



NEWS

Volume 23 Number 4

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& Views

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City Adopts Updated Comprehensive Plan to Guide Future Development

The City Council formally adopted Rolling Meadows' revised Comprehensive Plan in April, marking the culmination of a nine-month process to identify the challenges and opportunities facing Rolling Meadows' future development.

The updated plan, the result of lengthy discussion and extensive community outreach efforts, "describes a community vision for physical, social, and economic development," according to an executive

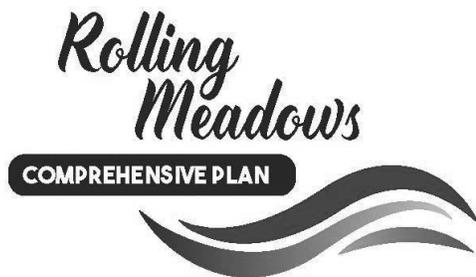
summary prepared by Teska Associates, the urban planning group that helped City officials research and draft the updated document.

The revised Comprehensive Plan will serve as a blueprint for use when considering new development proposals, strengthens the City's ability to pursue state and federal grant funding, and helps market Rolling Meadows' advantages to developers and businesses.

Community goals outlined in the updated plan include:

- **Maintaining Rolling Meadows' distinct character and "small town" feel.** Recommendations include promoting housing programs that preserve the quality of residential neighborhoods, encouraging reinvestment through incentives and zoning ordinance measures, and hosting community events that bring people together.
- **Encouraging collaboration among residents, businesses, and government bodies to achieve shared goals.** The plan suggests establishing an

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Celebrate American Independence July 4th, Rolling Meadows-Style!

Independence Day Parade (11:30 a.m.)
Rolling Meadows' 2019 Independence Day Parade will feature a special appearance by the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales and plenty of rollicking community fun!

This year's route begins at Rolling Meadows High School and takes parade-goers west on Central Road, north on Owl Drive, and east on Kirchoff Road (to the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center).

Post-Parade Party Downtown (1-8 p.m.)
Patriotic pride will continue with an all-

ages community celebration in the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center parking lot. Enjoy an afternoon of laughs, kid-friendly attractions, and live music.

Guests may also purchase a variety of great tastes – food, beer, sangria, soft drinks, and more – from major event sponsor Rep's Place. Event co-sponsors include Anytime Fitness, Daisy's Cafe, and Miller Lite.

Fireworks (9:15 p.m./Dusk)
Wrap up your Fourth with an "explosive" grand finale! Journey over to the Community Center (3705 Pheasant Drive) to enjoy another installment of the City's thundering fireworks display.



Rolling Meadows High School's Marching Mustangs



The Budweiser Clydesdales make their Rolling Meadows debut this Independence Day.

Contact City Officials: City Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Joe Gallo 847-814-9271
 1st Ward Alderman: Mike Cannon 847-687-3276
 2nd Ward Alderman: Nick Budmats 847-202-0855
 3rd Ward Alderman: Kevin O'Brien 847.212.2587
 4th Ward Alderman: Vacant
 5th Ward Alderman: Jon Bisesi 847.772.8428
 6th Ward Alderman: John D'Astice 847-409-9367
 7th Ward Alderman: Lara Sanoica 847.770.3097
 City Manager: Barry Krumstok 847-394-8500

SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency 911
 Fire Non-emergency 847-397-3352
 Police Non-emergency 847-255-2416
 Public Works 847-963-0500
 Community Development Division 847-506-6030
 Finance/Utility Billing Questions 847-394-8500
 Senior Handyman Program 847-506-6030
 Crime Stoppers 847-590-7867
 ComEd 1-800-EDISON-1



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'Things Happen for a Reason' Fred Vogt Retires After 23 Years as Public Works Director

One might argue, based on the available evidence, that Fred Vogt was destined to serve as Rolling Meadows' Director of Public Works.

On the eve of his retirement in May after 43 years of municipal service – the last 23 of which were spent here in Rolling Meadows – Vogt sat down with *News & Views* for a wide-ranging discussion of his career history and his proudest professional accomplishments.

