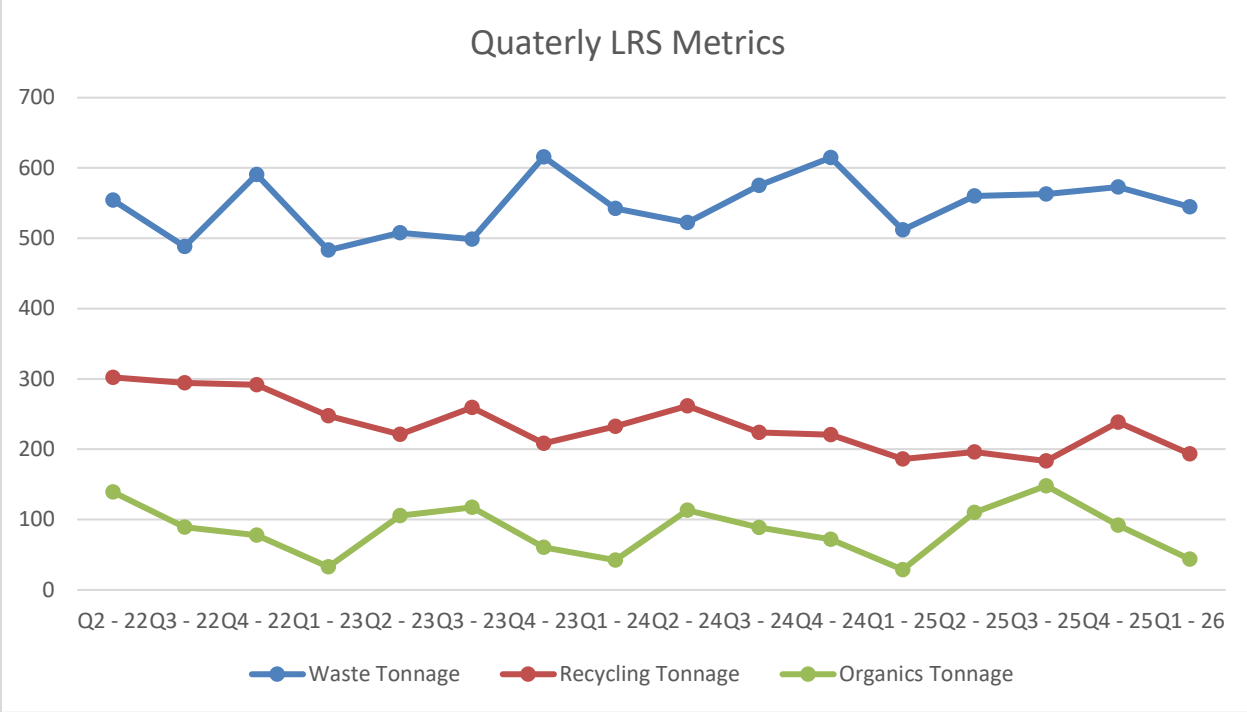
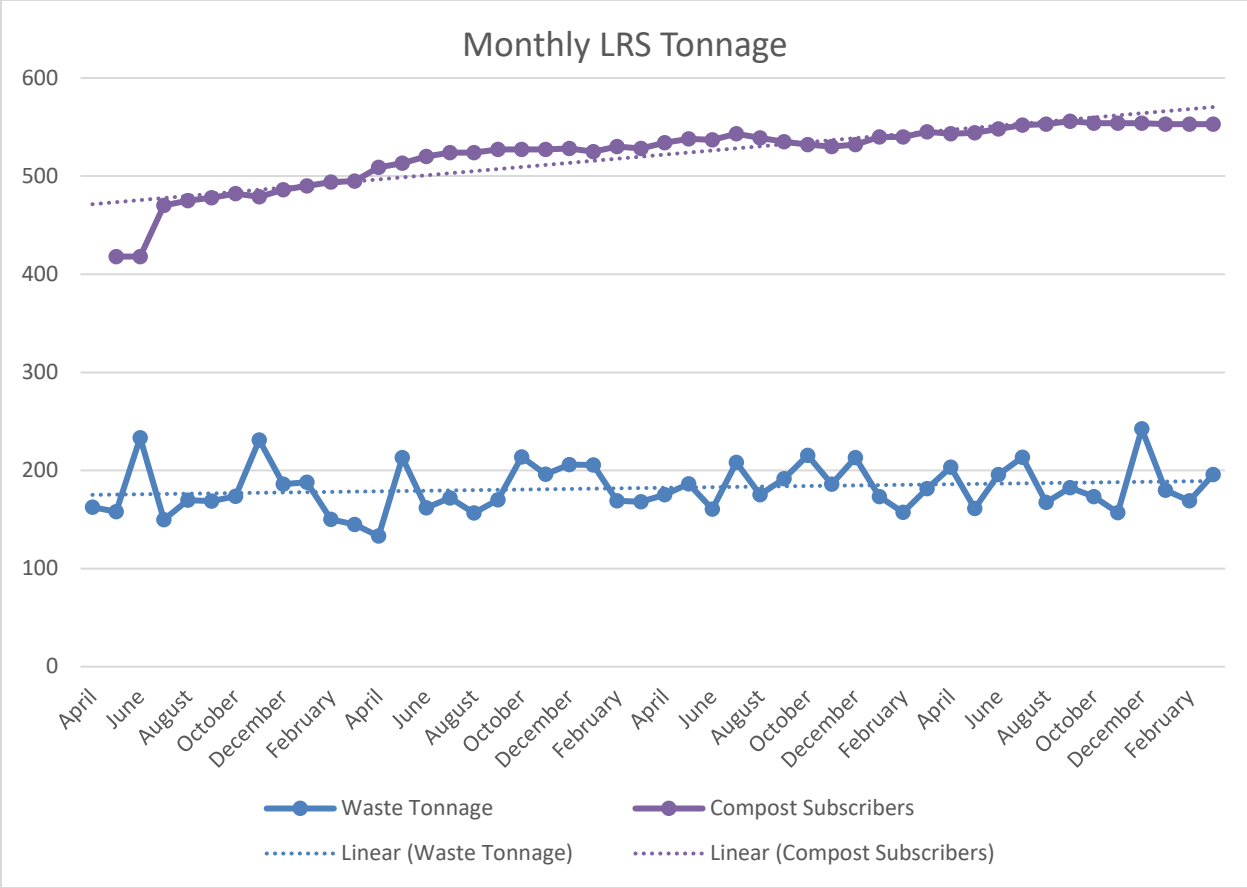
400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

