



Dedicated to Serving People with Pride

5 1205 140/A

**Mayor**  
ARLENE C. JEZIERNY

**Village Clerk**  
MARCIA L. POLLOWY

**Trustees**  
EUGENE J. BRUTTO  
ANNETTE BRZEZNIAK-VOLPE  
ANNA BRZODOWSKI WEGRECKI  
ZBIGNIEW LEWANDOWSKI  
LAWRENCE R. STEINER  
GIUSEPPE S. ZERILLO

## Village of Harwood Heights

Cook County, Illinois

The Village, a home-rule municipality under the Illinois law, was incorporated in 1947. The population was 9,065 at the 2020 census. Harwood Heights and its neighbor Norridge form an enclave surrounded by the City of Chicago.

The Village is governed by an elected President (Mayor), Village Clerk and six (6) Trustees. The President is the Village's chief Executive Officer and, like the Village Clerk, is elected to a four-year term. Trustees are elected to staggered four-year terms.

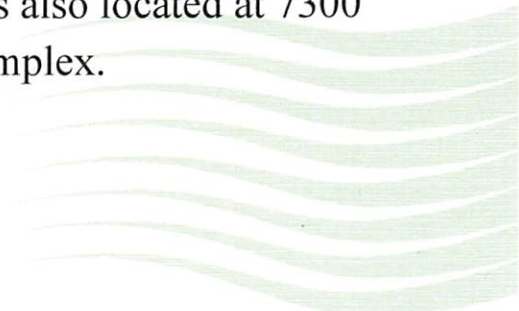
The Village, by statute, is empowered to provide public safety (police), highways and streets, sanitation health and social services, culture-recreation, public improvements, planning and zoning and general administrative services.

The Village of Harwood Heights has certain functional subdivisions which are shown in the PDF file titles "Organization Chart" on the Village website [www.harwoodheights.org](http://www.harwoodheights.org)

The approximate amount of the operating budget for 2025/2026 is \$18,093,000.

The Village's sole office is located at 7300 W. Wilson Avenue in Harwood Heights. The Harwood Heights Police Department is also located at 7300 W. Wilson Avenue at the north end of the village complex.

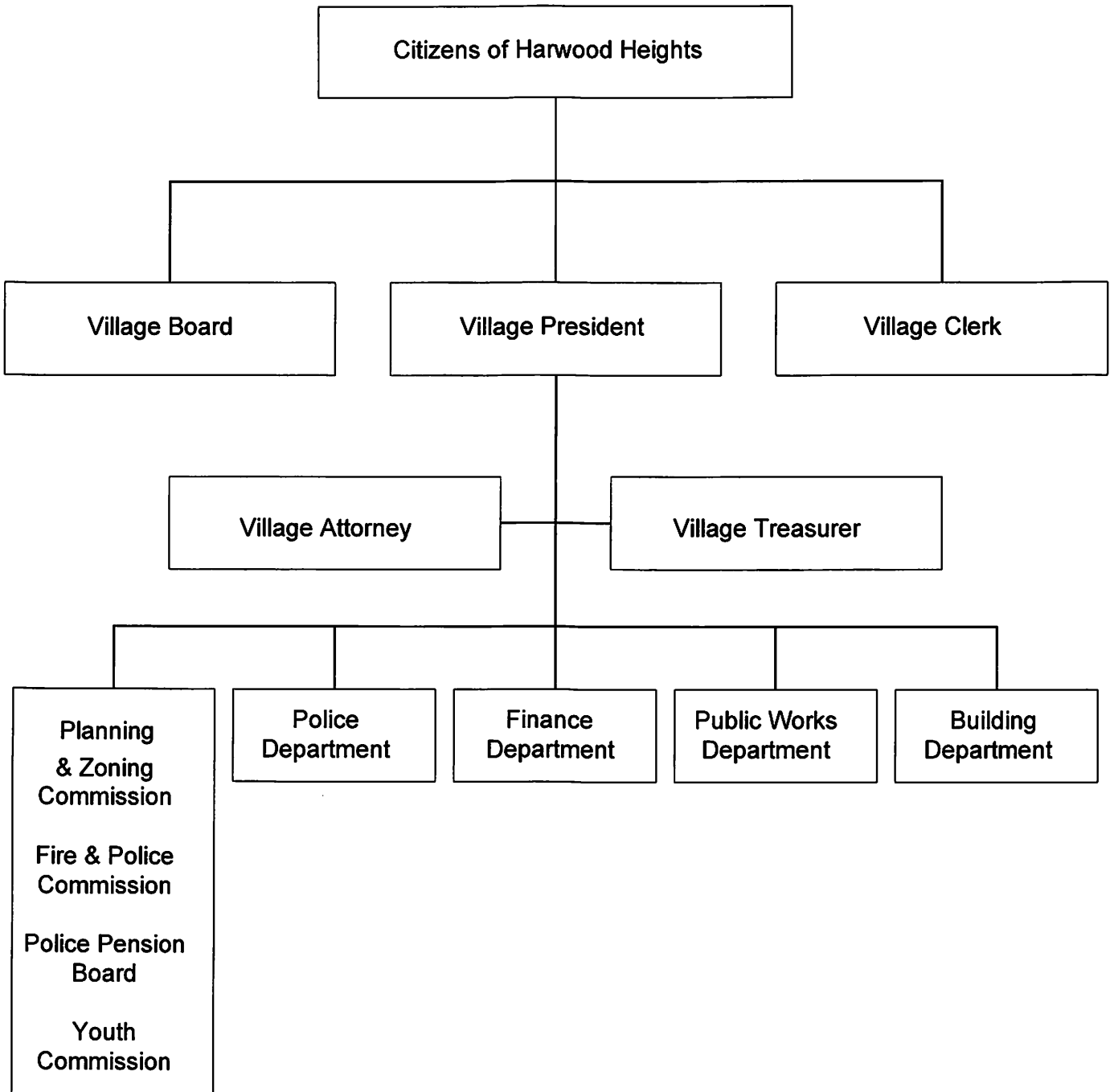
7300 West Wilson Avenue  
Harwood Heights, Illinois 60706  
Tel (708) 867-7200  
Fax (708) 867-3038  
[www.harwoodheights.org](http://www.harwoodheights.org)



