

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
PUBLIC HEARING
LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

PUBLIC HEARING: At 6:00 p.m., President Hofeld opened a hearing on the lead service line replacement program project summary. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Julie Willis, Trustee Jay Heiferman, and Trustee Phil Mason. Trustee Lauren Roman, Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, and Trustee Patrick Siemsen were absent.

Village staff members present included Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah, Public Works Director Joshua Burman, and Finance Director Amy Zukowski.

President Hofeld invited Village Manager Napoleon Haney to make a presentation. Village Manager Haney provided an overview of Burns & McDonnell and the previous work they have done for the Village. He introduced Paul St. Aubyn and Paul Hurley of Burns & McDonnell. Napoleon Haney provided a brief synopsis of the Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Act which mandated that all municipalities remove lead service lines from their water systems.

Mr. Paul St. Aubyn presented an update on the Village's Lead Service Line Replacement Program and reviewed the current project plan. He explained that replacement work is scheduled to continue in contiguous areas north of 183rd Street during FY2027, with work gradually moving south of 183rd Street in subsequent years. He further noted that the Village will continue identifying unknown service line materials through records review and field verification. Mr. St. Aubyn emphasized that resident feedback and participation will remain critical to the success of the program, particularly in confirming service line materials and obtaining property owner signatures necessary to access private property for replacements.

Mr. St. Aubyn provided an overview of project funding. For FY2026, the Village has secured total loan funding of \$4,137,498, which includes \$2,465,000 in principal forgiveness and a \$1,672,498 loan at 0% interest. For FY2027, the Village has submitted three loan applications requesting \$3,014,667 per loan, for a combined total of \$9,044,001. It is estimated that each loan could include approximately \$2 million in principal forgiveness, subject to final determination. Looking ahead to FY2028 through FY2031, the Village anticipates requesting approximately \$39.7 million in future funding, with applications to be refined and submitted annually.

Members of the Village Board asked several questions regarding the funding process, including whether the Village could seek multiple years of funding under a single loan application for lead service line replacements. A member of the public was invited to provide comments or questions and stated they had none.

Additional questions were asked by the Board regarding project implementation. In response to a question about whether the FY2026 project would target vulnerable sites such as schools and daycares, Mr. St. Aubyn confirmed that FY2026 prioritizes high-risk sites and that both FY2026 and FY2027 projects will consist primarily of residential replacements. When asked whether lead service line replacement work would be coordinated with other planned capital improvement projects, he responded that it would.

In response to an inquiry regarding why the area north of 183rd Street was prioritized, Mr. St. Aubyn explained that the boundary aligns with census tracts and that the area north of 183rd Street is more likely to qualify for funding based on median household income data. When asked whether the federal government had eased lead line replacement requirements, he stated that no changes had been made to reduce the requirements.

Board members also asked about competition for loan funding. Mr. St. Aubyn advised that many communities are applying for the available loans and that the program is expected to become increasingly competitive in future years. He further noted that principal forgiveness opportunities are also anticipated to become more competitive and that construction costs are expected to rise over time.

Finally, in response to a question regarding whether Homewood must complete the application process annually, Mr. St. Aubyn explained that the FY2027 through FY2031 project plan functions as a five-year framework; however, projects are scored each year and funding for lead service line replacements is approved and released on an annual basis.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terence', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Terence Acquah
Assistant Village Manager