

Public participation is invited. When called upon, please approach the microphone and state your name. Kindly limit your remarks to 3 minutes.

VILLAGE OF VILLA PARK
Village Hall, Board Chambers
20 South Ardmore Avenue
Villa Park, IL 60181

G.R.E.E.N. Commission

January 20, 2026

6:30 PM

Chair Person:

Commissioners: Nick Wesling, Mike Storino, Jocelyn Ramirez, Lee Ann House

Board Liaison:

Staff Liaison:

- 1. Call to Order - Roll Call**
- 2. Public Comments on Agenda Items**
- 3. Introduction**
 - a. Reading of Ordinance 4494 Amending Article XX of Chapter 2 of the Villa Park Municipal Code Creating the G.R.E.E.N. Commission.
- 4. Discussion**
 - a. Discussion of future vision of commission.
- 5. Adjournment**

The Villa Park Village Hall is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. An elevator is operational at the north side entrance to the Village Hall during normal work hours and also during evenings. Individuals with special needs are requested to contact the Village's Compliance Officer at (630) 834-8500 so that reasonable accommodations can be made for those persons.

ORDINANCE NO. 4494

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF VILLA PARK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE VILLA PARK MUNICIPAL CODE CREATING THE G.R.E.E.N. COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Village of Villa Park (the "Village") is a duly organized and validly existing non home-rule municipality created in accordance with the Constitution of the State of Illinois of 1970 and the laws of the State of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village (the "Corporate Authorities") may from time to time amend the text of the Villa Park Municipal Code when it is determined to be in the best interests of the residents of the Village; and,

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities seek to make the Village a leader in sustainability, environmental protection, and green innovation; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities desire to establish a permanent commission dedicated to developing and advancing policies, programs, and partnerships that align with global and regional sustainability best practices; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities have determined that it is desirable, necessary, and in the best interests of the Village to amend the Villa Park Municipal Code to create the G.R.E.E.N. Commission to advise the Corporate Authorities on long-term solutions for environmental issues facing the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Villa Park, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: The facts and statements contained in the preambles to this Ordinance are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as part of this Ordinance.

Section 2: Article XX (“Reserved”) of Chapter 2 (“Administration”) of the Villa Park Municipal Code is hereby deleted in its entirety, and is replaced with the following language:

ARTICLE XX. – G.R.E.E.N. COMMISSION

Sec. 2-2001. – Created.

There is hereby created a G.R.E.E.N. Commission, which shall serve as a strategic advisory commission to the village board, focused on sustainability, environmental policy, and green innovation. “G.R.E.E.N.” stands for Growth that is sustainable, Resources protected, Environment enhanced, Energy efficiency, Natural areas preserved.

Sec. 2-2002. – Intent and purpose.

The purpose of the G.R.E.E.N. Commission is to develop and promote initiatives that improve the environmental health, resilience, and sustainability of Villa Park through planning, policy development, public education, and community partnerships. This Commission moves beyond basic environmental awareness by proposing forward-thinking strategies, guiding policies, and developing partnerships that align with regional and global best practices in sustainability. The Commission’s focus will be on long-term solutions for reducing environmental impact, protecting natural assets, and integrating sustainable practices into the village’s economic development, infrastructure, and community planning.

Sec. 2-2003. - Membership.

- (a) The G.R.E.E.N Commission created herein shall consist of five (5) members, appointed by the village president with the advice and consent of the board of trustees, to serve without compensation. To be eligible to serve on the commission, members must be current residents of the village, current business owners in the village, or employees within the village.
- (b) Members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, except that the members first appointed to the G.R.E.E.N. Commission shall serve as follows: one (1) for one (1) year, two (2) for two (2) years and two (2) for three (3) years, as designated by the village president. Members shall hold office for their designated terms and until their successors have been appointed.
- (c) All appointments shall expire the thirty-first (31st) of May of the appropriate year. Any member of the G.R.E.E.N. Commission may resign at any time during the term for which he/she was appointed, which resignation shall be addressed to the village president. Vacancies on the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term of the member whose position becomes vacant in the manner provided herein.
- (d) If any member of the G.R.E.E.N. Commission shall cease to maintain the status qualifying that member for appointment to the commission, or shall fail to attend three (3)

consecutive meetings of the commission without being excused by a vote of a majority of the members of the commission, such absence shall be considered as cause for termination of commission membership. Report of such change of status or failure of attendance may be reported to the corporate authorities and, if such report is accepted by the corporate authorities, the membership in question shall be declared vacant and it shall be the duty of the president to appoint a qualified successor to such membership in the manner provided herein. Any member of the commission may be removed for cause by the president with the advice and consent of the board of trustees.

Sec. 2-2004. - Officers.

The Village President shall appoint the Chair of the G.R.E.E.N Commission from among those members appointed, with the advice and consent of the village board. The Chair's term shall be three (3) years. A Vice-Chair and a Secretary shall be elected by the members of the commission for a term of three (3) years. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms in any office unless at least one (1) year has passed since their last term in that office.

Sec. 2-2005. - Responsibilities.

