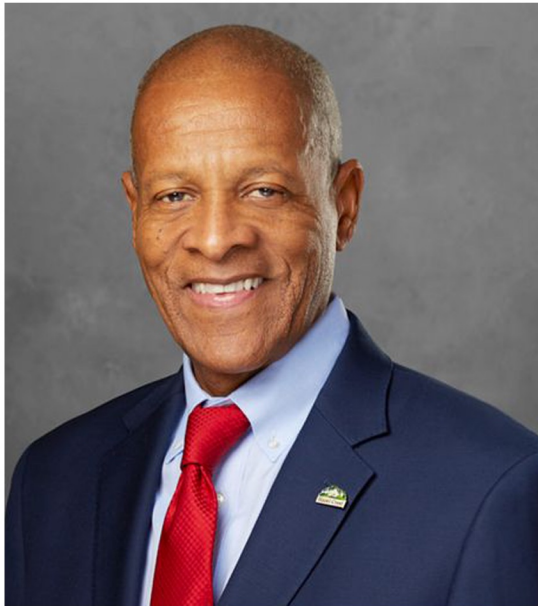




VILLAGE of HAZEL CREST THE VILLAGER

VERNARD L. ALSBERRY JR.
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

The Village of Hazel Crest Community Newsletter | SPRING 2025



Hazel Crest Mayor
Vernard L. Alsberry Jr.



Hazel Crest Mayor Vernard L. Alsberry Jr. Shares The Good News Of An Excellent Financial Audit

See More On Page 3

VILLAGE OF HAZEL CREST Down Payment Assistance Program



Ready for Homeownership?

You could be eligible for up to **\$10,000** in down payment assistance. Here's how:

Get Started Today!

South Suburban Housing Center is administering the funds, housing counseling, and education course for this program:

📞 (708) 957-4674 🌐 <https://bit.ly/HazelCrestDPA>



If you have a disability and need an accommodation to complete our intake, please call our office for assistance.



HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT

APRIL 12TH 2025
11:00am-1:30pm

Vernard L. Alsberry Municipal Center
3601 W. 183rd Street, Hazel Crest, IL

FEATURING:

Dementia | Massage Therapy
Professional Dietician | The Kidney Foundation
Mental Health Services
Alnylam Patient Education
Diabetes Specialist | Heart Disease Specialist + More!

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

ORGANIZED AND PUBLISHED BY THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM | PHONE: 708-335-9600 | FAX: 708-335-9622



MESSAGE FROM OUR VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Make Today Matter!



**VERNARD L.
ALSBERY, JR.**

Hazel Crest residents,

Get ready to Spring Forward! Yes, on Sunday, March 9, 2025, Daylight savings time begins. You will get less sleep before going to work in the morning, but you wake up in the daylight. If you leave the house for work, you will come home in the daylight. And if you enjoy early morning walks or a run, you can walk or run in the daylight. Springing our clocks forward also informs us that the Spring season is near, and we must prepare for the planting and gardening season.

As many of you know, Hazel Crest has the distinction of being a Tree City. And because of this, we will begin to see Mother Nature transforming our Village into a beautiful canvas of greenery along our streets, parks and open lands.

Many of our residents will begin to prepare for spring cleaning. And here at the Village Hall, the administration and staff will also begin preparing for our Spring planting, cleaning and community activities.

Spring is in the air! So, let's get ready to shed those heavy coats and boots, get outside, and enjoy some Sun!

Village President,

Vernard L. Alsberry Jr.

We will continue to be Hazel Crest Proud!

41st ANNUAL

Blood Drive

Blood Drive 8:30 am - 12:30pm

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

HAZEL CREST FIRE DEPARTMENT
2903 175th Street, Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Sunday, June 1, 2025
8:00am to 1:00pm

All You Can Eat Pancakes

Tickets \$7
(Children under 3 - Free)

Includes Sausage, Juice, Milk & Coffee!

DONATION

Yes, please accept my gift for the Hazel Crest Fire Department:

YES! I volunteer my support of the Hazel Crest Fire Department..Please enroll me as:

Chief \$100- receive 3 tickets with donation

Deputy Chief: \$50-\$99 receive 2 tickets with donation

Captain: \$25-\$49 receive 1 ticket with donation

Enclosed please find my check for \$.....

