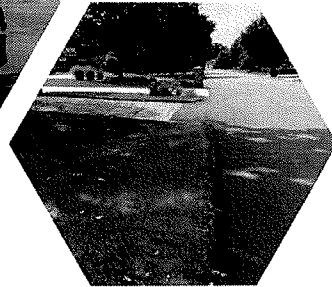
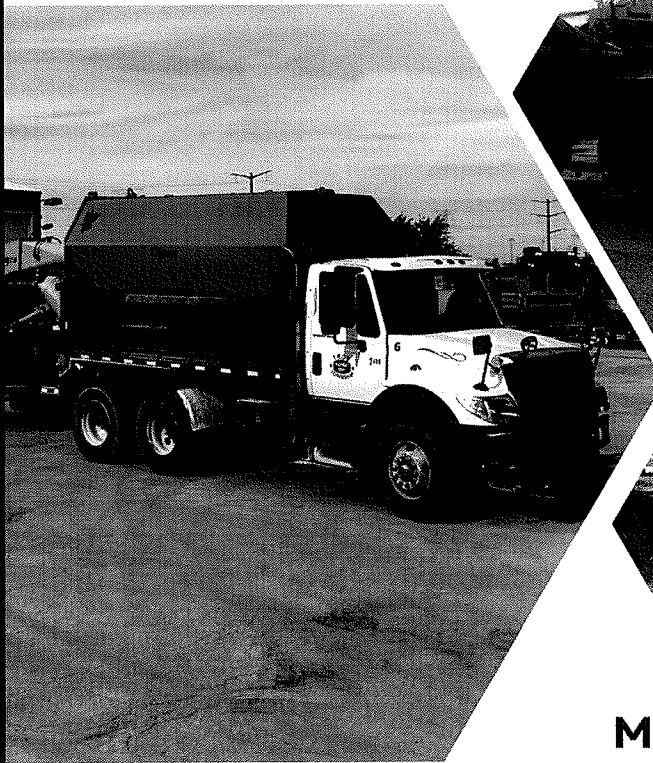


TROY TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT DECENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

www.troytownship.com



March 18, 2024

TROY
TOWNSHIP
Established 1850 Will County - Illinois

TROY
HIGHWAY
DEPT.
TOWNSHIP

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Cover Letter

March 18, 2024

Will County Board
302 N. Chicago St.
Joliet, IL 60432

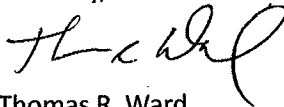
Dear County Board Members,

On behalf of the Troy Township Road District, I am proud to share with you our Decennial Committee Report, a testament to the Road District which prides itself on providing the highest standard of services to our valued residents.

The Decennial Committee played a crucial role in assessing and evaluating our operations and services, and I am pleased to provide you with a comprehensive overview of their efforts. This report outlines the committee's purpose, membership details, meeting dates, topics of discussion, and, importantly, the recommendations that have emerged from their thoughtful deliberations. A special thank you goes out to the members of the Decennial Committee. Their time and input are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, would like to discuss any portion of this report, or would like to discuss any opportunities for partnership, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 815-405-3378 or at tward@troytownship.com.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Ward
Highway Commissioner

For Distribution:

District 1 Katie Deane-Schlottman, Joliet Joe VanDuyne, Wilmington	District 2 Judy Ogalla, County Board Chair, Monee Frankie Pretzel, New Lenox	District 3 Daniel J. Butler, Frankfort Sherry Newquist, Steger
District 4 Steve Balich, Republican Leader, Orland Park Jim Richmond, Mokena	District 5 Annette Parker, Republican Whip, Crest Hill Sherry Williams, Democratic Whip, Crest Hill	District 6 Janet Diaz, Joliet Denise Winfrey, Joliet
District 7 Natalie Coleman, Plainfield Vince Logan, Joliet	District 8 Mica Freeman, Plainfield Mark V. Revis, Plainfield	District 9 Raquel Mitchell, Bolingbrook Destinee Ortiz, Romeoville
District 10 Julie Berkowicz, Naperville Meta Mueller, Aurora	District 11 Elinalyn Costa, Bolingbrook Jacqueline Traynere, Democratic Leader, Bolingbrook	

Decennial Committee Explanation

The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act (50 ILCS 70) was created by P.A. 102-1088 and was effective June 10, 2022.