The G.R.E.E.N. Commission hereby created shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

- (a) To provide recommendations to the village president for consideration by the village board regarding village-wide sustainability plans, including carbon reduction strategies, renewable energy goals, and long-term climate adaptation measures.
- (b) To advise the village board on potential climate action initiatives and green infrastructure projects.
- (c) To promote energy conservation in municipal buildings and encourage the adoption of renewable energy (e.g., solar, geothermal).
- (d) To recommend incentives or programs for businesses and homeowners to improve energy efficiency.
- (e) To collaborate with the Villa Park Growth Commission to attract green industries, support sustainable business practices, and encourage green job creation.
- (f) To encourage sustainable purchasing and vendor policies for municipal contracts.
- (g) To advise on preserving and restoring natural habitats, promoting native plantings, and managing stormwater using eco-friendly designs.
- (h) To recommend strategies to protect open spaces, the Salt Creek watershed, and other ecologically important areas.
- (i) To recommend updates to building codes or zoning ordinances that support LEED, net-zero, or other green construction standards.
- (j) To promote walkable, mixed-use, and transit-accessible developments aligned with sustainability goals.
- (k) To promote composting, e-waste recycling, textile recycling, and broader zero-waste goals for the village.

- (l) To collaborate with haulers and residents to increase diversion rates from landfills.
- (m) To lead educational efforts on eco-friendly and sustainability practices for residents, businesses, and schools.
- (n) To host sustainability workshops, green expos, etc.
- (o) To identify and pursue regional, state, and federal grants to support sustainability projects and infrastructure upgrades.
- (p) To coordinate with regional partners (e.g., DuPage County, Illinois Green Alliance) to align with broader environmental goals.
- (q) To recommend membership in sustainability networks or climate collaboratives.
- (r) To track progress on sustainability goals and present an annual Sustainability Report to the Village Board at its last meeting in December.
- (s) To recommend to the Village President for consideration by the Village Board changes to this Article.
- (t) To organize and manage the Spring Sweep event to clean up local parks, trails, and green spaces, encouraging community participation and pride in the village's green spaces.
- (u) To coordinate and promote electronic recycling events to help residents responsibly dispose of old electronics, reducing e-waste and contributing to the village's sustainability efforts.
- (v) To administer the Green Champion Award to recognize and celebrate individuals, businesses, and community organizations that have made significant contributions to environmental sustainability, conservation, or the beautification of green spaces.
- (w) To establish and oversee task forces for specific initiatives, such as tree planting, wildlife habitat restoration, and community-based environmental programs, to further the commission's sustainability goals.

Sec. 2-2006. - Meetings.

Regular meetings of the G.R.E.E.N. Commission shall be held at least monthly, with special meetings called when necessary. A quorum shall consist of at least three (3) members. The commission shall meet in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The commission shall keep minutes of its proceedings showing the vote of each member upon each question, or if absent or failing to vote, indicating such fact. Any formerly absent member who certifies that he or she has read the minutes of the proceedings before the commission may vote upon any question presently before the commission.

Sec. 2-2007. – Reports, Recommendations, and Records.

The G.R.E.E.N. Commission shall keep permanent minutes of its meetings, which shall include topics discussed and the motions and votes of each member. The commission shall keep records of its proceedings, which shall be available at the Village Hall for public inspection during ordinary business hours. The commission shall prepare and submit approved minutes to the

Ordinance No. 4494

village board, along with any special reports containing their recommendations. All recommendations of the commission shall be forwarded to the village board within forty-five (45) days of the action. All recommendations of the commission are advisory only and are not binding upon the corporate authorities. An annual report covering the commission's activities and progress shall be prepared and presented at the last stated Village Board meeting in December.

Sec. 2-2008. – Expenditures.

The G.R.E.E.N. Commission may recommend expenditures to the village board for programs, events, and initiatives related to park development, environmental sustainability, and other green space projects. All expenditures must be approved by the village board before implementation.

Sec. 2-2009. – Task Force.

The G.R.E.E.N. Commission may recommend the formation of a task force to assist with special projects or grant-related initiatives. A task force shall be composed of volunteer residents or business residents with the expertise, skills, and resources needed for the task. Task forces will operate under the direction of the commission and will be appointed for a predetermined period, which may be extended by the village board.

Section 3: That if any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

Section 4: That all ordinances, resolutions, motions, or orders in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

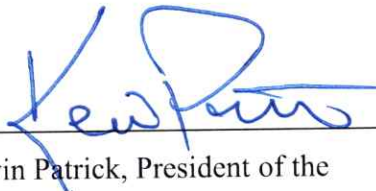
(Intentionally Left Blank)

Ordinance No. 4494

ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF AUGUST, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

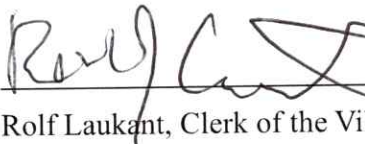
AYES:	<u>7</u>
NAYS:	<u>0</u>
ABSENT:	<u>0</u>
ABSTENTION:	<u>0</u>

APPROVED this 25 day of August, 2025



Kevin Patrick, President of the
Village of Villa Park, DuPage County, Illinois

ATTESTED and filed in my office,
this 25 day of August, 2025



Rolf Laukant, Clerk of the Village
of Villa Park, DuPage County, Illinois

