

**TOWNSHIP REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT  
(For Townships Only)**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

NAME OF TOWNSHIP: Lemont Township Highway Department

II. Information about our Township

- A. We are located in Cook County. There are 29 townships in our county.
- B. The population of our Township is 22,645, as of the 2020 census.
- C. We have 1 full-time and 2 part-time employees (not including elected officials).
- D. Our annual budget for 2023 is: \$1,433,354 for Lemont Township Highway Department.
- E. Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 is \$ 1,042,737,600.

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor Michael Shackel  
Township Trustee Debra Blatzer  
Township Trustee Terry Lemming  
Township Trustee David Molitor  
Township Trustee Jeanette Virgilio  
Township Administrator Mario Mollo  
Township Resident Angela Andrus  
Township Resident Christine Zielke

B. Dates that our Committee Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First (Organizational) Meeting May 9, 2023  
Second Meeting: September 10, 2024  
Third Meeting: October 8, 2024

IV. Programs Offered by our Lemont Highway Department

- A. Township offers the following services and programs:
- Road and Paving Repair
  - Winter Plowing and Salting
  - Mowing Landscape Township Areas

V. Social Service Agreements

A. We partner with the following not-for-profits to offer social services:

**Entity:**

**Services Provided:**

1. None

VI. Awards and Recognitions

None

VII. Intergovernmental Agreements

- IPWMAN - The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

VIII. Review of Laws, Township Policies, Township Rules and Procedures, Township Training Materials, and other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training materials, and other documents applicable to the Township to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

X\_\_\_\_\_ State laws applicable to Townships, including, but not limited to the Township Code (60 ILCS)

X\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120)

X\_\_\_\_\_ Policy on public comment

X\_\_\_\_\_ Designation of OMA officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a))

X\_\_\_\_\_ All of Elected Officials have completed OMA Training (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b))

X\_\_\_\_\_ Schedule of All Township Regular Meetings for Calendar or Fiscal Year (5 ILCS 120/2.03)

X\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140)

X\_\_\_\_\_ Designation of FOIA officer (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))

X\_\_\_\_\_ FOIA Officer Training (5 ILCS 140/3.5(b))

X\_\_\_\_\_ Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))

- X\_\_\_\_\_ Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))
- X\_\_\_\_\_ List of Types or Categories of FOIA Records under Township’s Control (5 ILCS 140/5)
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Periodic Meetings to Review Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2.06(d))
- X\_\_\_\_\_ IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Designation of Whistleblower Auditing Official (50 ILCS 105/4.1)
- X\_\_\_\_\_ All of our Elected Officials have filed statement of economic interests (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5)
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Sexual harassment prevention training (775 ILCS 5/2-109(c))
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Our Intergovernmental Agreements
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Our Social Service Agreements or Contracts
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Our budget and financial documents
- X\_\_\_\_\_ State Ethics Laws, including, but not limited to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1)
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Our budget and financial documents
- X\_\_\_\_\_ Reports on government efficiency, including “Local Government Efficiency and Size in Illinois: Counting Tax Revenues, Not Governments” by Wendell Cox (2016); “Local Democracy and Townships in the Chicagoland Area,” by Wendell Cox, (January 2012).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Others (List Below or Attach):

IX. What Have We Done Well?

- Lemont Township Highway Department responds quickly to road emergencies and for weather related assistance.
- Lemont Township Highway Department plows during weather related situations.

X. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?

Communication - Improve/develop timely communication plan to help residents know what is happening during unexpected road closures, police activity, or emergencies.

XI. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

Implement guidelines for timely follow up to community concerns and questions.

XII. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, we reviewed several studies on local government efficiency. These studies show that:

- The average local government in Illinois serves 1800 residents compared to the national median of 2850 individuals
- Most townships in Illinois have no bonded indebtedness. Together with road districts they are an integral element of local democracy. Township expenditures have grown at a lower rate than those of any other level of government since 1992.
- Townships have lower labor costs and employ mostly part time employees.

XIII. Our committee's recommendations regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

- In order to improve communication with the Lemont Township residents, it is recommended to create and share timely updates on road construction projects from the Lemont Highway Department in various ways.
- Utilize Everbridge to notify residents of emergency and/or road closures from IDOT.

Submitted by: Michael Shackel  
Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of Lemont Township

Date: October 8, 2024