



# Agenda Cover Memorandum

Meeting Date: August 5, 2013

Meeting Type: ☐ COW (Committee of the Whole) ☒ City Council ☐ Budget Workshop

Item Title: Unincorporated Cook County Sub-Regional Meeting

Action Requested:

☐ Approval

☐ For discussion

☐ Feedback requested

☒ For your information

Staff Contact: Mayor David Schmidt

Phone Number: 847/318-5226

Email Address: dave@parkridgemayor.com

Background:

Please review the attached email communication from Mayor Andrew Przybylo of Niles to me on July 18, 2013. Additionally there is a letter from King Harris, Chairman of the Cook County Task Force on Unincorporated Land that was sent to me, Mayor Przybylo of Niles, Mayor Bogusz of Des Plaines and Village President Patterson of Glenview. Mr. Harris' letter suggests planning a Sub-Regional Meeting to discuss possible intergovernmental agreements between Cook County and the aforementioned communities for code and law enforcement in unincorporated land.

Recommendation:

Budget Implications:

Does Action Require an Expenditure of Funds: ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, Total Cost:

If Yes, is this a Budgeted Item:

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Requires Budget Transfer

If Budgeted, Budget Code (Fund, Dept. Object)

Attachments:

- Email to Mayor David Schmidt from Mayor Przybylo, dated 7/18/2013
- July 17, 2013 letter from King Harris to various Mayors

---

**From:** Przybylo, Andrew [<mailto:atp@vniles.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, July 18, 2013 2:29 PM

**To:** Schmidt, David F.; [dave@parkridgemayor.com](mailto:dave@parkridgemayor.com); [jpatterson@glenview.il.us](mailto:jpatterson@glenview.il.us); [matt@mattbogusz.com](mailto:matt@mattbogusz.com); [mbogusz@desplaines.org](mailto:mbogusz@desplaines.org); [andrewprz@aol.com](mailto:andrewprz@aol.com)

**Cc:** [kharris@hhicap.com](mailto:kharris@hhicap.com)

**Subject:** Mayors regarding unincorporated township

Mayors:

Please see attached the memo written by King Harris regarding Municipal cooperation with County's unincorporated. It was asked earlier for an agenda for the meeting.

I am going to give the process of scheduling this meeting between us and King, to King's staff. We are still trying for the first week in August. James, you said Aug 5 or 6 would work for you. Matt, for some reason your availability was lost in my system. I'm available, all that week except the morning of the 7th.

Dave, I can understand your reluctance to waste time on the concept of annexation by our towns/cities, but King Harris brings a lot of talent to the table and so what would it hurt to meet. Also, if you feel strongly that Maine Township should be at the meeting, please bring that up to King.

I will give your phone numbers to Mr. Harris' office that his staff could put together a meeting, time & place.

Andrew Przybylo

## Niles...

To: Mayor Andrew Przybylo, Niles  
Mayor Matthew Bogusz, Des Plaines  
Village President James Patterson, Glenview  
Mayor David Schmidt, Park Ridge

From: King Harris, Chair, Cook County Task Force on Unincorporated Land

Re: Planned Sub-Regional Meeting Regarding Adjacent Unincorporated Land

Date: July 17, 2013

---

A little less than two years ago County Board President Toni Preckwinkle appointed a Task Force to look into County services in unincorporated parts of Cook County. In April of 2012 the Task Force issued its first report (see attached). In the period since it has continued its work and has begun to follow up on recommendations contained in this report. One sub-region of special interest is the area near your communities in both Maine and Northfield Townships, an area which contains major parcels of unincorporated land.

We know, in advance, that:

- Close to 40,000 of the 110,000 people who live in unincorporated Cook County live in Maine and Northfield Townships adjacent to your four communities
- Many of these people live in aging multi-family apartment buildings and are members of moderate to low income families. A significant number of these people rent their apartments, and there is no systematic apartment by apartment code inspection program in Cook County to monitor living conditions and make sure that dwellings continue to meet building code standards
- There is sub-regional concern about law enforcement issues related to the unincorporated parcels.

We also know that at present your four communities are not interested in annexing the unincorporated land for a variety of understandable reasons.

Having noted all the above, we do feel that your four communities might be interested in discussing new ways you could work with Cook County to address code enforcement and law enforcement in these unincorporated areas. Via negotiated inter-governmental agreements, you might be able to take over code enforcement, construction permitting, and general police work without annexing any land.

Why bother? We believe that having some control over what is going on right next to your communities can be a major plus to you for many reasons.

To be quite frank, we are not sure whether inter-governmental agreements and the transfer of authority to address key problems will work from an economic point of view. What will it cost you to take over code enforcement, construction permitting and law enforcement functions in the unincorporated land nearest your community? Could the County provide the funding to make

this possible? Is any kind of cost sharing possible for some or all of these functions?' We feel that it is in the County's interest and your interest, too, to know the answers to these questions.

We also feel that it makes sense to think through a long-term action plan to deal with the unincorporated land. As nearby communities you should have an active say in putting together such an action plan.

We hope to begin discussing these ideas at a sub-regional meeting, a meeting we urge you to attend. Once a road map for further action is set, staff members from your communities can work with County personnel on gathering the information needed for future decision making.

At Mayor Przybylo's suggestion, we will be calling you shortly to try and find a convenient time for a group meeting.