Yes, we would like..... tickets for the Sunday, June 1, 2025 Pancake Breakfast at \$7.00 each.

Name:.....

Address:.....

Phone:.....

Email:.....



WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Village is starting to expand their water meter replacement program. For selected addresses, new water meters will be installed in the same location as your existing meter. The new meter will provide more accurate readings and allow all readings to be transmitted electronically to the Village's new meter reading system. This system can help detect leaks with advanced tracking.

If your address is contacted for meter replacement, we would ask for your cooperation to allow the installers to perform their work quickly and effectively. An adult must be at your property to allow the meter installer inside, and the area around the meter must be clear of obstructions. This work will only take a half hour, and the new meter is expected to last 20 years.

Please sign up for the replacement when a notice is sent to your address. If you do not receive a notice, your meter will be replaced in the next few years- this is a Village wide replacement initiative. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



MESSAGE FROM OUR VILLAGE MANAGER

Make Today Matter!



DANTE S. SAWYER

Dear Residents,

As we approach the arrival of spring, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the progress our village has achieved and to share some exciting initiatives on the horizon that will enhance our community.

First and foremost, I extend my appreciation for your ongoing support and participation in our recent events. Your engagement is crucial in cultivating a vibrant community spirit. We saw a fantastic turnout at our Annual Black History Showcase and Vendor Fair, with attendees expressing appreciation for both the performances and the vendors. Our programs and community events play a significant role in fostering engagement and building civic pride throughout Hazel Crest.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce our partnership with the South Suburban Housing Center to offer a down payment assistance program for those purchasing a home in Hazel Crest. Eligible applicants can receive up to \$10,000 for down payment and closing cost assistance. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://bit.ly/HazelCrestDPA>.

Additionally, we have secured funding to replace lead pipes in the Hazel Crest Proper Subdivision. This initiative will replace lead service lines at no cost to homeowners, ensuring the safety and health of our community.

We are also committed to enhancing our local infrastructure, which includes road repairs, the addition of new park amenities, and improvements to Veteran's Memorial Park in honor of the courageous men and women who have served in our armed forces. These improvements reflect our ongoing dedication to enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

Thank you for being a vital part of our village. Your input and involvement are key to our success. Please feel free to reach out to my office with any questions or suggestions.

Wishing you all a wonderful season ahead!

Warm regards,

Dante Sawyer
Village Manager | Hazel Crest
dsawyer@villageofhazelcrest.com
villageofhazelcrest.com



NAPPI ROUTE LLC

3336 183rd St, Hazel Crest

ABLEHEARTS REHAB.

17400 S. Kedzie, Hazel Crest

FACILITATING OPPORTUNITIES

17577 S. Kedzie, Hazel Crest

SWEET CREATIONS

1733 W. 170th, Hazel Crest

ecoATM

3175 W. 175th, Hazel Crest

BURGER KING

3200 W. 183rd St, Hazel Crest

TOTAL BY VERIZON

18226 Kedzie, Hazel Crest

GRAND FINALE AFFAIRS

3402 W. 183rd St, Hazel Crest

TACO BELL

3300 W. 183rd St, Hazel Crest

ROSATI'S PIZZA

3430 W. 183rd, Hazel Crest

A.P DELI

1925 170th St, Hazel Crest

CUT OF EXCELLENCE HAIR STUDIO LLC

17516 E. Carriageway Suite A, Hazel Crest

MAXEY'S SPORTS LOUNGE

3312 W. 183rd, Hazel Crest

JUST A TOUCH TRANSPORT INC.

17577 S. Kedzie, Hazel Crest

FEDERAL GO TO

3800 Streamwood, Hazel Crest

CAPITAL INDUSTRIAL COATINGS, LLC

17200 Palmer Blvd, Hazel Crest

SPOTLIGHT ON FISCAL YEAR 2024

AUDIT & FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Greetings Hazel Crest Residents and Guests,

Transparency in municipal government is a vital component of my administration for several reasons. It ensures that there is accountability for the actions and decisions made by local government officials. When citizens can see how decisions are made and how funds are allocated, they are more likely to believe in the integrity of their local government. Transparency acts as a deterrent to corruption.