Committee Requirements/Duties (50 ILCS 70) Include:

- Separate notice must be given for all committee meetings. The committee must meet a minimum of three times and after the meeting must survey all residents in attendance for input on matters discussed at the meeting. This requirement can be satisfied by emailing the survey to all residents present who provided a valid email address.
 - **All attendees were surveyed after each meeting. General feedback reported that the meeting content was informative, that that Township could use more snowplows, that township government is the closest to the people, and to “keep up the great job!”**
- The duties of a committee include, but are not limited to, the study of the governmental unit's governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units and the State. The committee shall also collect data, research, and analysis as necessary to prepare the report described below.
- Each committee shall summarize its work and findings within a written report, which shall include recommendations in respect to increased accountability and efficiency and shall provide the report to the administrative office of each county board in which the governmental unit is located no later than 18 months after the formation of the committee. The report shall be made available to the public.

The law required the committee to be formed by June 10, 2023. Our committees were officially formed on March 20, 2023, which requires our report to be filed with the Will County Board on or before September 20, 2024.

Meeting Dates, Topics, and Objectives

The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act required the Decennial Committee to meet a minimum of three times. The Troy Township Decennial Committee met on the following dates and times for the purposes as listed below.

Proposed Meeting Schedule – Township Decennial Committee			
Meeting	Date	Time	Meeting Topics/Objectives
#1	September 18, 2023	5:45 pm – 6:45 pm	Explanation of Committee, Introduction of Members, Assignment of Roles, Adopt Rules for Addressing the Committee, Set Meeting Schedule, Overview of Governing Statutes
#2	November 20, 2023	5:45 pm – 6:45 pm	Review of Current Services and Existing Ordinances, Resolutions, IGAs, & MOUs, Approval of Minutes from Meeting #1
#3	January 22, 2024	5:45 pm – 6:45 pm	Discussion of Recommendations for Improvements/Efficiencies, Review of Report Layout/Draft, Approval of Minutes from Meeting #2
#4	March 18, 2024	6:15 pm – 6:45 pm	Presentation and Acceptance of Final Report, Approval of Minutes from Meeting #3

Troy Township Road District Decennial Committee Members

Committee Chairman:

- Thomas R. Ward – Highway Commissioner

Governing Board Members:

- Joseph D. Baltz - Supervisor
- Johnnie Greenwood – Trustee
- Bryan W. Kopman – Trustee
- Jerry Nudera – Trustee
- Brett Wheeler – Trustee

Other Officers:

- Larry Ryan – Clerk
- Jennifer Dylk – Administrator

Two Township Residents:

- Jason Cox
- Gordon “Gordy” McCoy

Overview of Township Road District Governing Statutes and Powers

On September 18, 2023, the Troy Township Road District Decennial Committee was presented with an overview of Township Road District Governing Statutes and Powers.

Townships (and other units of local government) are regulated by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1970 Illinois Constitution which states, in part:

these governments “shall have only powers granted by law.”

This is commonly referred to as “Dillon’s Rule.” This must always be kept in mind and will drive all actions taken by, and all services provided by, a township.

Three basic functions of township government in Illinois include:

- Provide General Assistance for the indigent.
- Assess real property for the basis of local taxation.
- Maintain all roads and bridges outside of federal, state, and other jurisdiction.

General Assistance

- General Assistance is administered by the township supervisor and provides financial assistance for the indigent. Assistance is typically for food, shelter, utilities, and emergency relief.
- Townships shall provide funds for and administer the program as provided in Article VI of the Public Aid Code.