The Harwood Heights Water Department is located at 7101 W. Wilson Avenue.

The village currently employs approximately 49 full-time and 19 part-time employees.

# Village of Harwood Heights Organization Chart



## **Village Officials**

### **Mayor and Board of Trustees**

Arlene Jezierny	Mayor
Marcia L. Pollowy	Village Clerk
Eugene J. Brutto	Trustee
Annette Brzezniak-Volpe	Trustee
Zbigniew "Ziggy" Lewandowski	Trustee
Lawrence Steiner	Trustee
Anna Wegrecki	Trustee
Giuseppe "Joe" Zerillo	Trustee

### **Administration**

John DeVries	Police Chief
Ron Maslo	Public Works Superintendent
Jo Ann Krupa	Building Commissioner
Mary Ventrella	Treasurer
Robert Romo	Accountant
Ancel Glink	Corporation Counsel
Clark Dietz & Christopher Burke	Village Engineer

**VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS**  
**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2026**

**SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS BUDGET FY ENDING 4/30/26**

	<u>FUND NAME</u>	<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>NET TRANSFERS</u>	<u>CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
11	General Fund	12,329,545	11,549,318	(763,774)	16,452	
12	Capital Projects Fund	1,915,000	1,965,000	0	(50,000)	
44	Motor Fuel Tax Fund	452,499	103,500	0	348,999	
55	General Obligation Bond Fund	335,354	1,181,562	558,107	(288,101)	
57	SSA Debt Service Fund	4,200	325	0	3,875	
77	Criminal Investigation Fund	500	5	0	495	
78	DUI Fund	500	0	0	500	
	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>	<b>15,037,598</b>	<b>14,799,710</b>	<b>(205,667)</b>	<b>32,220</b>	
22	Water and Sewer Fund	3,145,670	3,293,463	205,667	57,874	
	<b>Total Proprietary Funds</b>	<b>3,145,670</b>	<b>3,293,463</b>	<b>205,667</b>	<b>57,874</b>	
	<b>Total Village</b>	<b>18,183,268</b>	<b>18,093,173</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90,094</b>	



<b>Police Pension Board</b>	Meets: 3rd Tues - Jan, Apr, Jun, Oct	
Appointee-Trustee-To 4/30/26	Mary Ventrella	No Compensation
Appointee-VP-TO 4/30/26	Robert Romo	No Compensation
Ryan Swartendruber	Board President	No Compensation
Scott Morawski	Board Vice President	No Compensation
Frank Biagi	Board Asst Secretary	No Compensation
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission</b>		
Chairman - Term to expire 4/30/26	Chris White	\$350/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Tony Lostumbo	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Carl Christl	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	John Hood	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Ray Leszczynski	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Jim Raz	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Demetrios Floudas	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Tim Ludston	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Frank Rose	\$150/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Vicky LaCalamita	\$150/mo
<b>Youth Commission</b>		
Chairperson - Term to expire 4/30/26	Mary Pelarenos	\$350/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Lisa Mignogna	\$225/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Christine Napolitano	\$225/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	John Lemke	\$225/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Nia Golas	\$225/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	David Belcher	\$225/mo
Member - Term to expire 4/30/26	Thomas Kuczak	\$225/mo
<b>2025 Fest Committee</b>		
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Tom Bobula	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Tim Ludston	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Terry Schuepfer	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Mike Grono	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Pat Sherrill	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Bruce Sherrill	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Phyllis Frederick	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Bonnie Ladegaard	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Robbie Rose	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Mary Ventrella	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Debbie Schaefer	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Mary Willard	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Ben Mikrut	\$25/meeting
Term 5/1/25 - 8/30/25	Steve Wegrecki	\$25/meeting

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST FORM (FOIA)**

**\*\*Note to Requester: Retain a copy of this request for your files. If you eventually need to file a Request for Review with the Public Access Counselor, you will need to submit a copy of you FOIA request. \*\***

Name & Address of Public Body Receiving Request: **FOIA Officer  
Village of Harwood Heights  
7300 W. Wilson Avenue  
Harwood Heights, IL 60706**

Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Request Submitted By: \_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_ U.S. Mail \_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_ In Person

Name of Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/County Zip (Required): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Records Requested:** \*Provide as much specific detail as possible so the public body can identify the information that you are seeking; Report #, Date(s), Full Description of Document, etc. You may attach additional pages, if necessary.