One common theme quickly emerged as he recalled his service to Hoffman Estates, Wood Dale, and, finally, Rolling Meadows: Fred Vogt always believed that things happen for a reason – especially if you keep your eyes open and are willing to have an open mind.

Community Cold-Calling

Vogt graduated from Carthage College (Kenosha, WI) with degrees in Geography and Political Science, but it was his study of cartography while in school that opened the door to a career in local government.

By the mid-1970s, block grants were providing resources for communities to modernize and develop new infrastructure to accommodate growing populations. It also offered opportunities for recent graduates.

"I was cold-calling communities and counties throughout the Chicago and Milwaukee areas – literally showing up at their offices and asking if they had any job openings," Vogt recalled. "I had just left Schaumburg after learning they had no positions available. It was 4:30 p.m. On a whim, I decided to stop by Hoffman Estates to fill out an application before calling it a day."

Less than a week later, he received a call from Hoffman Estates' Public Works Director, who asked him to come for an interview. Coincidentally, one of the village's drafting technicians had resigned the same day Vogt submitted his application.

"They hired me because I knew how to draw maps. That was my job," he recalled with a smile. "I would be out in the field measuring the distance between manhole covers, then use that data to create utility and road maps of the community."

Vogt began assisting with plan reviews, once the village hired a planning administrator. Soon after, he found himself playing a larger role in the community's development.

"Take Initiative"

"I had started attending Plan Commission meetings on my own time because I found many of the topics interesting," he explained. "One night, the mayor happened to notice I was there. The next thing I knew, I was getting involved in residential planning developments."

That experience taught Vogt the value of taking initiative.

"Throughout my career, I tried to pass along the idea that individual employees should always strive to go beyond simply what is required. That's when good things happen and people take notice," he said. "My history is a great example of that."

"Perfect Training Ground"

By 1987, Vogt held a Master's degree in Public Administration from Roosevelt University and had earned promotion to Public Works Director. One of his first major projects as Director was overseeing construction of the village's new Public Works facility – experience that would prove to be quite useful in the future.

Vogt remained in Hoffman Estates until 1993, when he joined the Village of Wood Dale as Director of City Services.

"My time in Hoffman taught me the importance of being transparent in the administration of government operations – even though that term wasn't in use back then," he recalled. "It was the perfect training ground for me. I carried those lessons with me to Wood Dale and beyond."

Meadows Calling

Vogt was already preparing to explore new professional opportunities in 1996 when he was contacted by a search firm hired to find Rolling Meadows' next Public Works Director.

"Everyone in our field knew the City's reputation for providing outstanding services. I went through the interview process and ended up receiving an offer I couldn't refuse," Vogt said.



Fred Vogt "will always have an interest in what happens" in Rolling Meadows.

He came on-board just as the City was proceeding with construction of its combined Public Works/Park District facility at 3900 Berdnick Street. The experience was almost identical to what he encountered after becoming Public Works Director in Hoffman Estates.

"I felt at home right away," he added with a chuckle.

The Pride of Accomplishment

A few distinct accomplishments stood out for Vogt as he surveyed his nearly 23 years in Rolling Meadows. Always a team player, he preferred to give credit to elected officials and staff members across all City departments for their commitment to achieving an impressive range of accomplishments, including:

- **Establishment of the Capital Improvements Committee** to help guide long-term planning efforts.
- **Creation/approval of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan** to guide Rolling Meadows' future development and land use.
- **New bike paths** that promote alternative forms of transportation, reduce traffic congestion, and improve the City's quality of life.
- **Grant procurement initiatives** that secured \$23 million in funding for local infrastructure projects.

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Let the Good Times 'Roll in Meadows' National Night Out, 'Wine-Down' on Tap

Summer has arrived and, with it, comes a tantalizing schedule of community activities for residents of all ages. Key highlights include:

Family Night with RM Cops

Saturday, August 3rd, 7 – 10 p.m.

Rolling Meadows Police and LEGOLAND Discovery Center have teamed up to offer an evening of family fun at the Community Center: highlights will include games and kid-friendly activities; music and food (*while supplies last*); and a free 9 p.m. screening of *The Lego Movie* (2014).

