

**PLEASANTVIEW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
REPORT**

The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act, P.A.102-1088, (the “Act”) went into effect on June 10, 2022. It requires units of local governments, including fire protection districts, to establish committees to study their own efficiencies and then submit a report to their respective County Board. The following report gives a brief overview of the history of the Pleasantview Fire Protection District (“the “District”), as well as summary of the current and ongoing recognized efficiencies and thoughts on potential future efficiencies.

I. Information about the Pleasantview Fire Protection District.

A. History of the Pleasantview Fire Protection District.

The District serves the communities of Countryside, Hodgkins, Indian Head Park; parts of Burr Ridge, Willowbrook, and unincorporated areas of Cook and DuPage counties. Prior to the formation of the District, neighboring fire departments provided fire protection to these communities, and in some cases, were never paid for the service they provided while leaving their area unprotected. On February 11, 1946, a meeting was called to discuss the possibility of organizing a local fire department. An investigation committee was appointed, and after examining the operations of other rural fire departments, a general meeting was called. On March 4, 1946, it was decided by the public to incorporate under the name of Pleasantview Fire Protection District. The District was named for the two largest school districts in the area, Pleasantdale and Plainview, and was financed through taxation.

William Boyette, William Gurrie, and Joseph Stastny were appointed as the first Trustees of the fire district by Judge E.K. Jarecki. On November 12, 1947, the Volunteer Fireman’s Organization was formed and 75 members joined. On December 12, 1947, William Perrott was appointed acting-chief. Further, on February 14, 1948, the first piece of apparatus was purchased, which was a 1948

John Bean, high pressure fog truck mounted on a 1948 F-7 Ford 2 1/2-ton chassis for \$6,102.25. On April 12, 1948, the first fire call was received. The District has been serving the Community ever since.

B. Information About the District.

The District is a municipal corporation of the State of Illinois, headquartered in the Counties Cook and DuPage, and duly chartered pursuant to the Illinois Fire Protection District Act, 70 ILCS 705. The District's service area is approximately 14 square miles with three stations. The District serves all of Countryside, Hodgkins, Indian Head Park; parts of Burr Ridge, Willowbrook, and unincorporated areas of Cook and DuPage counties. In addition, the District responds to incidents on I-55 between Countyline Rd and 1st Av, and I-294 between the Hinsdale Oasis and 75th St. The District also responds to a small section of the Des Plaines River.

The District provides fire and emergency medical services to residents in these areas and has ongoing fire inspections and fire education programs. There are a minimum of 14 firefighters on-duty every day, including a minimum of 7 paramedic/firefighters. Many of the firefighters are also part of specialty teams which include the hazardous materials team and the technical rescue team. The District also offers education in CPR and other medical topics along with a blood pressure screening program. The District also employs a mechanic to main the District's vehicles and those of surrounding fire protection districts.

The District is composed of sixty-eight (68) total personnel (not including elected officials). These employees include:

- One (1) Fire Chief Administrator
- One (1) Deputy Chief
- Two (2) Administrative employees
- Three (3) Battalion Chiefs
- Three (3) Captains
- Six (6) Lieutenants
- Thirty-Six (36) Firefighters/Paramedics
- Two (2) Fire Inspectors

- Fifteen (15) Auxiliary Paid on Call
- One (1) Mechanic

The District currently operates three Fire Stations: Station No. 1 (Headquarters), 1970 Plainfield Road, LaGrange Highlands, Illinois; Station No.2, 7675 Wolf Road, Burr Ridge, Illinois; and Station No. 3, 9096 Joliet Road, Hodgkins, Illinois.

The District also provides mutual aid and support through its membership of the Illinois Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (“MABAS”), which was formed to coordinate and automate fire department mutual aid responses to the State of Illinois and nationally if additional services are needed.

The District responded to service calls as follows:

YEAR	NUMBER OF CALLS
2023	4,765
2022	4,747
2021	4,591

C. Charitable and Volunteer Work.

The District is proud that its employees regularly volunteer their time within the Pleasantview community. Examples of the District’s charitable and volunteer work includes:

- Each year, the District selects a different charity to raise funds for, with past beneficiaries including the Be The Fight Foundation, PILLARS, Helping Hand, and many others.
- The District is particularly proud its collaboration with Project Fire Buddies. This organization works closely with terminally ill children, giving District employees the chance to bring joy and relief to young lives facing tough battles.

- The District participates in community risk reduction programs within local schools and support Aging Care Connections, an organization that assists the elderly in our community.
- Moreover, the District is actively involved in food security efforts. Together with the Village of Hodgkins, this District host the Chicago Food Depository food pantry at its station, helping to ensure that those in need have access to essential resources.
- The District also organizes car washes for local Boy and Girl Scout troops, providing an opportunity for them to raise funds for their activities.

