



city of



Illinois

ILCMA SUMMER CONFERENCE

2025



Rob Boyer

- City Manager since 2023
- Public Works Director 2020-2023
- Masters, University of Illinois, Public Administration
 - Certificate, Community Planning
- Background as Executive in Private Industry



Outline

- Background
- Strategic Plan
- Clean source water, clean effluent
- Improving water infrastructure
- Sustainable road program



Securing the Future of Freeport

- It's obvious, I know, but...
- Looking at studies
- Prioritizing biggest issues
- Working with council (5 year road program, sustainable transportation renewal)
- Budgeting

Strategic Plan

- A two-year blueprint outlining the City's vision, goals, and strategy for the future. A guiding document and a roadmap for the future.

Strategic Goals – Water/Sewer

- Execute water/storm/sewer improvement projects on a 2-year rotation including:
 - Increase stormwater cleaning program.
 - Secure funding for Well #12.
 - Complete Walnut Street Lift Station.
 - Implement Phase 1 of the WWTP Improvements and plan for future phases of WWTP.

Strategic Goals – Public Works

- Implement Street Improvement Plan by paving 8 miles of street per year using data including traffic count and condition of the street, curb, approaches, water, sewer, and storm mains to plan each replacement project.
- Double funding to expand the Sidewalk Plan.
- Improve Public Works facilities – develop a plan and budget.
- Maintain Tree Removal/Replacement Program to remove 50-60 trees annually.
- Support Fiber Network Expansion through public/private partnership.
- Complete Chicago Avenue Streetscape project. (2021)



Well 11 & Water Treatment Facility

- PFAs History
- Wells put to reserve status
- Funding from State





Well 11 & Water Treatment Facility

- Well 11 process begins
- New Wellhead, filter room, pump room, and labs





Well 12 & Water Treatment Facility

- Well 12 design begins
- Land acquisition
- Funding sources
- Completion date and future of drinking water





Water/Sewer

- Completed 3 Phases of Lead Service Line Replacement Program
- 1,601 replacements
- Phase 4 about to begin
- \$12 Million in fully forgiven loans



Wastewater Treatment Plant

- No major improvements since 1965
 - Fully depreciated headworks
 - Failed piping
 - Outdated chlorine treatment





Wastewater Treatment Plant

- \$60 million project
- Majority funded through EPA's State Revolving Fund





Wastewater Treatment Plant

- All new headworks





Wastewater Treatment Plant

- Chemically enhanced primary treatment





Wastewater Treatment Plant

- UV Disinfection, updated lab offices





Water/Sewer

- Unsewered Community Grants
- City-wide Storm & Flood Modeling
- Improvements needed to 8 lift stations
- Fire hydrant replacements
- MetroCloud
- Gold Water Ambassador





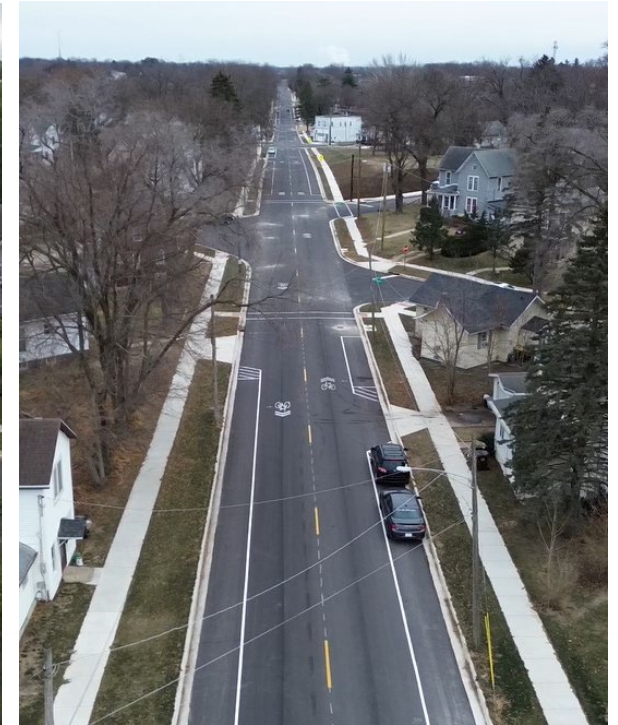
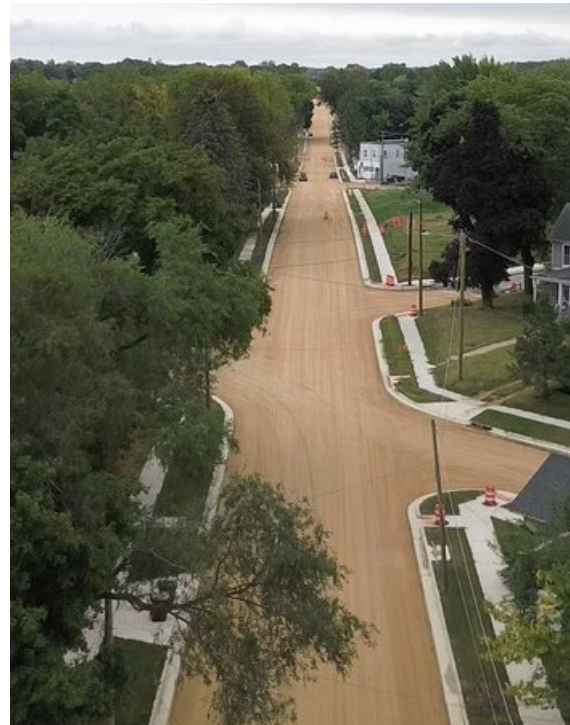
Public Works

