

Village of Kenilworth
419 Richmond Rd
Kenilworth, IL 60043



*******ECRWSS*******

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Postal Customer**

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Village of Kenilworth

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Kenilworth Community Newsletter

- April 2022 -



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the season changes and temperatures warm up, residents will notice several capital improvement projects spring to life around the village. These key infrastructure projects, led by the Village, School and Park boards are designed to improve residents' quality of life and to ensure Kenilworth remains a wonderful place to live, learn and leisure for generations to come.

While we know the end result will be great, we recognize that construction projects can be disruptive and we will work together to minimize and communicate any inconveniences along the way.

Over the following pages, we highlight the most notable spring and summer projects and events. Please read on to learn more about the timing of construction activity, including anticipated road closures, detours, and temporary parking.

Village President

**Joseph Sears School
School Board President**

Park District President

Village of Kenilworth

The Village of Kenilworth maintains a website at www.vok.org. There, residents may sign up for the Kenilworth Contact e-newsletter, obtain meeting agendas and minutes, as well as sign up for text alerts. The seven-member Village Board typically meets on the third Monday of the month, and attendance is encouraged. You can also send us an email with questions or concerns to villageboard@vok.org.

Green Streets Phase II (Spring, Summer and Fall 2022)

This year, the village takes a big step forward in mitigating pervasive flooding in the southeast quadrant of the village. Merging the benefits of nature with 21st century technology, the Green Streets Program combines porous roadways and underground stormwater detention with our existing mature parkway trees to help manage our stormwater. The results will be reduced flooding, new streets, and the cleanest, greenest stormwater system in the region.

Roads and curbs in the project area (which includes Raleigh, Leicester, and Warwick), will be completely rebuilt, with new storm sewers installed underground. This extensive project will last the duration of the 2022 construction season. We are working with residents in the immediate project area to keep them aware of the construction schedule, service disruptions and temporary parking. As the roads are rebuilt, there will be one-to-two-week periods when sections of these roads are closed to both residents and all non-emergency vehicles. We encourage those who live in or frequent this area of the village to sign up for our text alert system by texting "green" to 833-243-8155.



Update on the Temporary Cell Tower

Though the repainting of the water tower on Roger Road was completed this fall, unfortunately the installation of new equipment on top of the tank has been delayed unexpectedly as carriers are still awaiting delivery of their new equipment. The good news is that the temporary tower located at Roger and Green Bay Road is still in place until the new equipment arrives and therefore no disruption in cellular service should occur. Once the new equipment has been installed at the water tank, the temporary tower will be removed, and we will turn our attention to landscaping the impacted areas. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to make this transition.

Check out www.VOK.org for important updates on these ongoing projects:

- Visioning for Business District – Survey results and next steps
- Kenilworth Beach Improvements – Upcoming discussions on beach programming
- Curb Replacement Project on Brier Street – Project scope and schedule
- Heritage Tree Program – Planting the remaining trees to reach our goal this spring!

The Village is currently hiring seasonal positions at Kenilworth Beach! Job postings for lifeguard, admissions cashier and beach manager posted on our website.

The Joseph Sears School

The Joseph Sears School communicates through their quarterly community newsletter and an active website at www.kenilworth38.org. Their meetings are posted, and all residents are welcome.