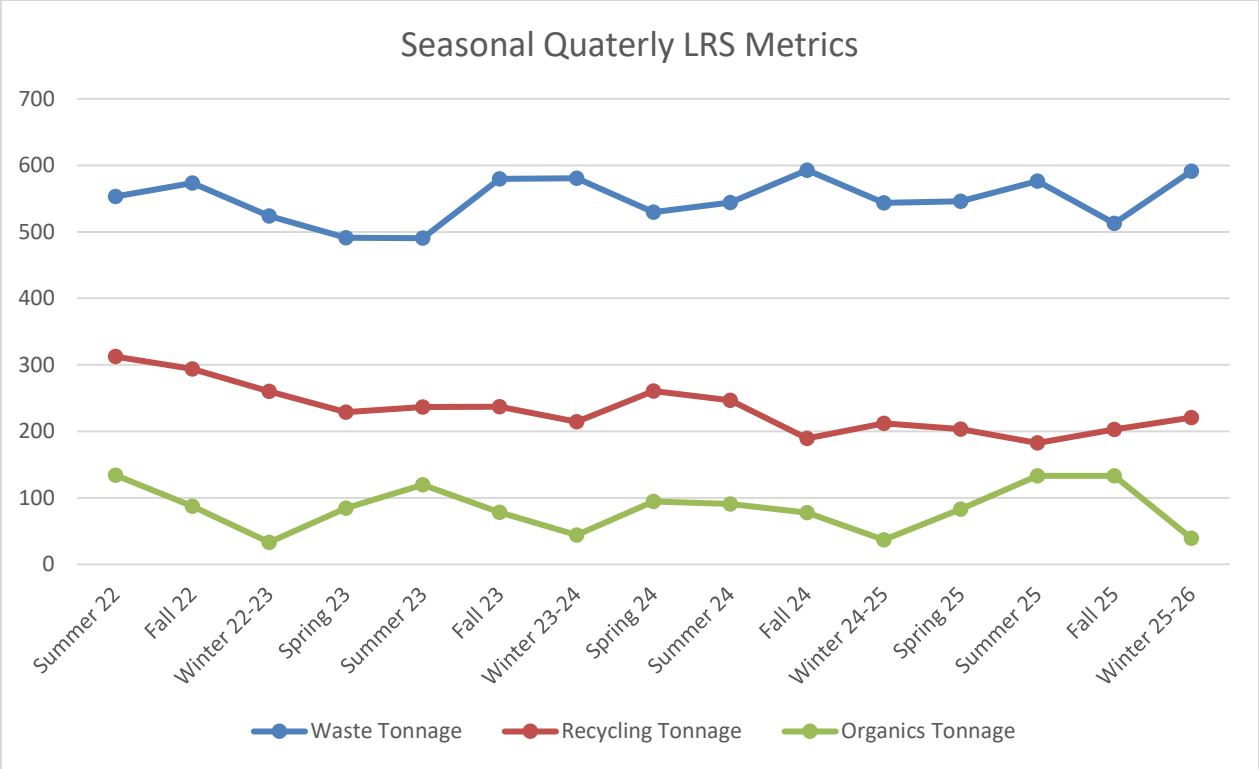
**MEMORANDUM**

Date: May 12, 2026  
To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Seth Jansen, Assistant to the Director of Public Works  
Subj: Quarterly Waste Tonnage Report

Following discussion at the May 2024 meeting, the Commission has decided to receive quarterly reports on the LRS Tonnage Metrics. The Commission felt it was most prudent to highlight two specific metrics moving forward within the quarterly reports: the number of compost subscribers and the waste tonnage. Reduction in waste tonnage is the driving metric at reducing landfill tonnage whether it be through diversion or reduced consumption. A goal of the Commission is to expand composting generally to help prevent organic waste from being landfilled. Currently only 8 households are participating in the compost sharing program. The chart below illustrates the waste tonnage and compost subscribers, with linear trend lines.

As with previous analysis, monthly data found weak positive correlations between waste and recycling and waste and organics, this is likely due to a higher number of collection dates in any given month, resulting in a larger amount of all types of collected materials. When grouped into calendar quarters, a weak correlation was found where increased recycling resulted in decreased waste tonnage. Calendar quarters found a very weak positive correlation between organics and waste, likely due to increased organics disposal with leaf collection and increased waste consumption in Q4 of any given year. When the quarters are analyzed by season, a similar, though weaker, negative correlation was found between recycling and waste tonnage. A stronger, though still weak, negative correlation was found between organics tonnage and waste tonnage. While the correlations are weak, both seem to indicate that increased recycling and organics disposal has some impact on waste diversion. The charts below illustrate the quarterly and seasonal quarterly data for waste, recycling, and organics. This focused on full quarters and seasonal quarters since the beginning of the LRS contract.





