ELECTORAL REFERENDUMS IMPLEMENTATION
PUBLIC MEETING
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 7 P.M.
Skokie Public Library
Petty Auditorium
5215 Oakton Street
Skokie, Illinois 60077

1) Welcome and Introductions

2) Process and Actions to Date

3) Review Proposed Implementation of Nonpartisan Elections, Staggered Terms and Biennial Elections

4) Proposed Implementation of Hybrid Elections (4 Districts and 2 at-large trustees)
   a) Review of Guiding Principles in Creating Districts
   b) Review of Map Development Process
   c) Proposed District Map

5) Timeline and Next Steps

6) Public Comments, Ideas and Input

7) Adjourn
Summary of Proposal for Implementing Referendums

On November 8, 2022, Skokie voters approved three (3) referendum questions related to the Village’s system of electing its representatives to Village government. The following is a summary of the proposal of consulting legal counsel, Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins, LTD., and the Village implementation team for implementing the referendums.

Referendum Question 1: "Shall candidates for Mayor, Clerk, and Village Trustee of the Village of Skokie be elected at nonpartisan primary and general elections, beginning with the Consolidated Primary and the Consolidated General elections to be held on February 25, 2025 and April 1, 2025, respectively?"


A nonpartisan election system prohibits candidates from listing any political party affiliation on their nominating papers and no political party affiliation will be listed on the ballot.

A nonpartisan election system does not prohibit candidates from coordinating their campaigns, fundraising and platforms with other candidates and political parties.

Referendum Question 2: “Shall the Village of Skokie adopt a system of staggered four-year terms and biennial elections for Village Trustees, beginning with the Consolidated Primary and the Consolidated General elections to be held on February 25, 2025 and April 1, 2025, respectively?"

Implementation Proposal:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2025 April Election</th>
<th>2027 April Election</th>
<th>2029 April Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-year terms:</td>
<td>4-year terms:</td>
<td>4-year terms:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee – District 1</td>
<td>Trustee – District 1</td>
<td>Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee – District 2</td>
<td>Trustee – District 2</td>
<td>Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee – District 3</td>
<td>Trustee – District 3</td>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee – District 4</td>
<td>Trustee – District 4</td>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4-year terms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-year terms: (next election April 2029):</th>
<th>Not up for election (next election April 2031):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
<td>Trustee – District 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
<td>Trustee – District 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
<td>Trustee – District 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee At-Large</td>
<td>Trustee – District 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Referendum Question 3: "Shall the Village of Skokie adopt a system of hybrid elections for Village Trustees, in which 2 of 6 Village Trustees are elected at-large and 4 of 6 Village Trustees are elected from districts, beginning with the Consolidated Primary and the Consolidated General elections to be held on February 25, 2025 and April 1, 2025, respectively?"

Implementation Proposal: Amend Village Code to create four (4) Trustee Districts with a single Trustee elected from each District, and two at-large Trustee seats.
Draft Ordinance for Village Board consideration to incorporate the three Referendums in the Village Code.
ORDINANCE NO. ______

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SKOKIE VILLAGE CODE
TO ADOPT NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS, STAGGERED TERMS OF OFFICE,
BIENNIAL ELECTIONS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, the Village of Skokie ("Village") is a home rule municipal corporation duly
organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable provisions of and authority under the Illinois
Constitution and Article 28 of the Illinois Election Code, the following referenda questions were
initiated by voter petition and placed on the ballot for the November 8, 2022 General Election in
the Village of Skokie:

Referendum Question 1: "Shall candidates for Mayor, Clerk, and Village Trustee of the
Village of Skokie be elected at nonpartisan primary and general elections, beginning with
the Consolidated Primary and the Consolidated General elections to be held on
February 25, 2025 and April 1, 2025, respectively?"

Referendum Question 2: “Shall the Village of Skokie adopt a system of staggered four-
year terms and biennial elections for Village Trustees, beginning with the Consolidated
Primary and the Consolidated General elections to be held on February 25, 2025 and
April 1, 2025, respectively?"

Referendum Question 3: “Shall the Village of Skokie adopt a system of hybrid
elections for Village Trustees, in which 2 of 6 Village Trustees are elected at-large and 4
of 6 Village Trustees are elected from districts, beginning with the Consolidated Primary
and the Consolidated General elections to be held on February 25, 2025 and April 1,
2025, respectively?”