III. Committee Information.

A. Committee Members.

The members of the Decennial Committee for the District are as follows:

- James F. Gay, Trustee
- Juan Manuel Girón, Trustee
- Vernon Z. Millsap, Trustee
- Edward Santen, Trustee
- Bill Srejma, Trustee
- Kevin Gay, Resident
- Samantha Johnson, Resident
- Karl Argast, Fire Chief
- Tim Donatucci, Deputy Fire Chief

B. Committee Meeting Dates.

The Decennial Committee for the District held the following public meetings:

- Organization meeting: September 12, 2023
- Second meeting: March 12, 2024
- Third meeting: July 9, 2024
- Fourth meeting: October 8, 2024

IV. Summary of Committee Work.

The Committee studied materials related to the District and its operations as provided in Section 15 of the Act for the purpose of preparing this report. The Committee reviewed the following

non-exclusive list of statutes, policies, ordinances, inter-governmental agreements, and other documents applicable to the District to evaluate the District's compliance and efficiency and to determine if any amendments or updates needed to be made to the District's ordinances and procedures:

- The Illinois Decennial Committees on Local Governmental Efficiency Act (50 ILCS 70/1 *et. seq.*).
- The Illinois Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/1 *et. seq.*)
- The Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 *et. seq.*)
- The Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/1 *et. seq.*)
- The District's Collective Bargaining Agreement and Employee Handbook, and Amendments thereto
- Intergovernmental Agreement dated March 25, 2022 between the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Second Amendment to the January 1, 2022 Agreement Between the Pleasantview Fire Protection District and Paramedic Services of Illinois, Inc.
- Resolution Recontinuation of the Addison Consolidated Dispatch Center Service for the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Resolution No. 22-2668 Authorizing the Approval and Execution of an Agreement Between the Village of Western Springs and the Illinois Department of Transportation Regarding Roadway Improvements to 55th Street
- December 27, 2005 Letter Agreement between the Pleasantview Fire Protection District and the County of Cook to Upgrade Existing Emergency Vehicle Preemptive Device Systems
- February 9, 1999 Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Burr Ridge and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Resolution of the City of Countryside for an Operating Agreement for the Administration of Fire Codes
- October 12, 2011 Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Hodgkins and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Resolution No. 5.84-1 for the Village of Indian Head Park Defining the Responsibilities for Enforcement of the Fire Prevention Code
- February 20, 2023 Memorandum of Understanding between Hodgkins Police Department and Pleasantview Fire Protection District for PVFD Access to OLREC2 for Mutual Aid Purposes
- Ordinance No. 23-O-1 Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System
- Resolution No. 23-R-3 Approving a Loan from the Illinois Finance Authority for the Purchase of a New Fire Truck
- Resolution No. 23-R-2 Resolution Approving Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement for the Fire Department Dispatch Services with the Village of Addison

- Resolution No. 22-R-1 Approving an Agreement with the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for Emergency Vehicle Preemption Equipment at 55th Street
- Resolution No. 18-2441 Authorizing and Approving the Execution of Intergovernmental Agreement for the Purchase and Maintenance of an Outdoor Siren Between the Village of Western Springs and Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Resolution R-23-43 Regarding the Continuation in the Addison Consolidated Dispatch Center Service for the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Intergovernmental Agreement Between Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Resolution No. 93-1293 Authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement Between Western Springs and Pleasantview Fire Protection District Regarding Tornado Siren

V. Summary of Current Administrative and Operational Efficiencies.

- Competitive Bidding. Vehicles and other purchases are done either through a competitive bidding process or a cooperative purchase agreement. This process helps the District save money.

- Mutual Aid Agreements. The District participates in MABAS, which allows the District to request help from or give help to its neighbors statewide, and potentially nationwide, if necessary for an emergency. This agreement is signed by all fire departments statewide and there is no charge for this response.

- Cooperation with other Districts. Fire training with the District's neighboring partners and development of common policies.

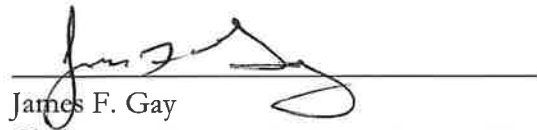
VI. Summary of possible future efficiency considerations and recommendations regarding increased accountability and efficiency.

The Committee recommends that the District be proactive in exploring ways that the District can expand its cooperation with surrounding municipalities and other fire protection districts. In reviewing existing Intergovernmental Governmental Agreements, it was discovered that many of the agreements were signed many years ago and are potentially outdated. As a result, the Committee recommends that all Intergovernmental Governmental Agreements be updated. This process has already started as a form agreement with surrounding municipalities to provide for cooperation in

enforcing fire and building codes is being drafted. Once completed, this will be used template to update existing agreements. Further, the Committee recommends that opportunities for cooperation that create such efficiency and cost savings should continue to be explored.

DATED this 8th day of October, 2024.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James F. Gay", is written over a horizontal line.

James F. Gay
Chairman of Decennial Committee of the
Pleasantview Fire Protection District