



MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

PARK DISTRICT PROFILE: 2026

Summary of Purpose

The Elmhurst Park District serves the recreational needs of approximately 47,260 residents of Elmhurst, providing over 3,800 recreation programs and special events annually. Overseen by a Board of seven elected officials, the District manages an Administrative Office, two outdoor pools, the Wilder Park Conservatory and Mansion, Courts Plus Fitness Center with an indoor pool, Wagner Community Center, Kies Recreation Center, Sugar Creek Golf Course, The Depot with Safety Town, a Skate Park, The Hub at Berens Park, a dog park, four recreation centers plus 30 parks totaling 458 acres of parkland. Our mission: "We enrich lives while having fun!"

Parks & Facilities

Each year, the Board of Park Commissioners approves Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which maps out the future direction of the Elmhurst Park District regarding park and facility redevelopment and improvements. A full copy of the current CIP can be found in the District's budget online at www.epd.org.

District Offices

Administrative Office	375 W. First Street
Wagner Community Center	615 N. West Avenue
Kies Recreation Center	155 E. St. Charles Road
Courts Plus	186 S. West Avenue
Sugar Creek Golf Course	500 E. Van Buren Villa Park, IL

History

The Elmhurst Park District, founded in 1920, began with the acquisition of the Wilder estate, transforming it into the city's first public park. In the following decades, the District steadily grew by adding new parks, pools, and recreation programs, becoming a vital hub for community activities and family recreation.

A major turning point came in the 1970s when a voter-approved bond funded large-scale land purchases and facilities such as The Courts and Sugar Creek Golf Course. Since then, the District has expanded with community centers, redeveloped parks, and new spaces like Centennial Park and Pick Park. Today, it continues to evolve, offering facilities and programs that meet the changing needs of Elmhurst residents.

In November 2024, the majority of Elmhurst Park District voters answered "yes" to the bond referendum request to raise revenue to improve, equip and maintain parks and facilities throughout the District, including replacing the Wagner Community Center; building a community bandshell with restroom at Wilder Park; adding permanent, heated restrooms at two parks and along the Prairie Path; and converting a grass athletic field to turf.

Comprehensive & Strategic Plan – Elevate Elmhurst Parks

A Comprehensive & Strategic Plan has been adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners to establish direction and goals for the District. A full copy of the current Plan titled Elevate Elmhurst Parks can be found online at www.epd.org.

Budget

The 2026 Operating Budget is \$26,685,062. The District also budgeted \$56,577,050 in 2026 for Capital Expenses. In 2025, the Park District received the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 18th year in a row, reflecting the organizations commitment to meet the highest principles of government budgeting. A full copy of the current budget can be found online at www.epd.org.

Taxes

In 2026, the 2025 tax rate for the Park District is projected to be 0.4467. Tax rates are dependent upon the amount of money asked for annually and the community's equalized assessed value (EAV). In 2024 the equalized assessed value was \$3,540,012,410, a 12.12% increase from 2023. Using the average percent change for the past three years, it is projected that the EAV will increase by 7.06%.

ADA & Inclusion

Kristi Solberg, Director of Facilities, serves as the ADA (Americans' with Disabilities Act) Compliance Officer for the District and has the responsibility of supervising the District's compliance with the ADA.