- 135 miles of road; 80% beyond design life
- Aging water infrastructure under roads
- There was no sustainable road program
- Beginning of improvements: Paving Crew Organized
- Saves funds paying City crews over contractors
- In 2024, 1% sales tax was passed to be used for improving roads
- Let's look at a handful of recent projects



Public Works

- **S. Adams Ave.**
- Aging Infrastructure
- Trees
- Utility poles
- Year of preparation before paving





Public Works

Chicago Streetscape





Public Works

Nearly 20 miles of streets repaved

- S. Adams Ave.

- **Pearl City Rd.**



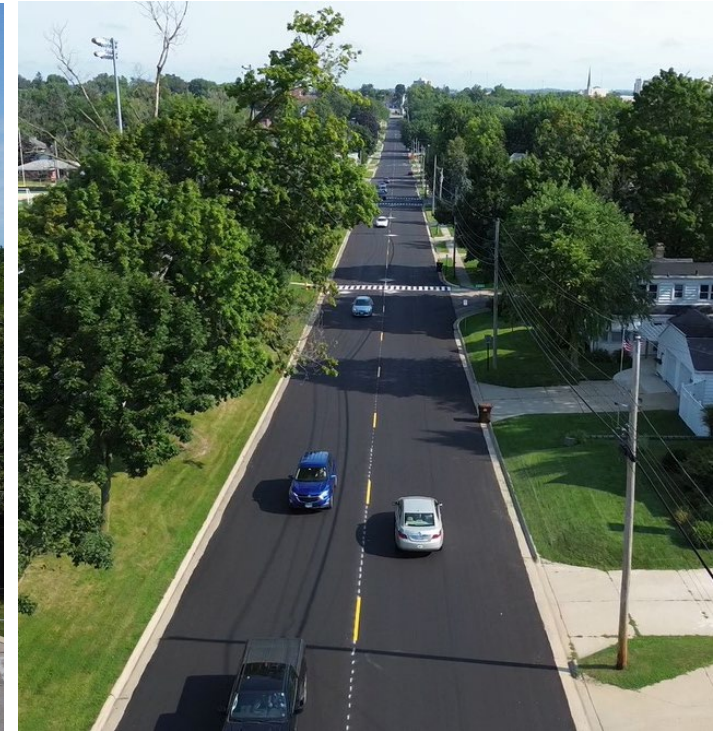


Public Works

Nearly 20 miles of streets repaved

- S. Adams Ave.
- Pearl City Rd.

- **S. Locust Ave.**



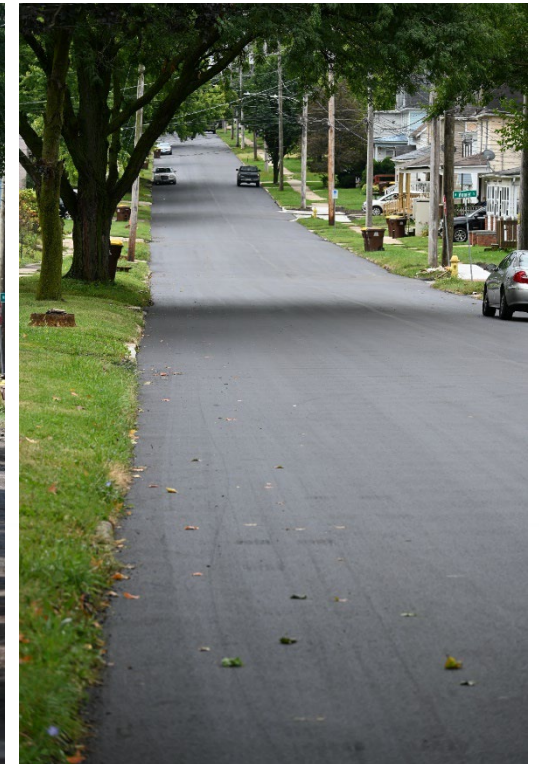


Public Works

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- Pearl City Rd.
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- **S. Oak Ave.**





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- **S. Burchard Ave.**





Public Works

Nearly 20 miles of streets repaved

- S. Adams Ave.
- Pearl City Rd.
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- S. Oak Ave.
- S. Burchard Ave.

- **W. Empire St.**





Public Works

Nearly 20 miles of streets repaved

- S. Adams Ave.
- Pearl City Rd.
- S. Locust Ave.
- S. Oak Ave.
- S. Burchard Ave.
- W. Empire St.

- **W. Laurel St.**







Public Works

- Dead and dangerous trees removed:
 - 200 in 2024 alone by City Forestry
 - 300 contracted & department in last 5 years
- Over 100 trees planted in 2024
- 322 of 1800 ADA ramps replaced
- Improved Fleet
- Partnering with YIELD Program



Review

- Freeport faces many challenges just like other communities
- To sustainably attack the issues we face, we've had to:
 - Equalize water rates
 - Increase sales tax
- Most importantly, the future is looking brighter

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QUESTIONS?