Kenilworth District 38 Master Facilities Plan Update

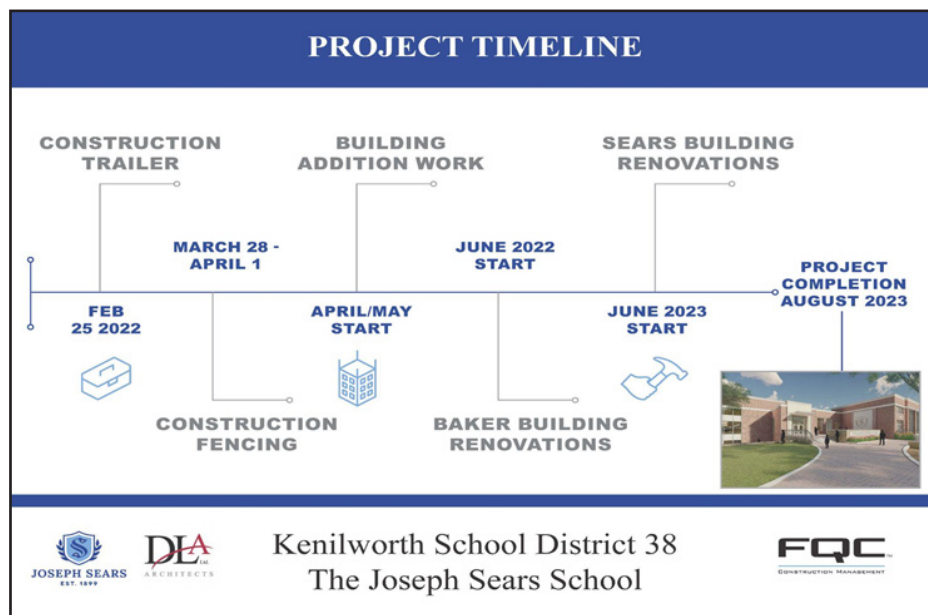
Our Master Facilities Plan (MFP) serves as the guiding document to chart the district's facilities needs and outline capital investments. Our mission is to become the best JK-8 school in the country and facilities play a crucial role in meeting this aspirational goal. This multi-phase project addresses many long overdue updates & improvements.

The current phase, starting on March 28th, includes a renovation of the existing schoolhouse and an addition that includes a Cafenadium and a new back entrance with "learning stairs." The MFP provides new learning hubs and collaborative spaces for staff, first floor renovations to include a new, centrally located, Library Technology Center (LTC) as well as new Art and Physical Art spaces. Outside features include new outdoor garden and classroom spaces. The renovation will transform the schoolhouse into a modern, flexible, 21st Century learning environment as discussed by staff and envisioned during workshops in 2020. These goals include personalized learning, creativity, collaboration and a flexible learning environment that is easy to navigate while creating spaces suited for a variety of student needs.

There is particular excitement that our new spaces will allow for expanded collaboration with the Kenilworth Park District, for after school, evening, weekend, and summer programming, strongly reinforcing the schoolhouse as a centerpiece in the local Kenilworth community.

Key Spring-Summer Construction Details

A construction trailer is already on-site and located on the school's south side. During Spring Break (March 28-April 1) perimeter safety fencing will be installed with work beginning by mid-April. This summer's activities focus primarily on the interior renovations within the Baker building and the initial construction stages of the school's addition. By the fall of 2023 the addition will be completed as well as an HVAC upgrade throughout the entire facility.



Kenilworth Park District

The Kenilworth Park District communicates through our community newsletter and regular emails to promote new and old program offerings and events. Sign up for the E-newsletter by visiting their website at www.kpddistrict.org. Kenilworth Assembly Hall also doubles as the community center for Kenilworth. Reduced rental rates for parties, weddings, or other gatherings are available to Kenilworth residents. Find out more by visiting its website at www.kahall.org.

Kenilworth Assembly Hall – New Community Patio

Construction of a new community patio on the west side of Assembly Hall along with the replacement of the front walkway and entrance to its original design are currently underway. Over the last two years, the West Lawn of Assembly Hall has become a gathering place for our community as we have been able

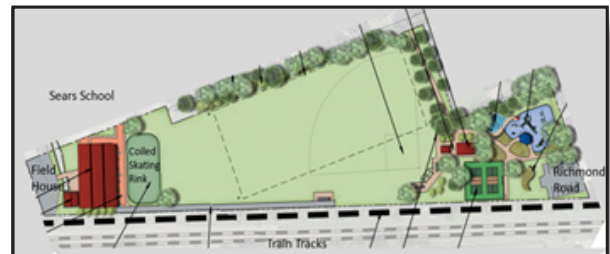


to host daily programming and special events safely outdoors. We now ask you to imagine how those events and many more can be enhanced with the addition of an 1,800 sq. ft. Community Patio? It could be a morning coffee stop, a happy hour gathering, an open space to meet friends or to have meetings safely outdoors. This enhancement will allow us to have an improved space for concerts and community celebrations. It will also enhance our space for rental opportunities for community members and organizations. To find out more information on the new patio project and the opportunity to donate, please visit the Park District website www.kpddistrict.org.