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**Do you want copies of the documents? YES or NO**

--Do you want Paper Copies or Electronic Copies (if available)? \_\_\_\_\_

--If you want Electronic Copies (if available), in what format? \_\_\_\_\_

**Is this request for a Commercial Purpose? YES or NO**

(It is a violation of the Freedom of Information Act for a person to knowingly obtain a public record for a commercial purpose without disclosing that it is for a commercial purpose, if requested to do so by the public body. 5 ILCS 140.3.1)).

**Are you requesting a Fee Waiver? YES or NO**

(If you are requesting that the public body waive any fees for copying the documents, you must attach a statement of the purpose of the request, and whether the principal purpose of the request is to access or disseminate information regarding the health, safety and welfare or legal rights of the general public. 5 ILCS 140/6(c)).

## RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS

This list is by no means meant to be exhaustive and is merely for reference or descriptive purposes. Per the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, various records or portions of records may be exempt from inspection and copying. Depending on the type of request, copies are available on paper, PDF file or electronically.

- Agendas
- Agreements
- Bids
- Building Permits
- Building / Zoning Violations
- Business / Tobacco / Liquor Licenses
- Certificates of Compliance
- Certificates of Occupancy
- Contracts
- Correspondence
- Dog Licenses
- Easements
- Election Records
- FOIA Requests
- Hearing Files
- Inspection Reports
- Invoices
- Maps
- Minutes
- Ordinances
- Personnel Files
- Plans/Exhibits/Plats
- Police Reports
- Public Hearing Files
- Public Hearing Notices
- Public Hearing Transcripts
- Resolutions
- Sewer Permits
- Solicitation Permits
- Special Assessment Information
- Treasurer's Reports
- Village Audits
- Village Budgets
- Village Codes: Titles/Chapters
- Warrants
- Water Quality Reports

Please make inquiries for those not appearing on this list.

Copies of CD's - \$2.00

Copies of Recorded Tapes - \$3.50

Certifying of Records - \$1.00

The Village of  
**Harwood  
Heights**

Dedicated to Serving People with Pride

## Village of Harwood Heights

### CATEGORIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS

#### Village Clerk's Office

- Financial Statements
- Contracts, Agreements, and Leases
- Intergovernmental Agreements
- Ordinances
- Resolutions
- Proclamations
- Village Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes
- Commission Minutes
- Press Releases
- Legal Notices

#### Village Mayor's Office

- Village Newsletter
- Village Calendar
- Board and Commission Appointments
- Liquor Licenses

#### Public Works Department

- Vehicle Maintenance Records
- Vehicle Specifications
- Construction Improvement Projects
- Reports, Studies, and Surveys
- Water Quality Reports

Mayor  
ARLENE C. JEZIERNY

Village Clerk  
MARCIA L. FOLLOWY

Trustees  
EUGENE J. BRUTTO  
ANNETTE BRZEZNIAK-VOLPE  
ANNA BRZOWSKI WEGRECKI  
ZBIGNIEW LEWANDOWSKI  
LAWRENCE R. STEINER  
GIUSEPPE S. ZERILLO

## **Administration Department**

- Audits
- Water Billing
- Cash Receipts and Disbursements
- Invoices
- Contracts and Agreements
- Invoices
- Budget
- Business Licenses
- Vehicle Stickers

## **Police Department**

- Crime Reports
- Traffic Accident Reports
- Police Reports
- Animal Licensing Records

## **Building Department**

- Building Permits
- Electrical Permits
- Sign Permits
- Food Establishment Records
- Food Inspection Reports and Violations
- Occupancy Certificates
- Plats of Surveys
- Inspections Reports
- Violation Reports
- Municipal Building Information
- Stop Work Orders
- Zoning Violations
- Elevator permits/Inspections

# History - Village of Harwood Heights

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 [harwoodheights.org/about-us/history/](http://harwoodheights.org/about-us/history/)

## History

- [The Birth Of A Village](#)
- [Growth](#)
- [Past & Present](#)
- [Village Population and Demographics Today](#)

## THE EARLY YEARS

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Today, if you were to stand on the corner of Harlem and Lawrence and take in all the sights and sounds of a modern day Village you would have a hard time envisioning what the area looked like when our country was founded in 1776. The immediate area was an open wilderness covered with prairie grass and wild flowers. Two ridges could be seen, one of which would play a major role in the development of Harwood Heights.