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 6th, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Join police officers at the Community Center while celebrating the City's unique community spirit. Guests will enjoy free food (*while supplies last*) giveaways, games, and more. Check out highlights of 2018's event on the RMPD's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/rollingmeadowspolice).



National Night Out

Fred Vogt Retires After 23 Years...continued from page 2

Vogt also played an important role in the creation of the City's Traffic Review Committee, served as staff liaison to the Environmental Committee, and helped ensure a smooth transition when the Community Development Department was reorganized as a division of Public Works.

"Do it Well"

His proudest accomplishment, however, was working as a team to deliver unparalleled services to Rolling Meadows residents and businesses.

"No matter what challenges we faced, we always came together and met our commitment to providing the highest levels of public service," Vogt proudly stated. "I've always said that Public Works gets called for 'everything no one else wants to do.' And we do it well.

"The professionalism of our staff, their commitment to providing efficient



Wine-Down by the Creek

Wine-Down by the Creek

Friday, August 16th, 6 – 11 p.m.

Sip your way to summer bliss at Kimball Hill Park with fine wine, craft beer, and live music courtesy of 7th Heaven – one of Chicagoland's finest purveyors of 70s, 80s, and 90s music. Admission is free. Food and beverages may be purchased with I.D.

View a complete listing of Rolling Meadows' upcoming community events – including this summer's **Parking Lot Party** (July 13th), **Friday's ROCK!** (July 19th), and **Community Bike Ride/City Market** (July 20th), at www.cityrm.org/669/community-events.

and effective operations, and the team camaraderie is what I'll miss most," he added.

See You Around

Vogt plans to ease into retirement: home improvement projects rank at the top of his "To Do" list. There will also be more time for he and his wife, Cynthia, to spend with their two grandchildren. They may also do some traveling.

Vogt will also continue his term as President of the Rolling Meadows Historical Society. That's fitting, considering he grew up in Arlington Heights (where he still lives) and recalls the Rolling Meadows of the 1950s and 60s with particular fondness.

"I will always have an interest in what happens in Rolling Meadows," he said. "I'm literally down the road, so you'll probably see me around."

Park District Named National Gold Medal Award Finalist

Rolling Meadows Park District has been named a finalist for the National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.



The awards are presented annually by the Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) and the National

Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). They honor communities in the U.S. that demonstrate excellence in parks and recreation through long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development, and agency recognition.

Rolling Meadows Park District is a finalist in the Class V category (population 30,000 or less). View the Park District's NRPA Finalist video online at www.rmparks.org.

Award winners will be announced in September at the NRPA Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD.

"It's fantastic to be selected as a finalist for the NRPA Gold Medal Award," said Park District Board President Bill Cooley. "The Board greatly appreciates the amazing staff, affiliate groups, community volunteers, and participants that have helped us stand out as an outstanding agency."

Cornfest: August 3rd at Community Church

Enjoy community fellowship and all-you-can-eat sweetcorn Saturday, August 3rd, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., at Community Church's 63rd annual Cornfest. Learn more and purchase tickets at www.community-churchrm.com.

July 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|----|--|----|
|  | 1 | Environmental Committee , 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall | 2 | 3 | Independence Day Community Parade , 11:30am, Owl Drive route Post-Parade Party , 1-8pm, Meadows Shopping Center Fireworks , 9:15pm, Community Center | 4 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 5 | 6 | | |
| 7 | Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 am, City Hall | 8 | Crime Stoppers , 5:30 pm City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall | 9 | 10 | Adjudication Hearing , 11 pm, City Hall | 11 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 12 | Parking Lot Party , 3-10pm, Community Center | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 pm, City Hall | 16 | 17 | Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall | 18 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship FRIDAYS ROCK! & Roll in Meadows , 7-10 pm, Kimball Hill Park | 19 | 20 | Community Bike Ride , 9 am City Market , 10 am-2 pm, both at Community Church | |
| 21 | Water bills due | 22 | City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, City Hall | 23 | 24 | 25 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 26 | 27 | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  | <i>July 4th Refuse Collection Change</i> City offices are closed Thursday, July 4th, for Independence Day. Thursday (7/4) and Friday (7/5) refuse/recycling collection services will be delayed one day. | | | | | | |