Assess Real Property

- The township assessor shall assess all property not exempted from taxation.
 - 35 ILCS 200/9-70 Illinois Property Tax Code

Maintenance of Roads

- The township highway commissioner shall lay out, alter, widen, vacate, construct, maintain and repair township roads and bridges.
 - 605 ILCS 5 Section 6-201 Illinois Highway Code

The Illinois Highway Code, Corporate Powers, and Services

The Committee reviewed and discussed a high-level summary of both the Illinois Township Code and the Illinois Highway Code including a District's Organization and Powers. To view the full code visit:

Township Code: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs5.asp?ActID=770&ChapterID=13>.

Highway Code: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs5.asp?ActID=1745&ChapterID=45>

In addition to the Township Code and Highway Code, many other laws help to govern the way a township road district operates. The Committee reviewed the following:

[Open Meetings Act \(5 ILCS 120\)](#)

[Freedom of Information Act \(5 ILCS 140\)](#)

[State Officials and Employees Ethics Act \(5 ILCS 430\)](#)

[Public Funds Investment Act \(30 ILCS 235\)](#)

[Local Government Prompt Payment Act \(50 ILCS 505\)](#)

[Local Records Act \(50 ILCS 205\)](#)

[Illinois Library Act \(75 ILCS 5\)](#)

[Truth in Taxation Act \(35 ILCS 200\) & Property Tax Extension Limitation Law \(35 ILCS 200/18-185\)](#)

[Public Officers Prohibited Activities Act \(50 ILCS 105\)](#)

[Public Funds Statement Publication Act \(30 ILCS 15\)](#)

[Governmental Account Audit Act \(50 ILCS 310\)](#)

[Intergovernmental Cooperation Act \(5 ILCS 220\)](#)

[Prevailing Wage Act \(820 ILCS 130\)](#)

[Smoke Free Illinois Act \(410 ILCS 82/1\)](#)

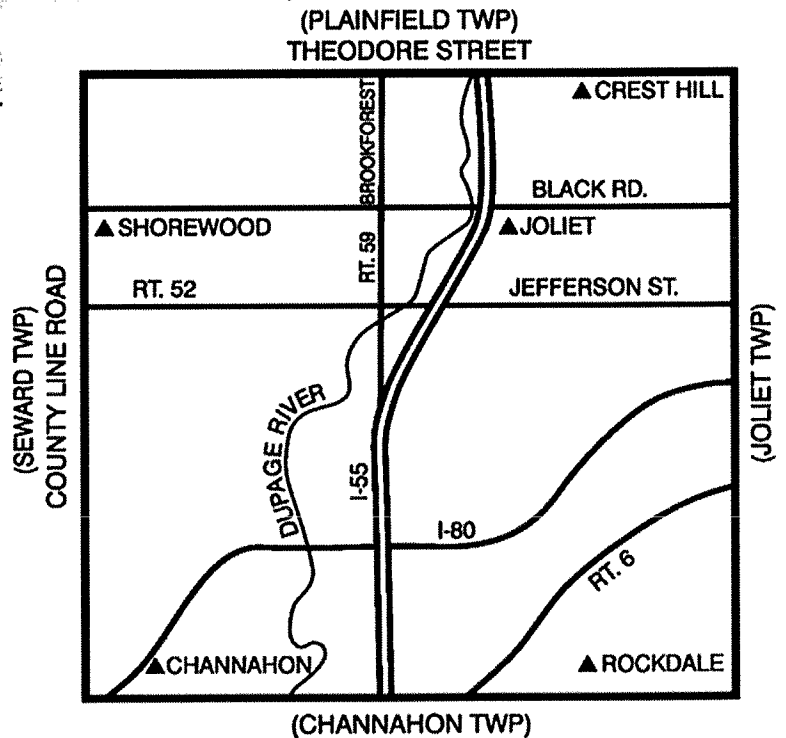
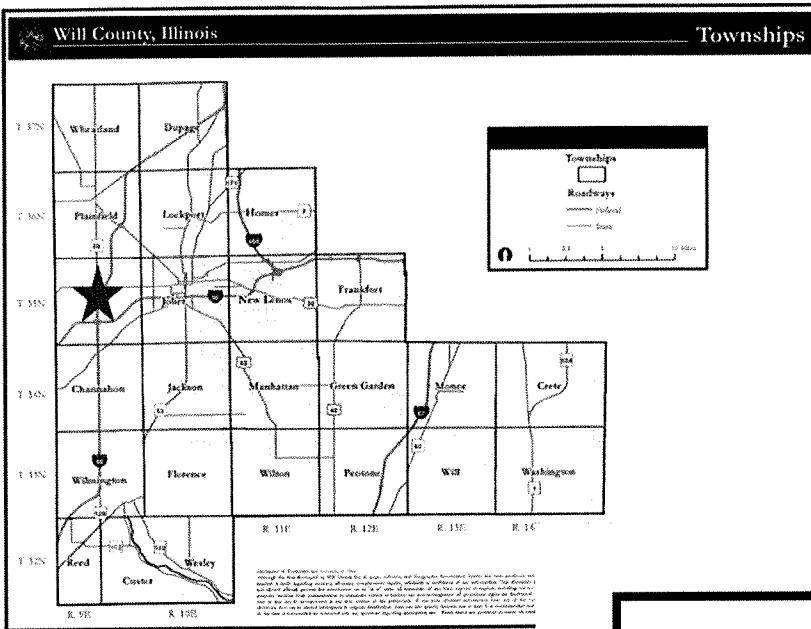
[Public Graveyards Act \(50 ILCS 610\)](#)