During this period the only people inhabiting this area were the Potawatomi Indians. These Native Americans lived their peaceful existence in an area along a river they called checagou which loosely translated means "where the strong-smelling onions grow." This name was very appropriate seeing that patches of wild onions grew in the swampy areas on the banks of what would be later known as the Chicago River and its North and South Branch. To the east lay Lake Michigan which they called mishigonong or "place of great water." To the west over the main ridge lay another river called Aux Plaines where the Potawatomi men spearfished. We recognize it as the Des Plaines River.

European trappers that passed through the area were greeted as friends and in the late 1770's a black man by the name of Jean Baptiste Point du Sable arrived with his family and became the first settler to the area. He built a log cabin near where the checagou flowed into the mishigonong and for many years he had a thriving trading business with the Potawatomi until the year 1800 when Du Sable sold all his holdings to another trader by the name of Jean La Lime.

All stayed well with the traders and the Potawatomi until the year 1803 when a large group of United States soldiers came to the area to build a fort called Fort Dearborn. The United States was expanding and this expansion was looked down upon by the British who tried to block the western growth of the county. British Agents began turning the Potawatomis against the troops in the fort and as the conditions worsened between them, word was sent

from Washington to the forts commander, Captain Nathan Heald, to make the necessary preparations to abandon the fort. The War of 1812 had begun and in August of that year Captain Heald had made the necessary preparations to abandon the fort.

Word had leaked out that the fort would be abandoned and the hostile Potawatomis' saw a perfect opportunity to wreak their havoc on the soldiers and their families. On August 15th about 60 soldiers, nine women and eighteen children began to move south toward the safety of Fort Wayne. A band of Potawatomis posing as an escort moved in along side of the column and then without warning turned and attacked. When it was over 55 men, two women and twelve children had been slaughtered. Five women, five men and the remaining children were taken captive. That night the fort was burned to the ground and the 5 captive men were tortured to death. Luckily there were some survivors. Captain Heald, his wife and a few others were saved by some of the remaining friendly Potawatomis. This small group managed to make their way across Lake Michigan by canoe to Michigan and the home of a trader named William Burnett. Fearing that they would not even be safe their it was decided that they make their way to a totally safe area on Mackinac Island in upper Michigan. The man they hired to take them was destined to become one of the most famous inhabitants of the area that is now Norridge and Harwood Heights, Alexander Robinson.

Robinson lived with the Potawatomis in Michigan and was the son of an Ottawa mother and British father. The Ottawa's were friends with the Potawatomis and because of this Indians accepted Robinson and even gave him the name of Che Che Pin Qua which meant "the squinter," or "blinking eye." Robinson took the group by canoe to the U.S. Fort at Mackinac Island which had been captured by the British and Heald along with the rest were taken as prisoners of war but they were treated well and were now safe from the dangers of the hostile Indians. In 1814, Robinson decided to bring his Potawatomi wife Cynthia and their children across the lake and settled near what is now the corner of Kinzie and Dearborn streets.

The year 1815 brought the end of the War of 1812 and slowly more and more traders returned to the area as well as additional U.S. soldiers. They rebuilt Fort Dearborn and the Indians began to see that the land that once belonged to them was now growing smaller and smaller. The United States government had been buying up land from the Indians and in



Alexander Robinson known to the local Indians as Che Che Pin Qua as he looked when he lived in the Harwood Heights area.

Photo courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society

1835 the final group of Potawatomis left the area for good. This opened the land for the new settlers who began moving to the area and one, Israel Smith became the first settler to make his home in the area that would become Harwood Heights.

The 22 year old Smith didn't like the appearance of the marshy land where Chicago was growing and traveled to the west and purchased a tract of land on the first high point he came to. The area that Smith settled on is where the present day Ridgemoor Country Club and St. Rosalie's Church are located. Soon after, the remainder of the Smith family moved to the ridge that would become Union Ridge and bought up land along the ridge to a point where Union Ridge Cemetery now sits on Higgins Road. So many Smith's lived on the ridge that it was soon known as "Smith's Ridge."

Alexander Robinson also moved to the area when he was presented with 1200 acres of land for the assistance he gave with negotiating treaties with the local Indians. The land he was given ran from about Irving Park Road north to Foster Ave with the Des Plaines River running through the middle of it. Much of this land remains untouched in the form of the Forest Preserves known as Che Che Pin Qua Woods, Robinson Woods, and Catherine Chevalier Woods (the name of his wife). Robinson lived there until April 27, 1872 when he died. Today you can still visit the family burial ground where Che Che Pin Qua and his family are buried. The burial area is at the northwest corner of East River Road and Lawrence Ave.



Israel Smith, the first settler to live in what is now Harwood Heights. His home was atop a ridge where Ridgemoor Country Club and St. Rosalie's Church are now located.

Another settler by the name of Charles Ball purchased a section of land between what is now Lawrence and Wilson Avenues. Through the middle of his land ran what is now Harlem Ave. Others began arriving and slowly a number of log cabin houses could be seen dotting the landscape. Roads began to appear, the main one being Township Line Road which is now Harlem Ave and a dirt road that ran between the property owned by Israel and Marcellus Smith called Smith's Road, now known as Gunnison Street.