(the “Referenda”); and

WHEREAS, based upon the election results of the November 8, 2022 General Election in
Illinois in the Village of Skokie, the Referenda were approved by the voters of the Village; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable provisions of and authority under the Illinois
Constitution and Article 28 of the Illinois Election Code, the Village is responsible for taking those
lawful actions necessary to implement the electoral changes and local voting processes resulting
from the approval of the Referenda by the voters of the Village; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its authority and duties under the Illinois Constitution and the
Illinois Election Code, the Village is further empowered by its home rule authority to regulate its
own government and affairs and is authorized under the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/1-1-1
et seq., and Illinois law to adopt ordinances pertaining to and promoting the public health, safety
and welfare of the Village; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village
of Skokie, Cook County, Illinois:

SECTION 1: The recitals above shall be and are incorporated in this Section 1 as if fully
restated herein.
**SECTION 2:** That Article II entitled “BOARD OF TRUSTEES” of Chapter 2 entitled “ADMINISTRATION” of the Skokie Village Code of Ordinances (the “Code”) is hereby amended by revising the current provisions of Section 2-31 of said Article, with those provisions shown as stricken through to be deleted and those provisions shown in italicized print and underscored to be added to Section 2.31, to read as shown below.

**“CHAPTER 2 - ADMINISTRATION**

**ARTICLE II. - BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Sec. 2-31. - Composition; election; functions.

The Board of Trustees shall consist of the Mayor and 6 Trustees. The Trustees shall be elected by the electors of the Village to office for 4-year terms as is provided by statute law. Four of the six Trustees shall be elected by election district, one from each of the four election districts established in the Village. Two of the six Trustees shall be elected at-large. The Mayor and Board of Trustees shall be the legislative department of the Village government, and shall perform such duties and have such powers as may be authorized by statute.”

**SECTION 3:** That Division 1 of Article III entitled “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” of Chapter 2 entitled “ADMINISTRATION” of the Skokie Village Code of Ordinances (the “Code”) is hereby amended by revising the current provisions of Sections 2-61 and 2-62 of said Article, with those provisions shown as stricken through to be deleted and those provisions shown in italicized print and underscored to be added to Sections 2.61 and 2.62, to read as shown below.

**“ARTICLE III. - OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

**DIVISION 1. - GENERALLY**

Sec. 2-61. - Form of government.

(a) The Village has adopted the managerial form of government as provided in 65 ILCS 5/5-1-1 et seq. The Village Board of Trustees shall be elected at-large by the electors and shall consist of a Mayor and 6 Trustees as provided in 65 ILCS 5/5-2-12 and 65 ILCS 5/5-2-15.

(b) The primary and consolidated elections for the Mayor, Village Trustees and Village Clerk shall be conducted as a non-partisan elections pursuant to 40 ILCS 5/7-1 et seq. and the applicable provisions of the Illinois Election Code at 10 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq. The results of any primary or consolidated election conducted for the aforesaid offices shall be certified and proclaimed by resolution of the Mayor and Board of Trustees at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Board of Trustees following the official canvass and certification of the consolidated election results. Upon passage of the resolution, the outgoing Mayor and Board of Trustees shall adjourn their
meeting and a new meeting shall be convened at the call of the outgoing Mayor. At the new meeting, the newly elected officials shall take their respective oaths and commence their terms of office.”

(Code 1979, § 3.01; Ord. No. 05-4-C-3351, § 1, 4-4-2005)

Sec. 2-62. – Elections; Terms of Office, Election Districts

The election of Trustees by election district and the election of the at-large Trustees, the Mayor and the Clerk, shall be staggered as follows:

(a) The Village shall be divided into four compact and contiguous Village election districts of approximately equal population; and the membership of the Board of Trustees shall be seven members, with one Trustee being elected from each election district commencing in 2025 and thereafter, for an initial term of two years and for elections thereafter for terms of four years. The Mayor, Clerk and two Trustees shall be elected at large commencing in 2025 and thereafter, each for a term of four years.

(b) At the election of Trustees from election districts, each elector shall vote for one Trustee from the elector's respective district at the primary election, if any, and the consolidated election. With the election of Trustees at large, two Trustees shall be voted for by each elector at the primary election, if any, and the general election. At the election of the Mayor and Clerk, one candidate for Mayor and one candidate for Clerk shall be voted for by each elector at the primary election, if any, and the consolidated election.

(c) The Village election districts shall be designated as Election District 1, Election District 2, Election District 3 and Election District 4, respectively. The four Village election districts shall be comprised of the geographic locations described as follows:

   **ELECTION DISTRICT 1**
   
   [Description]

   **ELECTION DISTRICT 2**
   
   [Description]

   **ELECTION DISTRICT 3**
   
   [Description]

   **ELECTION DISTRICT 4**
   
   [Description]

(d) All streets or other geographic features referenced in subsection (B) above are those that are so shown on the maps published by the United States Bureau of the Census for the 2020 census.
(e) Any part of the Village that has not been described as included in one of the districts set forth in subsection (c) above shall be included within the district that:

(1) is contiguous to the part; and
(2) contains the least population of all districts contiguous to the part according to the 2020 census.