Townley Field Reimagining

South End: We anticipate moving forward with this large project in stages, with work on the Richmond Road end potentially within the next year. We applied for a \$400,000 OSLAD Grant (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant) and are waiting their response before establishing a start date. Although the grant review is delayed due to their staffing, we remain hopeful that our strong application will be considered.

North End: We have approached Hackley & Associates Architects to provide renderings of the north side project elements, which includes the revisioning of the Village House space with a Field House and seasonal coiled skating rink. This part of the Townley Field project will not be slated until the



Sears School renovations are complete in the fall of 2023, as the school has requested continued use of the Village House and Townley Field for lunch and outdoor gym classes. To accomplish these projects, we will need the financial support of the community. Community outreach and fund raising will begin when we complete the plans.

Summer Camp

The district will be offering additional weeks of summer camp to match up with the new construction schedule of Joseph Sears School. This year's camps also include Lacrosse, Basketball, Arts & Crafts, and Soccer. Plan your child's entire day with us!

Food Truck Mondays and Summer Concert Series

Food trucks will be back including "New Resident Days". Our summer concert series is also back! We will be announcing those acts and dates shortly.

Other areas of importance

The Green Bay Trail

Tax Levy Adjustments

Last year the IL General Assembly passed Public Act 102-0519, which provides prior year property tax levy adjustments to non-home rule tax agencies like the Village, School District, and Park District. The intent was to reimburse those agencies for deductions made in current year property tax proceeds due to prior year refunds given to residents and businesses who had successful tax appeals. This refund will not appear as a distinct line on your property tax bill, and we wanted to bring to your attention that your bill for this year may reflect a higher-than-normal increase. The Village, School and Park boards have recently discussed the new law and it is our intent to use the additional property tax proceeds to fund long-term capital improvements within the community.

The Green Bay Trail

As mentioned in our last letter, rerouting of the Green Bay Trail remains a high priority for our village. Unfortunately, we have run into roadblocks with Union Pacific and grant applications. Recently we met with our elected US and State representatives, Jan Schakowsky, US Rep., Laura Fine, State Senator and Robin Gabel, State Rep. to request their help with our efforts. The conversations were encouraging, but this remains a long-term project.

Temporary Bike Trail

In light of the construction project scheduled at Sears School, a temporary bike route has been developed for safety reasons.

The current Bike Route connects the North and South ends of the Green Bay Trail via Ivy, Abbotsford, Melrose, Cumnor, Townley Field and Richmond. The Temporary Bike Route (pictured), will connect the North and South ends of the Green Bay Trail via Ivy, Abbotsford, Woodstock and Richmond. This route will keep the bikes away from the construction traffic, summer camp, and morning congestion on Kenilworth Ave. Bike Route signs will be placed along the new route and maps showing the temporary route will be posted at both the North and South entry points to the Village from the Green Bay Trail.



Kenilworth Community Outreach and Belonging Committee

The newly formed Kenilworth Community Outreach and Belonging Committee (KCOBC) is tasked with focusing on Kenilworth's identity: our history, where we are today, and where we want to be in the future, ensuring that Kenilworth is an inclusive and welcoming community to all. This Committee is made up of one representative from each Kenilworth Board. The KCOBC is currently building a plan to solicit input on these topics from the community at large as a supplement to the Equity Audit recently undertaken at Joseph Sears School. Please look out for the opportunity to share your views in our next Newsletter! Members of the committee are Mia Casey Sachs (School Board), Alison Winslow (Village Board), Hester McCarthy (KHS Board), Emily D'Souza (Park District Board), Julia Atkin (Library Board).