What was once a wilderness was growing into a community. Cook County was formed in 1831, 1849 gave birth to the Townships of Jefferson and Leyden and in 1851 the Cook County government purchased 100 acres of land between what is now Irving Park Rd and Forest Preserve Drive just east of Harlem Avenue. This would serve as a home for the poor and destitute and also as a place to keep those people who had been described as "crazy" by county officials. When it was built it was called "Jefferson," but in years to come the name

would change to "Dunning," after a resident by the name of Charles Dunning. The name would later be changed to the "Reed Mental Institution." The nation had lived through the Civil War and the city of Chicago rose from the destruction of The Great Chicago Fire. A portion of "Dunning" would serve as a burial ground to the many unidentified dead that had perished in the fire. 1873 saw the creation of yet another Township in the area. This was the brain child of George Dunlap and on April 1st the voters elected the first government of the newly formed Norwood Park Township.

With this growth also came the need for more schools and in 1875 a farmer, Charles Ball donated an acre of land for a new school. With the help of other local farmers who supplied material and elbow grease a one-room school house on what is now Oak Park Avenue was build in 1876.. The location of the school is very near where the present Union Ridge School is located and it was given the name of "Smith's Schoolhouse." There has been much discussion as to how it received this name. Many believe it was because it was located near Smith's Road (now Gunnison) and others believe that Israel Smith's daughter Emma "Kitty" Smith was the first teacher. The schools population when it first opened was 15.



A typical log cabin style home of the 1840's

The early part of the 20th century saw the passing of Harwood Heights' first settler. In 1904 Israel Smith died at the age of eighty-eight. The old was giving way to the new and farmhouses sprang up from the expanses of lush farm land. The few roads that were present were unpaved and most of the farmhouses did not have the luxury of indoor plumbing. Instead out behind the house the typical "outhouse" or "privy" was located. The homes were heated by wood or coal burning stoves and light was supplied by gas or kerosene lamps. 1913 saw the first electrical wires to supply the houses with electricity and 1916 brought in the first gas lines.

Everywhere you looked progress was creeping in as the once open lands began to take the shape of a growing community. In 1908 the land owned by Israel Smith was sold to the Irving Golf Club and a nine-hole golf course was put in its place. Smith's home became the clubhouse. It was the beginning of what in 1914 would become the Ridgemoor Country Club which saw the likes of Gene Sarazan, Ben Hogan, Walter Hagan and Tommy Armour play regularly.



"Smith's Schoolhouse," would later become Union Ridge School. This is a photo of the school in 1876.

Photo courtesy of Union Ridge School

The area was quickly growing. Harlem, Irving Park and Narragansett were paved in the early 1920's and in 1924 the growing population called for the addition of a two story school house next to the original school. Five years later in 1929 fire would destroy the original school house and a new 4 story building was put up in its place. That new school today stands at the corner of Oak Park and Carl Casatta Lane. (additions to the building have changed its appearance). That fire was a symbol of what was to come for in that same year the nation was plunged into the Great Depression. Farmers who had existed by moving their goods by truck into the markets of Chicago were forced to also set up road side produce stands in hopes of making a few extra dollars from the passing motorists.

The Depression lasted ten long years and in 1938 towards the end of this trying time a development company by the name of Durocraft Homes built a small sub-division of about seventy homes south of Foster and West of Harlem on what is now Oconto, Octavia and Odell streets. During that same year Michael Enright built a tavern now known as Landmark Pub and can still be seen to this day at 5135 N. Oriole.

On the horizon lay World War II and when the war finally came to an end in 1945 the area that would become Harwood Heights would begin its birth as a Village.

## **The Birth Of A Village**

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Little by little the land that began as prairie and then as farmland slowly gave way to a growth of residential homes and businesses. On the corner of Gunnison and Harlem sprang a peony farm owned by Judge Heckel. More businesses opened along Harlem Avenue and slowly the farms that once brought forth great bounty began to disappear. Many of the residents that moved here after the war were dissatisfied with the conditions of the area. Most of the streets turned into rivers of mud after a rain, there was no police protection and the water situation grew to the unbearable point. Citizen groups talked of trying to get the city of Chicago to annex the area. One of these citizens, Herbert Huening, a World War II Navy Veteran who moved to a home on Oconto Avenue after the war took up the challenge and began talking to City officials. After several trips to City Hall it became very evident that Chicago had no desire to take in a small cluster of homes just outside its border. It was then that Huening seriously began looking into the prospect of incorporating and starting its own Village.

In the fall of 1947 a vote was taken and 350 votes were cast for incorporation and the Village of Harwood Heights came to life. On March 4, 1948 the Village was awarded its official charter. It had a population of 400 and was bordered on the north by Foster Ave, the south by Lawrence, Harlem to the east and Oketo made its western most boundary. Herbert Huening, the man who brought about the Village's incorporation was elected its first Mayor.