August 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|----|--|
| Visit www.cityrm.org to access E-News & Views, Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter published in February, April, June, August, October, and December. | |  |  | 1 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 2 | Cornfest , 11 am-7 pm, Community Church Family Night with Rolling Meadows Cops , 7 pm, Community Center | 3 | | |
| 4 | 5 | National Night Out , 6-8 pm, Community Center | 6 | Planning & Zoning Commission , 7:30 pm, City Hall | 7 | Adjudication Hearing , 1 pm, City Hall | 8 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 am, City Hall | 12 | Crime Stoppers , 5:30 pm City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall | 13 | 14 | Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall | 15 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship Wine Down by the Creek , 6-11 pm, Kimball Hill Park | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | Water bills due | 20 | City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 pm, City Hall | 21 | 22 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 23 | 24 | Community Bike Ride , 9 am City Market , 10 am-2 pm, both at Community Church |
| 25 | 26 | City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, City Hall | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Cruise Night , 5-8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship | 31 | | |

Customers Welcome to 'Eat, Drink, Play' at Daisy's Cafe

Daisy's Café is the first gaming café to open in Rolling Meadows, but owners/brothers Tim and Todd Yormark believe its food and drink menu is what will keep customers coming back for more.

"We saw Rolling Meadows as an incredible opportunity," Tim recalled. "Todd and I view the Kirchoff Road corridor as a destination location – one that can provide entertainment value to residents while also drawing customers from neighboring communities."

The new café, located at 3334 Kirchoff Road, is the third they've opened in the last 12 months – the others are located in Stone Park and Itasca. What distinguishes the Rolling Meadows location from the others is an expanded menu with a full range of breakfast, lunch, and dinner items.

Daisy's Café
3334 Kirchoff Road
847-873-1923
Open 7 days/week

One menu favorite earning rave reviews from customers is Daisy's Smash Burger, a chuck/brisket/short rib blend with American Cheese, lettuce, and tomato, and served on a brioche bun. Other

menu offerings include Philly Cheesesteak and Shrimp Po' Boy sandwiches, wings, chicken sandwiches (grilled or breaded), grilled cheese, and more.

Beer, wine, and cocktails are also available.

"We see ourselves as a neighborhood establishment, especially because we are located within walking distance for a lot of residents," Todd explained. "We invite everyone to stop in for a quick burger or beer and see what we're all about. They're also welcome to try their luck at the video slots."

The café's gaming area features more than one hundred different games available on five machines. Gamers enjoy complimentary snacks and soft drinks, and several have already taken home impressive winnings: Daisy's made payouts of \$1,200, \$800, and



Daisy's Cafe owners Tim (left) and Todd Yormark are proud to join Rolling Meadows' business community on Kirchoff Road.

\$500 in its first three weeks in business.

At Daisy's, the term "gaming" extends well beyond video poker and slots. Table-top games such as Connect Four, chess, and tic-tac-toe are available throughout the restaurant area for customers to play at their leisure.

"On a typical Friday evening, you'll see couples enjoying a glass of wine at the bar, others having dinner and drinks at our tables, and guests coming in and out of the gaming area," Tim explained. "More than anything, our goal is to provide a clean, casual atmosphere where people can enjoy themselves. Customers' experiences are how we determine our overall success."

"We want to be a good neighbor and give back to the community," Todd added as he described the brothers' plans to get more involved in upcoming City events.

Daisy's will also hold monthly raffle drawings for a variety of great prizes. No purchase is necessary; just stop by. For more information, including hours of operation, visit the Café's Facebook page (search "Daisy's – Rolling Meadows").

Council Approves Resolution Creating Ad Hoc 2020 Census Committee

City Council members have approved a resolution establishing an ad hoc committee to ensure that all Rolling Meadows residents are counted in next year's Census.

The 2020 Census Complete Count Committee is tasked with informing the public about the importance of participating in next year's Census and encouraging residents to complete the Census forms they receive.