Laws and Duties Handbook – Published by the Township Officials of Illinois as a guidebook for township elected officials and staff.

Troy Township Road District Boundaries and Population

On November 20, 2023, the Committee met to review Troy Township’s boundaries, population, current services, existing Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA’s), Memoranda of Understandings (MOU’s), existing ordinances, resolutions, and polices & procedures.

Troy Township is located in the far west portion of Will County and encompasses the entire Village of Shorewood and parts of Channahon, Crest Hill, Joliet, and Rockdale. Troy Township covers 36 square miles.



Troy Township Boundaries and Population

As of the 2020 Census, the population of Troy Township totaled 49,479 broken down as follows:

Population by Municipality – 2020 Census Data

Channahon	1,589
Crest Hill	917
Joliet	25,203
Shorewood	18,186
Unincorporated Troy Township	3,584



Current Services

Maintenance of Roads

The number one duty of the Troy Township Road District, and specifically the Highway Commissioner, is to lay out, alter, widen, vacate, construct, maintain and repair township roads and bridges. This includes snow removal and de-icing of roads. 605 ILCS 5 Section 6-201 Illinois Highway Code.

Currently, the Township Road District is responsible for approximately 90 lane-miles of streets. There are also an additional 27 cul-de-sacs, and 4 high traveled frontage roads that are all encompassed in our service area.

In addition to these duties named above, the Road District also provides:

Annual Spring Clean-Up – Annually in approximately mid-April, the Highway Department conducts the Annual Spring Clean-Up for the unincorporated areas of Troy Township. During this time, Troy Township Highway crews pick up household items such as furniture, appliances, carpet (tied in rolls), etc.

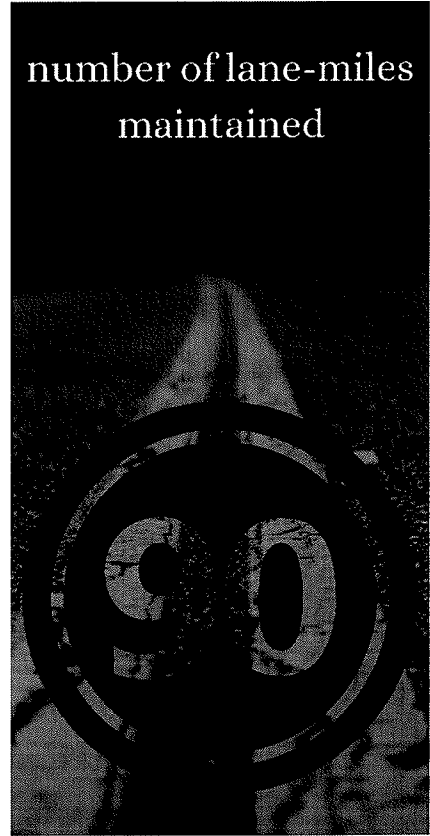
Leaf Vacuuming - Starting around the middle of October and running through November (specific dates are weather dependent) the Troy Township Highway Department performs leaf vacuuming services for residents in the unincorporated areas of Troy Township. Residents must rake leaves to the edge of the street so the vacuum machine can reach them easily.