(f) If any part of the Village is described in subsection (c) above as being in more than one district, said part shall be included within the district that:

(1) is one of the districts in which that part is described in subsection (c) above;
(2) is contiguous to that part; and
(3) contains the least population according to the 2020 census.

(g) If any part of the Village:

(1) is described in subsection (c) above as being in one district; and
(2) is entirely surrounded by another district;

that part shall be incorporated into the district that surrounds the part.

(h) If any part of the Village:

(1) is described in subsection (c) above as being in one district; and
(2) is not contiguous to another part of that district;

that part shall be included within the contiguous district that contains the least population according to the 2020 census.

(i) Each trustee elected from an election district, while a champion for their district, carries the solemn responsibility of upholding the welfare, growth, and development of the Village as a whole.

Elections for municipal officers shall otherwise be held as is provided by statute, and at the time prescribed by statute."

(Code 1979, § 3.22)


SECTION 4: That the titles for the sections set forth in Article III, entitled "OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES", in the table of contents at Chapter 2 entitled "ADMINISTRATION", of the Skokie Village Code of Ordinances (the "Code") are hereby amended by revising the current title of Section 2-62 of said Article which now reads “Sec. 2-62. – Elections”, to add those new provisions shown as italicized and underscored below.

“Sec. 2-62. – Elections; Terms of Office, Election Districts”

SECTION 5: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.
SECTION 6: Except as to the Code amendments set forth above in this Ordinance, all Chapters and Sections of the Village Code, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7: Each section, paragraph, clause and provision of this Ordinance is separable, and if any provision is held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance, nor any part thereof, other than that part affected by such decision.

SECTION 8: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____________________, 2023, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: ________________________________

NAYS: ________________________________

ABSENT: ______________________________

APPROVED by me this _______ day of _________________, 2023, and attested to by the Village Clerk this same day.

_____________________________________
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____________________________________
VILLAGE CLERK
STATE OF ILLINOIS )
COUNTY OF COOK )

CLERK’S CERTIFICATE

I, ________________, Clerk of the City of Skokie, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the attached and foregoing is a true and correct copy of that certain Ordinance now on file in my Office, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SKOKIE VILLAGE CODE TO ADOPT NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS, STAGGERED TERMS OF OFFICE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS

which Ordinance was passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Skokie at a Regular Village Board Meeting on the ___ day of ________________, 2023, at which meeting a quorum was present, and approved by the Mayor of the Village of Skokie on the ___ day of ________________, 2023.

I further certify that the vote on the question of the passage of said Ordinance by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Skokie was taken by Ayes and Nays and recorded in the minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Skokie, and that the result of said vote was as follows, to-wit:

AYES: ____________________________________________
NAYS: ____________________________________________
ABSENT: ____________________________________________

I do further certify that the original Ordinance, of which the foregoing is a true copy, is entrusted to my care for safekeeping, and that I am the lawful keeper of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Village of Skokie, this ___ day of ________________, 2023.

________________________________
Village Clerk

[SEAL]
Districting Principles

The Consultant was guided by the following principles considered together.

- One person, one vote.
- Compact and contiguous.
- Center the map on a common identity – i.e., join the districts around the center of Skokie.
- Use, where feasible, major thoroughfares, known boundaries, and other physical features.
- Communities of interest based on reasonable proxies and public testimony.
- Edge-to-edge connections.
- Observe residential neighborhood contiguities where possible.
- Avoid isolating communities set apart by the Edens Expressway or large industrial areas.
# Final Consultant Map 'Forest' - 9/28/2023

## District Demographics and Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Ideal Population</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>Population 18+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16,950</td>
<td>16,956</td>
<td>7,573</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>5,285</td>
<td>1,918</td>
<td>13,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>17,055</td>
<td>16,956</td>
<td>9,887</td>
<td>1,529</td>
<td>3,294</td>
<td>1,495</td>
<td>12,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>17,053</td>
<td>16,956</td>
<td>7,792</td>
<td>1,121</td>
<td>5,393</td>
<td>1,888</td>
<td>13,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>16,766</td>
<td>16,956</td>
<td>8,445</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>4,754</td>
<td>1,884</td>
<td>13,244</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Area: Square Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>