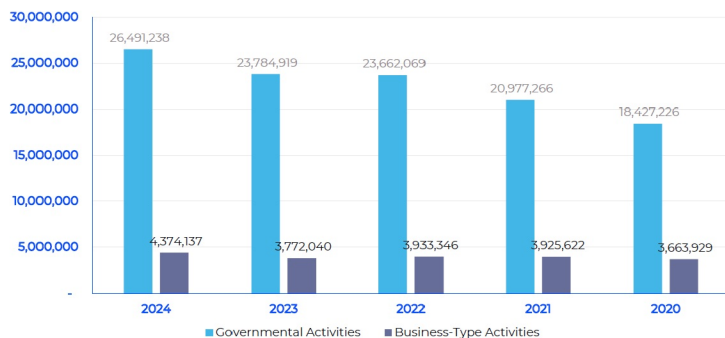
In summary, transparency in local government not only helps build a stronger, more engaged community but also leads to more effective governance and improved public services.

One key method we use to promote transparency is through the Village's annual financial audits. We engage Wipfli LLP as our independent auditor to provide an objective report on our finances. Wipfli generates our Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Financial Reports.

I am pleased to announce that we have received a clean “unmodified” audit opinion, with “no” findings related to internal controls or compliance. This clean audit exemplifies our commitment to adhering to applicable standards and regulations, showcasing sound financial practices and effective internal controls.

Additional highlights from the FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report:

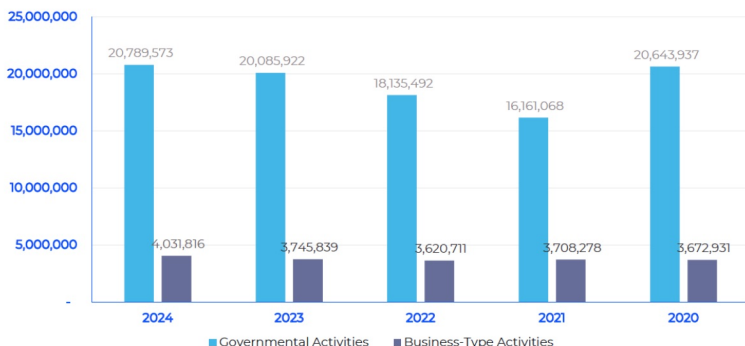
Revenue 5-Year Trend



5-Year Revenue Trend

A 5-year revenue trend that shows continued growth in Village revenues reflects positively on the fiscal health and resiliency of Hazel Crest.

Expense 5-Year Trend



5-Year Expense Trend

A 5-year expense trend that shows consistent expenditures is a positive indicator of fiscal responsibility and effective management of taxpayers' resources.

To view the fiscal year 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and reports from previous years, please visit www.villageofhazelcrest.org/departments/finance

HOMETOWN HERO

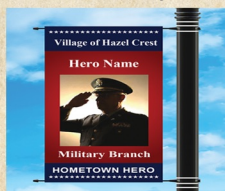
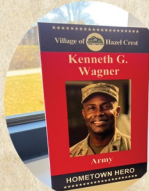
BANNER PROGRAM

THE VILLAGE OF HAZEL CREST IS PROUD TO RE-OFFER THIS PROGRAM TO HONOR CURRENT OR FORMER RESIDENTS OF HAZEL CREST WHO HAVE SERVED OR ARE CURRENTLY SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN A BRANCH OF THE MILITARY

IF YOU ARE A HAZELCREST RESIDENT AND VETERAN AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A HOMETOWN HERO BANNER DISPLAYED OF YOURSELF OR A FAMILY MEMBER IN THE VILLAGE OF HAZEL CREST PLEASE CONTACT

LWHITE@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM
708-335-600 EXT:209

YOU MUST TURN IN AN APPLICATION, PICTURE, AND THE \$75 FEE BY APRIL 11, 2025



**COMMUNITY
WIDE
GARAGE SALE**

NEW & USED

**MAY 3, 2025
9AM-2PM**

Village of Hazel Crest

PARTICIPATING HOUSES WILL HAVE A MULTI-COLORED RIBBON VISIBLE SO BARGAIN HUNTERS CAN FIND YOU!