No one really knows for sure how the Village came up with its name. Many believe that the word Harwood came from a combination of "Har" for Harlem Avenue and the "wood" came from Norwood Park Township in which the Village is located. Others believe that it was taken

from a company that built many of the first homes, Harwood Builders. How the word "Heights" was added is even less clear. I have heard explanations that it was in reference to the heights of the ridge that Israel Smith settled, to the highest point in the Village which is located at Harlem and Foster Avenues. No one knows for sure and maybe it is best that it remain a mystery for it makes a great topic of conversation when discussing the history of the town.



Herbert Huening, the first Mayor of Harwood Heights

## Growth

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Harwood Heights was about to see the the most rapid growth that it would ever see. The 1950's saw a major movement from city living to the peace and quiet of the suburbs. Those who had come back from World War II were now family men and looking for the best place to locate their new families. In 1951 the area south of Lawrence was annexed by the Village and 1956 and 1957 saw the addition of the remaining areas east of Harlem that stretched to Narragansett added to the Village. The citizens of this area tried twice to incorporate first as the Village of Ridgemoor and then as the Village of Union Ridge. When these attempts failed the necessary steps were taken to make the area a part of Harwood Heights.

This rapid growth caused a few growing pains for the Village. Union Ridge School was bursting at the seams and in 1953 new classrooms and a lunchroom were added. Five years later in 1958 the construction of the Village's first church was completed at 6700 Gunnison. At that time it was called The Church of The Open Door, today it is known as Bethany Baptist Church.

All along Harlem Avenue businesses sprouted up and the area west of Harlem saw the addition of more and more streets being cut into the farmland. New homes went up, new businesses and new industrial areas were added but the area was missing one very important thing-a High School. In 1958 the citizens of Harwood Heights and Norridge voted to establish a High School District and to build a school. A contest was created to name the school and the winning name came from a combination of the two Villages. The "Ridge"

came from Norridge and Wood came from Harwood. A marshy area of land on Montrose Avenue was selected as the site and in 1960 Ridgewood High School opened its doors to become one of the ten best schools in the nation.

1960 also saw the opening of St. Rosalie's Church on Montrose and Oak Park. 1963 was the year that the first high rise apartment buildings were built in the Northwest suburbs with the completion of Parkway Towers. The following year the current Village Hall was built which was quite an improvement from the first Village Hall that was in the basement of the home of the first Mayor, Herbert Huening.



The home of Mayor Herbert Huening which was the location of the first Village Hall

In 1968 the first steps were taken to start a drive that would raise money for the opening of the areas first library. It would take almost 4 long years before the Dwight D. Eisenhower would come to be. A contest was run to select a name for the library and James Scallion a 6th grade student at St. Rosalie's came up with the winning submission named after the 34th President of the United States. The library had a very simple beginning in a cramped room on the ground floor of Parkway Towers. It wouldn't be until 1974 that the library would be able to move to 4652 N. Olcott in an abandoned building that was once a sheet metal factory. In January 2008 the library moved to its most current location - a brand-new, state-of-the-art building at 4613 N. Oketo.

It was in the 1970's that saw some of the first businesses torn down and new ones put in their place. At 4701 N. Harlem the Goodman's Community Discount Store that was built in 1959 was demolished and the new Harwood Heights Square Shopping Center took its place. Just down the street at 4747 Harlem the Holiday Bowl bowling alley that also went up in 1959 was torn down and replaced by the new Holiday Plaza Mall in 1988.

The Village of Harwood Heights has come full circle from expanses of prairie grass to a prosperous modern community that supplies its residents and visitors the best that modern day can afford. Just about everything has changed except one area and it is very fitting that the area has retained most of its original flavor. That area is the spot where Israel Smith first settled on that high ridge. To this day you can still view that ridge and many of the trees that still remain. Even though it is now the home of a modern Country Club if you let your imagination wander you can almost see Mr. Smith walking over the ridge that he once called home.

## Past & Present

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### Village Mayors

Since the Village was incorporated in 1947, nine residents have served in the position of Mayor. Here you will find their names and the period of time in which they served.

### Village Amenities

Today the Village's residents have at their disposal over 25 restaurants, 5 shopping centers, 3 parks, 1 grade school, 1 high school, and 3 churches to serve their needs. There are also thriving business areas, industrial areas, and just about everything needed to make a community complete and a desirable place to live and work.

What does the future hold? No one really knows for sure. We can only say that each and every one of the Village employees will strive to do their best to continue to make the Village of Harwood Heights one of the best communities to live and work.

To see a photo history of Harwood Heights please visit our Photo History page. (coming soon)



HERBERT HUENING  
1947-1957



THEODORE  
SCHWEGEL 1957-  
1961



JOSEPH ZIZZO 1961-  
1965



PATRICK ARBOR  
1965-1967



HAROLD MAJESKI  
1969-1973



RAY WILLAS 1973-  
2001



NORBERT PABICH  
2001-2005



MARGARET "PEGGY"  
FULLER 2005-2009



ARLENE JEZIERNY  
2009-



Newly built condos



Tree-lined residential area



# Harwood Heights, Illinois

**Harwood Heights** is a village in Cook County, Illinois, United States. The population was 9,065 at the 2020 census. Harwood Heights and its neighbor Norridge form an enclave surrounded by the city of Chicago.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Geography