Population Count Affects City Revenues
 The U.S. Census Bureau takes a national head count once every 10 years. Data generated by the 2020 Census will im-

pact everything from City ward boundaries to the funding Rolling Meadows receives from state and federal governments. An accurate count is essential for ensuring the City continues to receive the proper (population-based) funding levels.

Apply to Serve
 All committee members will be appointed by the mayor with City Council's approval. Residents who are interested

in volunteering to serve should contact Mayor Joe Gallo (mayor@cityrm.org).

Learn more about the U.S. Census at www.census.gov.



Fuller's Car Wash, 2765 Algonquin Road

Fuller's Car Wash Opens on Algonquin Road

Fuller's Car Wash has opened a new location in Rolling Meadows at 2765 Algonquin Road. The facility offers a full range of car wash and detailing services – including a \$3 exterior "fast" wash. Learn more at www.fullerscarwash.com.

Changing Seasons and a City's Broader Vision

by Mayor Joe Gallo

Thank you, Rolling Meadows, for taking the time to read my inaugural Mayor's Corner. I'd like to use this post as an opportunity to share my perspective and describe what the role of Mayor means to me.

First, I believe cities are not just vibrant places to live. Cities are complex ecosystems all their own. Cities have character. They have attitudes. They demonstrate a temperament that can easily change with the seasons and from external forces acting upon them.

As Mayor, it's my obligation to look out for our City. It's also my job to keep our best interests in mind while diligently

working to enhance Rolling Meadows for future generations. There are many areas I'll be concentrating on throughout my term, including public safety, infrastructure, economic growth, and – my favorite – innovation.

As I visit you through the Mayor's Corner and through other platforms, I'll update you on each one of these areas. I'll share what we're pursuing, who we've recruited to participate, and how we're tracking to accomplish these goals. Then, I'll highlight how these initiatives and policies tie into the broader vision of where our City should go.

I hope you enjoy these updates as much as you enjoy these early days of summer!

Memorial Day Ceremonies Honor All Who Fought & Died for Freedom

Community members paid homage to those who sacrificed everything to preserve our nation's freedom during Rolling Meadows' 2019 Memorial Day events.

Observances began Friday, May 24th, with the City's annual Veterans Dinner at Meridian Banquets. Keynote speaker, United States Army Lieutenant Colonel William J. Starr (Ret.), reminded all in attendance that "freedom is worth fighting for" and honored the more than one million men and women who have given their lives in defense of American ideals.

"They loved their lives as we love ours," he explained. "They had plans for long, full lives. We are humbled because so many hopes and dreams were given to protect us. We have paid a dear price" as a nation, he added.

Severe weather on Saturday, May 25th, forced the cancellation of a wreath-laying



Guests socialize at Friday's Veterans Dinner.



Keynote speaker: U.S. Army Col. William J. Starr (Ret.)



Rolling Meadows' Honor Guard proudly displayed the Stars and Stripes at Saturday's Memorial Day Parade.



Cheering residents honored generations of local veterans who took part in this year's event.

ceremony at the Carillon Tower. But the storms were kept at bay just long enough for an energized crowd to gather along

Kirchoff Road and cheer generations of local veterans who marched in this year's Memorial Day Parade.

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intergovernmental task force to facilitate sharing of common responsibilities, consolidating public information efforts to ensure transparency, and exploring opportunities to revise existing ward boundaries/council structure.

- **Focusing economic development efforts around existing locational advantages**, including development of an aggressive economic outreach program that highlights Rolling Meadows' advantages to existing

and potential businesses. Other recommendations include creating programs that encourage business re-investment and property renovation and establishing area development standards that can be incorporated into zoning and site review processes.

- **Facilitating a connected, efficient transportation network that is safe and accessible for all users.** Goals include coordinating with public transportation agencies; seeking

funding for major investments benefitting motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and public transit riders; and securing new road connections/realignments.

With the Comprehensive Plan's adoption, City officials are moving forward with plans to update Rolling Meadows' Zoning Code of Ordinances – much of which dates back to the 1970's. The full Comprehensive Plan is available for review online at www.cityrm.org.