Recycling Center – The Highway Department is a drop-off site for Will County's traditional recycling program. In addition, the Highway Department has textile recycling, cardboard recycling, and can accept car batteries.



Tree Branch Pick-Up – Beginning with the first Monday in May and ending around the 3rd Monday in October, the Highway Department will make rounds to pick up branches in the unincorporated areas of the Township.

number of lane-miles
maintained



Existing IGAs, MOUs, Ordinances, Resolutions, and Policies & Procedures

At the November 20, 2023, Decennial Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed existing Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs), Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), existing ordinances, existing resolutions, and current employee policy and procedures manual. The following are currently on file:

Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA)

- Wesley Township – Salt Storage Agreement
- Plainfield Township – Sharing of Equipment
- Channahon Township – Sharing of Equipment
- Seward Township – Sharing of Equipment
- Will County – Access to Countywide Radio System
- Will County – Performance of Highway Easement Maintenance and Other Services
- Will County – Traditional Recycling Services Drop Off Site
- IDOT – State Highway Maintenance Agreement
- IPWMAN – Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

Letter of Understanding

- The Road District has various letters of understanding on file for ongoing roadwork in the area including work to the Shepley Road Bridge over I-80, River Road Bridge over I-80, and the I55 West Frontage Road under I-80 lighting improvements.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- The Road District does not have any Memorandum of Understanding on file.



Recycling Center at the Troy Township Highway Department

Existing IGAs, MOUs, Ordinances, Resolutions, and Policies & Procedures

The Township Road District has many ordinances and resolutions on file. The Committee reviewed the following more pertinent ordinances and resolutions:

- 23-24R-06 Depository Account Resolution
- 23-24R-05 Investment Policy Resolution
- 23-24R-04 Open Meetings Act Resolution
- 23-24R-03 Freedom of Information Act Resolution
- 23-24-01 Road Fund 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance
- 22-23-11 Road Fund Levy Ordinance
- 22-23-08 Whistleblower Protection Ordinance and Policy
- 21-22-20 Issuance of Permits for Overweight and Overdimension Vehicles
- 21-22R-05 TOIRMA Loss Control Policy
- 20-21R-09 Resolution Setting Compensation of Township Officials for the Terms Beginning May 17, 2021, and January 1, 2022
- 19-20R-15 Internet Auction Sales
- 19-20R-07 Capitalization Policy
- 18-19-22 Ordinance Setting the Maximum Allowable Costs of all Travel, Meal, and Lodging

Troy Township maintains a Policy and Procedures Handbook that is provided to all employees at time of hire and redistributed to all employees if/when any changes are made to the manual. The manual is updated regularly and reviewed by the Township attorney.