Harwood Heights is located at 41°57′58″N 87°48′20″W﻿ / ﻿41.966172, -87.805576﻿ / -87.805576.<sup>[2]</sup>

According to the 2010 census, Harwood Heights has a total area of 0.82 square miles (2.12 km<sup>2</sup>), all land.<sup>[3]</sup>

Harwood Heights and Norridge are surrounded by Chicago.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Demographics

### 2020 census

### Harwood Heights, Illinois

Village

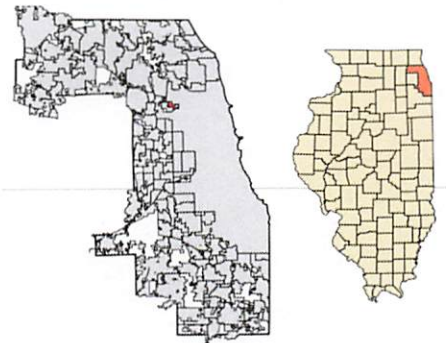


The Mont Clare at Harlem Avenue, formerly known as Parkway Towers



Seal

Motto: *A small town of big opportunities*



Location of Harwood Heights in Cook County, Illinois.



- Show map of Greater Chicago
- Show map of Illinois

**Harwood Heights village, Illinois – Racial and ethnic composition**

*Note: the US Census treats Hispanic/Latino as an ethnic category. This table excludes Latinos from the racial categories and assigns them to a separate category. Hispanics/Latinos may be of any race.*

Show map of the United States  
 Show all  
 Coordinates: 41°57′58″N 87°48′20″W﻿ / ﻿﻿ / ﻿

Race / Ethnicity (NH = Non-Hispanic)	Pop 2000 <sup>[5]</sup>	Pop 2010 <sup>[6]</sup>	Pop 2020 <sup>[7]</sup>	% 2000	% 2010	% 2020
White alone (NH)	7,339	6,747	6,483	88.45%	78.34%	71.52%
Black or African American alone (NH)	22	53	66	0.27%	0.62%	0.73%
Native American or Alaska Native alone (NH)	15	14	12	0.18%	0.16%	0.13%
Asian alone (NH)	364	610	861	4.39%	7.08%	9.50%
Pacific Islander alone (NH)	2	1	0	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%
Other race alone (NH)	1	5	13	0.01%	0.06%	0.14%
Mixed race or Multiracial (NH)	70	113	171	0.84%	1.31%	1.89%
Hispanic or Latino (any race)	484	1,069	1,459	5.83%	12.41%	16.09%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,297</b>	<b>8,612</b>	<b>9,065</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>State</b>	Illinois
<b>County</b>	Cook
<b>Township</b>	Norwood Park
<b>Government</b>	
• <b>Mayor</b>	Arlene Jezierny
<b>Area</b> <sup>[1]</sup>	
• <b>Total</b>	0.82 sq mi (2.14 km <sup>2</sup> )
• <b>Land</b>	0.82 sq mi (2.14 km <sup>2</sup> )
• <b>Water</b>	0.00 sq mi (0.00 km <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Population</b> (2020)	
• <b>Total</b>	9,065
• <b>Density</b>	10,987.88/sq mi (4,243.39/km <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Time zone</b>	UTC-6 (CST)
• <b>Summer (DST)</b>	UTC-5 (CDT)
<b>ZIP Code(s)</b>	60706
<b>Area code</b>	708
<b>FIPS code</b>	17-33435
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.harwoodheights.org">www.harwoodheights.org</a> (http://www.harwoodheights.org/)

**Historical population**

Census	Pop.	%±
<b>1950</b>	655	—
<b>1960</b>	5,688	768.4%
<b>1970</b>	9,060	59.3%
<b>1980</b>	8,228	−9.2%
<b>1990</b>	7,680	−6.7%
<b>2000</b>	8,297	8.0%
<b>2010</b>	8,612	3.8%
<b>2020</b>	9,065	5.3%

U.S. Decennial Census<sup>[4]</sup>

As of the 2020 census<sup>[8]</sup> there were 9,065 people, 3,282 households, and 2,331 families residing in the village. The population density was 10,987.88 inhabitants per square mile (4,242.44/km<sup>2</sup>). There were 3,790 housing units at an average density of 4,593.94 per square mile (1,773.73/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the village was 74.59% White, 0.81% African American, 0.51% Native American, 9.66% Asian, 0.00% Pacific Islander, 6.92% from other races, and 7.51% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 16.09% of the population.

There were 3,282 households, out of which 28.9% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 56.61% were married couples living together, 8.62% had a female householder with no husband present, and 28.98% were non-families. 24.95% of all households were made up of individuals, and 10.54% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.10 and the average family size was 2.56.

The village's age distribution consisted of 19.9% under the age of 18, 7.0% from 18 to 24, 30.2% from 25 to 44, 25.3% from 45 to 64, and 17.6% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 40.1 years. For every 100 females, there were 115.6 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 109.9 males.