CONTACT
CALL: 708.335.9600
EXT: 209
EMAIL: LWHITE@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

PLEASE USE ONE OF THE LISTED CONTACTS TO HAVE YOUR ADDRESS ADDED TO THE FREE GARAGE SALE LIST! (NO PERMIT IS NEEDED)

2025 SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION NOW!
PROGRAM START: JUNE 16TH - JULY 10TH

6TH -9TH GRADERS

LEARNING, FUN ACTIVITIES, LUNCH + MORE!

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT KJONES@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

2025 SUMMER YOUTH JOB PROGRAM

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION NOW!
PROGRAM START: JUNE 16TH - JULY 25TH

AGES 16-22 | HAZEL CREST RESIDENTS ONLY

UP TO 20 HOURS A WEEK | LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT STHURMAN@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

**MESSAGE FROM
THE FRONT DESK**

**BURGLAR ALARM
PERMITS DUE IN
MARCH**



**VILLAGE
WIDE
CLEAN-UP**



**APRIL
26TH 2025**

**CLEAN-UP: 9AM-11AM
REFRESHMENTS: 12PM**

**SENIOR ROOM
3000 W. 170TH PLACE, HAZEL CREST**



REMINDER!
**PET
LICENSE
DUE MAY
1ST OF
EACH YEAR**

DICE DATA INFORMED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DATA INFORMED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (DICE) IN CONTINUED EFFORTS TO DELIVER EQUITABLE POLICING TO HAZEL CREST, OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTNERED WITH SIMSI AND RIPL TO BRING RISK TERRAIN MODELING AND DATA INFORMED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (DICE) TO OUR VILLAGE. DICE FOCUSES ON PLACES, NOT ONLY PEOPLE, TO PREVENT CRIME. OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT HOSTED 6 MEETINGS IN 2024. THESE MEETINGS BRING COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TOGETHER AND EMPOWERS EACH OF THEM TO PLAY A ROLE IN CRIME PREVENTION AND RISK MANAGEMENT.

IN THE DICE MEETING, EACH OF STAKEHOLDERS' KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES ARE USED TO APPLY TOWARDS A SOLUTION TO CRIME. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT USES RISK TERRAIN MODELING TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS THAT ENABLE CRIME TO EMERGE AND PERSIST OVER TIME. RISK TERRAIN MODELING DIFFERS FROM HOT SPOT MAPPING, AS IT IDENTIFIES RISKY AREAS BASED ON QUALITIES OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT THAT ARE ATTRACTIVE FOR ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR. COMMON UNDERLYING CAUSES AMONG DIFFERENT LOCATIONS WHERE CRIME OCCURS ARE IDENTIFIED AND RISK NARRATIVES ARE APPLIED TO DISRUPT THE RISK OF CRIMES OCCURRING IN THAT AREA. AN INITIATIVE THAT CAME FROM THESE MEETINGS WAS A CAMPAIGN TO REMIND MOTORISTS TO LOCK THEIR VEHICLE DOORS BEFORE ENTERING ANY BUILDING. POSTER BOARDS WERE DESIGNED AND DISPLAYED IN MOST OF THE BUSINESSES IN TOWN.

A DATA DASHBOARD WAS ESTABLISHED TO HELP SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITY AS PART OF THE PROCESS OF DISSEMINATING DATA.

- DASHBOARD - [HTTPS://HAZELCREST.DATAFORCOMMUNITYTRUST.ORG](https://hazelcrest.dataforcommunitytrust.org)



Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) - In February, the police department's Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) policy went into effect. This policy provides officers with guidelines on the proper use and deployment of ALPR devices. Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) are a high-resolution digital camera with an infrared filter to capture images of vehicle registrations. As vehicles pass through the field of view of the ALPR camera, a picture of the rear of the vehicle is taken, including the license plate. ALPR devices affixed to a pole were purchased from FLOCK SAFETY. This year saw the installation of 3 additional ALPR devices at the locations of Laurel and Kedzie, 175th and Kedzie, and Appletree and 175th street. This brings the total amount of active ALPR devices to 10. 7 ALPR devices are scheduled to be installed in the future.

POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE - In 2024, the Hazel Crest Police Department responded to 13,486 911 calls and non-emergency incidents that required a police response. Coupled with calls that did not require a police response, the police department fielded 17,363 calls for service. These call types range from traffic stops, premise checks, follow ups, and other self-initiated actions.

The Youth Voices for Violence Prevention Program (YVVP)

The Youth Voices for Violence Prevention (YVVP) program offers a platform for young individuals, aged 13 to 21, to share their stories and perspectives in constructive dialogue, in a participant-sensitive setting, with a diverse audience of community stakeholders, including educators, law enforcement, business owners, social service providers, public officials and local residents. Their voices will inform and improve policies, programs, and practices that impact youth and family development across the Southland. The program is sponsored by Hazel Crest Village President Vernard Alsberry, Police Chief Mitchell Davis, and the Cook County Southland Juvenile Justice Council (SJJJC).

During the first year of the program, we accomplished the following:

- Hosted 4 YVVP listening sessions to date.
- Engaged 9 student panelists to share life experiences and aspirations to a broad audience of stakeholders.
- Students provided insights to 34 individuals representing a range of entities from the community; including social workers, mental health providers and clinicians, youth and family program leaders, homeowners association representatives and other area residents, educators, village staff, elected officials, and law enforcement leadership.
- Secured and distributed stipends to each panelist for each listening session as a token of their thought leadership.
- In a few instances, panelists were referred to potential summer employment opportunities, foster home support, and assistance with preparation for graduation in one instance.

The second cycle of YVVP listening sessions will begin in February of 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING & INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

We would like to inform you that the Village of Hazel Crest Inspectional Services Department will be strictly enforcing the "Refuse or Garbage Containers Code".

Refer to: Hazel Crest Muni-code Section 12-5. -Placement of containers on the notice to the right.

IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS NOTICE, YOU WILL BE LIABLE FOR THE PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW FOR SUCH VIOLATION

Please feel free to contact me at (708) 335-9600 ext. 701 to discuss this matter further.

NOTICE

REFUSE OR GARBAGE CONTAINERS

Hazel Crest, IL Code of Ordinances

Sec. 12-5. - Same—Placement of containers.

- No refuse or garbage containers may be placed in a front yard or parkway, except during the period from 7:00 p.m. on the evening prior to collection until the evening of collection day. No refuse or garbage container may be left in a front yard or on the parkway after 7:00 p.m. of collection day.
- No container used for the storage, collection and removal of garbage or other refuse shall be placed so as to constitute a nuisance to adjacent property or the occupants thereof.
- In all cases when a garbage or refuse container is placed on the rear of the lot for the purpose of having its contents removed, it shall be entirely within the lot line.

Address _____

Date of Notice _____

To Be Corrected By _____

THIS STICKER IS THE ONLY WARNING YOU WILL RECEIVE. FAILURE TO COMPLY BY THE DATE SPECIFIED, AND IN THE FUTURE WILL AUTOMATICALLY SUBJECT YOU TO A CITATION.



LEAD WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM



If your home is in the Pottawatomie Hills or Hazel Crest Proper subdivisions, you are eligible for a free water service line replacement. The Village has received funding to replace all lead water services in these areas with new copper services. If you do not live in these areas, you already have a copper water service. A description of the work to be performed is below. Please sign up at gettheleadoutil.com/hazelcrest

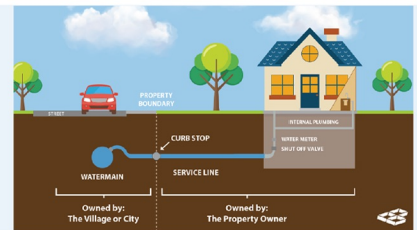


BEFORE YOUR SERVICE LINE IS REPLACED

- Each household will schedule an appointment where the selected contractor will identify their water service pipe type and inform them how it will be replaced, if needed. Once the contractor is selected, you can sign up for a future appointment by calling them directly or going online at gettheleadoutil.com.
- On the day of your appointment, the contractor will come inside your home to identify the type of water service line you have. If your service line is identified as lead or galvanized steel, the contractor will ask you to sign an access agreement and schedule a second appointment for replacement.
- Thank you to everyone who has already completed the lead service line inventory survey! To supplement our existing pipe material inventory, the contractor will also be digging small holes near the sidewalk on your block to confirm whether all sections of the water service line contain lead. If you have not already completed the survey, please do so at your earliest convenience. This information combined with the excavations performed will help us develop a full inventory.