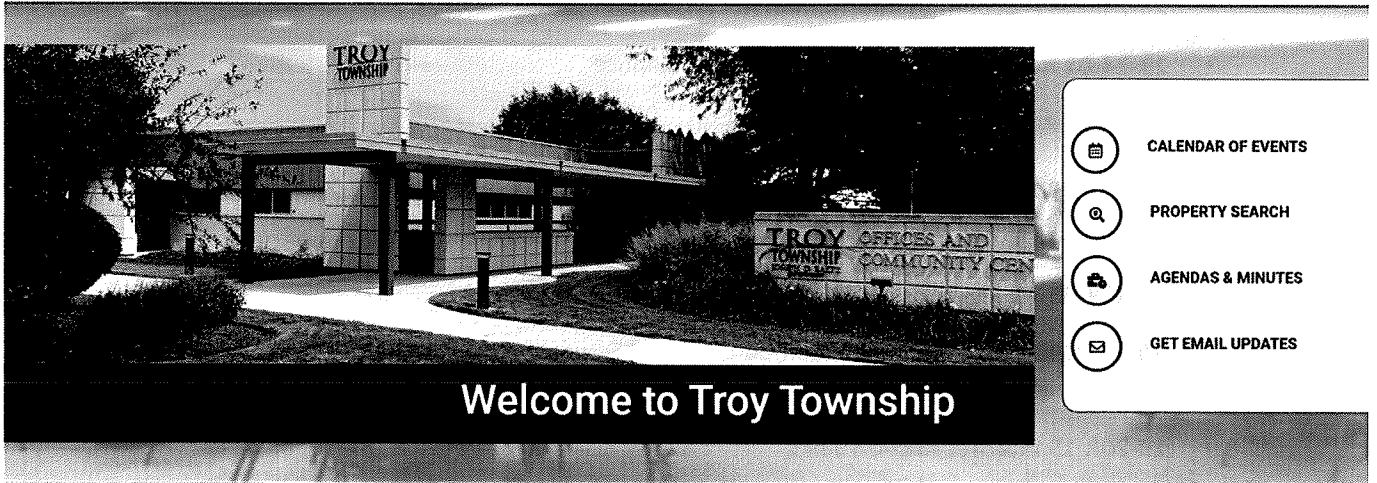
Township Website

The Township prides itself on a comprehensive and transparent website which can be found at www.troytownship.com. From Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) data to budget and levy ordinances, to property record card information, the website contains a wealth of knowledge and information for residents and the general public.



FIND US CONTACT US Search

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT ▾ ASSESSOR ▾ HIGHWAY ▾ SERVICES & RESOURCES ▾ ALERTS ABOUT US ▾



- CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- PROPERTY SEARCH
- AGENDAS & MINUTES
- GET EMAIL UPDATES

OFFICE LOCATION



Committee Recommendations

The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act required each committee to make recommendations in respect to increased accountability and efficiency. On January 22, 2024, the Committee met for this purpose.

The recommendations of the Committee focused on the following areas:

- Improved communication / outreach
- Improved efficiencies with shared services
- Securing grant funding for capital projects (buildings, roads)

The group suggested:

- Move forward with the Single Waste Hauler initiative allowing the Township to bid out and contract for garbage disposal service for the residents of the unincorporated areas.
- Co-purchase and/or share equipment and staff (knowledge) between other townships and municipalities.
- Promote and highlight the existing programs/services and the benefit of them.
- Improve operations efficiencies by creating a wash bay for equipment.
- Consider working with the Township offices and explore using the vacant acre of land by the office to move the recycling center from the Highway Department to the Township.
- Consider creating a second shift to help cover long days/nights of plowing.
- Encourage continued training/education for staff.
- Improve communications to residents regarding upcoming roadwork with sign boards or text alerts.
- Seek out grant funding for expenses like building improvements and road projects.
- Consider solar resources to power streetlights.

Troy Township provides a broad range of services to its residents. We take pride in this and are committed to the continued evaluation of such to identify areas of improvement.

This report including the Committee's recommendations will be placed on file with the Troy Township Board, posted to the Troy Township website, and filed with the Will County Board.



Annual Spring Clean Up*
Community Center
Community Garden*
Early & Absentee Voting
Educational Seminars
Emergency Preparedness
Expos & Community Events
General Assistance
Leaf Pick Up*
Medical Equipment Exchange Closet
Medication Disposal Events**
Micro Pantry
Mosquito Abatement*
Notary Public Services
Pace Dial-a-Ride
Polling Place
Property Tax Information
Recycling Program
Referral Services
Road Maintenance*
Senior Activities
Salvation Army Service Extension Office
Shredding Events**
Snow Removal & Salting*
Temporary Handicapped Parking Placards
Tree Branch Pick UP*
Veterans Honor Roll
Voter Registration
Warming & Cooling Center***
Weed Control*

*Unincorporated Areas Only
**Event Offered Twice Per Year
***When activated by Will County EMA