The median income for a household in the village was \$67,745, and the median income for a family was \$90,821. Males had a median income of \$52,317 versus \$32,208 for females. The per capita income for the village was \$33,171. About 8.5% of families and 10.3% of the population were below the poverty line, including 15.7% of those under age 18 and 12.7% of those age 65 or over.

## Government and politics

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As of 2021, the mayor is Arlene Jezierny. She is the second woman to serve as mayor in Harwood Heights, the first being Margaret Fuller.<sup>[9]</sup>

As of the 2021 election, the current elected officials of the village of Harwood Heights are:<sup>[10]</sup>

- Arlene Jezierny - President (since 2009)
- Marcia Pollowy - Village Clerk (since 2009)
- Lawrence Steiner - Trustee (since 2009)
- Annette Brzezniak-Volpe - Trustee (since 2013)
- Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki - Trustee (since 2016)
- Giuseppe Zerillo - Trustee (since 2017)<sup>[11]</sup>
- Zbigniew Lewandowski - Trustee (since 2018)
- Eugene Brutto - Trustee (since 2021)

Harwood Heights is located in the Eisenhower Public Library District, Triton Community College District 504, Ridgewood High School School District 234, School Districts 86, 79, and 80, and the Norwood Park Fire Protection District.<sup>[12]</sup>

Harwood Heights is located in Illinois's 5th congressional district which is represented in the 117th United States Congress by Mike Quigley (D–Chicago). In the Illinois General Assembly, Harwood Heights is located in the 10th Legislative District, 19th House District, and 20th House District. In the 101st General Assembly, Harwood Heights is represented by Robert Martwick (D–Chicago) in the Illinois Senate and represented by Lindsey LaPointe (D–Chicago) and Bradley Stephens (R–Rosemont) in the Illinois House of Representatives.<sup>[12]</sup>

For the purposes of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, Harwood Heights is in the 9th district represented by Peter Silvestri (R-Elmwood Park). It is located in the 10th and 11th Judicial Subcircuits of the Cook County Circuit Clerk.<sup>[12]</sup>

For the purposes of elections, Harwood Heights is split into five precincts ; Norwood Park 1, Norwood Park 5, Norwood Park 12, Norwood Park 15, and Norwood Park 17.<sup>[12]</sup> In the 2020 presidential election, Harwood Heights cast 1,878 votes for Donald Trump and 1,692 votes for Joe Biden. Forty-six voters chose third-party candidates and 42 voters pulled a ballot, but abstained from voting for any candidate for president.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Mayors of Harwood Heights

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Mayor	Years
Herbert Huening	1947–1957
Theodore Schwegel	1957–1961
Joseph Zizzo	1961–1965
Patrick Arbor	1965–1967
Harold Majeski	1967–1973
Ray Willas	1973–2001
Norb Pabich	2001–2005
Margaret "Peggy" Fuller	2005–2009
Arlene Jezierny	2009–present

## Local culture and media

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Ridgewood High School Multimedia Clubs, which claim to be "the only media outlet in Norridge and Harwood Heights", and has 4 stations: The radio club produces "Jack FM 89.7 WRHS-FM Norridge" and "Theatre of the Ears on Smooth 88.1 WRWX-FM Harwood Heights/Jack Frost 88.1 WXMS Harwood Heights"; the television department runs in-house station "WRWX Television 4"; and the television club runs "WRHS Television 19".<sup>[14]</sup>

Ridgemoor Country Club is located on Gunnison Avenue and is one of the oldest Chicago area golf clubs originating in 1905. In 1942 the U.S. Open Golf Tournament was cancelled because of World War II and as a replacement the Chicago District Golf Association and the PGA sponsored a tournament called The Hale America National Open Golf Tournament. The tournament was won by Ben Hogan and raised over \$20,000 for the Navy Relief Society and the U.S.O.

## Education

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### Public schools

Three elementary school districts serve Harwood Heights:<sup>[15]</sup>

- Pennoyer Elementary School District 79<sup>[16]</sup>
- Norridge School District 80<sup>[12]</sup>
- Union Ridge School District 86<sup>[12]</sup>

Two high school districts serve Harwood Heights:<sup>[15]</sup>

- Maine Township High School District 207 (Maine South High School)<sup>[12]</sup>
- Ridgewood High School<sup>[12]</sup>

### Colleges and universities

Triton Junior College serves Harwood Heights.<sup>[12]</sup>

### Libraries

Eisenhower Public Library District serves Harwood Heights and Norridge.<sup>[12][17]</sup>

## Transportation

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Public transportation within the village is provided by the Chicago Transit Authority, which provides bus service along the major streets through to Chicago on all sides. The village's main business district is along Harlem Avenue (carrying Illinois Route 43), a short distance south of the Kennedy Expressway and the northern Harlem station of the CTA Blue Line rapid transit route.<sup>[18]</sup>

## Sister cities

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Harwood Heights is twinned with two cities: Rocchetta a Volturno, Italy,<sup>[19]</sup> and Dzierżonów, Poland.<sup>[20]</sup>

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## External links

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- Village of Harwood Heights, Illinois (<http://www.harwoodheights.org/>) — official site



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