DURING YOUR SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

- To install the new copper service line, the contractor will dig two 6-foot by 6-foot holes—one in the right-of-way and one near the meter pit or b-box in the front yard. The contractor will enter your home to connect your new pipe to the indoor plumbing. Your water will be turned off for up to four hours.
- After installation, the contractor will complete structural restorations inside the building. Decorative restoration will be the responsibility of the property owner.



AFTER YOUR SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

- Once the new service line is installed, the contractor will test the new pipe and run water through to flush out debris and particles.
- After the line is replaced, the holes will be temporarily patched in the yard and street to allow for settling. The holes will then be restored using seed, concrete, or pavement.
- Three to six months after the line is replaced, you will have the option to get your water sampled for free. The contractor will coordinate the drop off of sample bottles and instructions, the pick up of bottles once the samples are collected, and provide lab testing results.

A magnet with flushing instructions and water filters will be distributed following installation.

QUESTIONS:

Robinson Engineering 708-505-5287
LSLR@reld.com

For more information on this program, including FAQs, see: www.gettheleadoutil.com

VETERANS PARK REHABILITATION



VILLAGE OF HAZEL CREST BOARD OFFICIALS

(708) 335 - 9600



VILLAGE PRESIDENT
VERNARD L. ALSBERRY



CLERK
ISSAC WISEMAN
EXT: 108



TRUSTEE
MARLON RIAS
EXT: 130



TRUSTEE
JAVA ROGERS
EXT: 134



TRUSTEE
CARMILLA MALONE
EXT: 133



TRUSTEE
SANDRA SLAYTON
EXT: 131



TRUSTEE
KEVIN MOORE
EXT: 132



TRUSTEE
SANDRA ALEXANDER
EXT: 135

VILLAGE MANAGER

DANTE SAWYER
EXT: 107

DSAWYER@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

ASSISTANT VILLAGE MANAGER

LAVERN MURPHY
EXT: 110

LMURPHY@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIRECTOR

CAROLYN CARTER
EXT: 106

CCARTER@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

SANDRA BLUNT
EXT: 200

SBLUNT@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

PAULA HILLERY
EXT: 705

PHILLERY@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

CHIEF OF POLICE

MITCHELL DAVIS
EXT: 409

MDAVIS@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

CHIEF OF FIRE AND RESCUE

JIM SHIELDS
EXT: 510

JSHIELDS@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

HUMAN RESOURCES

ROBIN MCCAMMON
EXT: 105

RMCCAMMON@VILLAGEOFHAZELCREST.COM

ELECTION POLLING PLACES

General Election | April 1, 2025

BREMEN TOWNSHIP

HAZEL CREST PARK DISTRICT

2600 W. 171st St. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 31

HAZEL CREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

17050 California Ave. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precincts 32-66

HAZEL CREST FIRE & RESCUE

2903 W. 175th St. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 49

HIGHLAND SCHOOL

3420 Laurel Ln. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 46

CHATEAUX SCHOOL

3600 Chambord Ln. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 63

THORNTON TOWNSHIP

BARACK H OBAMA LEARNING ACADEMY

16448 S. Park Ave. Markham, IL 60428

Precinct 69

JESSE WHITE LEARNING ACADEMY

16910 Western Ave. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 59-28

RICH TOWNSHIP

FLOSSMOOR HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3721 Beech St. Flossmoor, IL 60422

Precinct 41

GRANDE PRAIRIE LIBRARY DISTRICT

3479 W. 183rd St. Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Precinct 15

Follow
OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS!



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The Official
Village of Hazel Crest



SCAN ME



YouTube
The Official
Village of Hazel Crest



SCAN ME

Also visit our website: villageofhazelcrest.com