**Attachment:** LRS Monthly Report, March 2026

# VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST 2026



Collection Period	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD TOTAL	AVG/MTH
Active Customers	2733	2733	2735										8201.00	2733
Compost Subscribers	553	553	553										1,659.00	553
Recycling Tons	80.85	49.35	63.12										193.32	64.44
Recycling lbs	161700	98700	126240										386640	128880
Recy lbs/Cust	59.17	36.11	46.16										141.44	47.15
Organics Tons	20.43	8.09	15.21										43.73	14.58
Organics lbs	40860	16180	30420										87460	29153
Organics lbs/Cust	14.95	5.92	11.12										31.99	10.66
Recycle & Organics Diversion %	36.05%	25.37%	28.57%										89.99%	30.00%
Trash Tons	179.68	168.99	195.81										544.48	181.49
Trash lbs	359360	337980	391620										1088960	362987
Trash lbs/Cust	131.49	123.67	143.19										398.34	132.78
Total Tons	280.96	226.43	274.14										781.53	260.51
Total lbs	561920	452860	548280										1563060	521020
Total lbs/Cust	205.61	165.70	200.47										571.77	190.59
White Goods Count	0	1	0										1	0.33
Stickers Sold	1,500	0	2,000										3,500	1,167
E-WASTE Event Tons	0	0	1.28										1.28	0.42
HHW Event Tons	0	0	0										0	0

Yard Waste Facility	LRS MAYWOOD TRANSFER STATION (1201 Greenwood Ave, Maywood, IL 60153)
Recycling Facility	LRS MAYWOOD TRANSFER STATION ( 1201 Greenwood Ave, Maywood, IL 60153), LRS HEARTLAND RECYCLING (6201 W. Canal Bank Road - Forest View, IL 60402)
RECYCLING PURCHASED BY	RESOURCED TO VARIOUS DOMESTIC BUYERS
Trash Facility	LRS MAYWOOD TRANSFER STATION ( 1201 Greenwood Ave, Maywood, IL 60153)