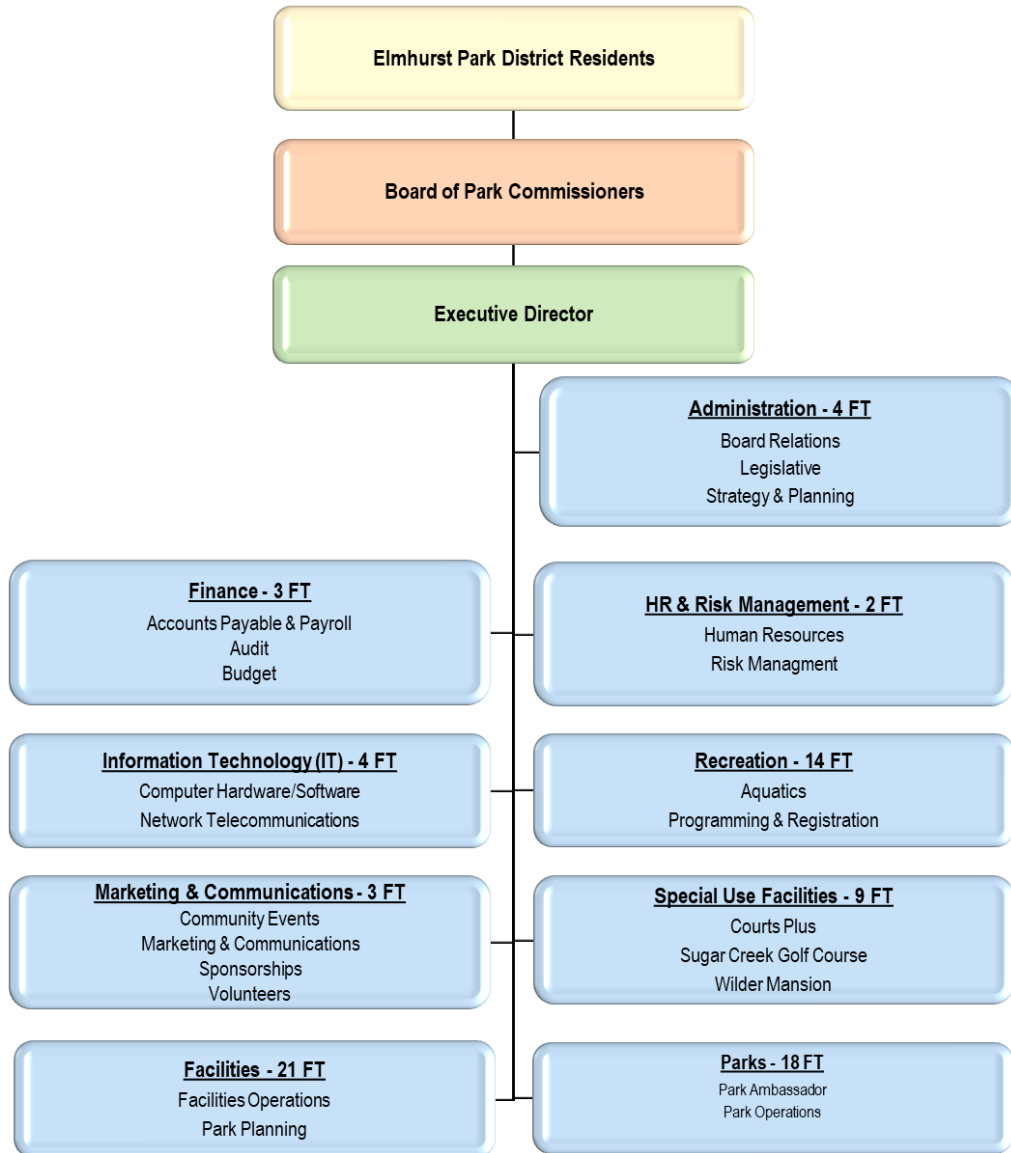
The District works closely with its partner, Gateway Special Recreation to ensure residents of all ages and abilities can participate in year-round programming. Inclusion support is available to assist in meeting individual needs if requested.

For assistance and information about accessibility, contact Kristi Solberg at ksolberg@epd.org or call 630.993-8915.

PARK DISTRICT STAFF

The Executive Director, appointed by the Board of Park Commissioners, is responsible for the administration of the Park District, which employs 80 full-time staff and over 700 part-time and seasonal workers.

Organization Structure/Functional Subdivisions



Administrative Staff

James W. Rogers	Executive Director	jrogers@epd.org	(630) 993-8930
Dan Payne	Assistant Director/Director of Parks	dpayne@epd.org	(630) 993-8940
Angela Ferrentino	Director of Referendum Project Construction	aferrentino@epd.org	(630) 993-8924
Laura Guttman	Director of Strategy & Planning	lguttman@epd.org	(630) 993-8920
Barbara Stembridge	Director of Finance	bstembridge@epd.org	(630) 993-8931
Julie Bruns	Director of Human Resources & Risk	jbruns@epd.org	(630) 993-8918
Brian McDermott	Director of Special Use Facilities	bmcdermott@epd.org	(630) 993-8180
Allison Hanchett	Director of Information Technology	ahanchett@epd.org	(630) 993-8197
Sarah Lagesse	Director of Recreation	slagesse@epd.org	(630) 993-4729
Kari Felkamp	Director of Marketing & Communications	kfelkamp@epd.org	(630) 993-8923
Kristi Solberg	Director of Facilities	ksolberg@epd.org	(630) 993-8915
Nimfa S. Melesio	Executive Assistant	nmelesio@epd.org	(630) 993-4728

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS AND COMMITTEES/LIAISONS



Board of Park Commissioners

The Elmhurst Park District is governed by seven elected Elmhurst residents who voluntarily give service to the community. The Commissioners elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary each year.

Regular Park Board meetings are generally held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Office, 375 W. First Street, Elmhurst, IL 60126. Residents are invited to attend and are welcome to make comment during the Remarks from Visitors portion of the board meeting agenda. Residents requiring special accommodations to attend the board meeting must contact Kristi Solberg at (630) 993-8915 or ksolberg@epd.org no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Board of Park Commissioners

Kevin Graf, President
Claire Kubiesa, Vice President
Meghan Scarsella, Commissioner
Tim Sheehan, Commissioner
Susan Smentek, Commissioner
Vince Spaeth, Commissioner
Carolyn Ubriaco, Commissioner

Board Committees / Liaisons

Intergovernmental Relations – (one liaison: Ubriaco)
Represents the Board with other government organizations to be an active partner in community planning and opportunities for cooperative efforts, ensure that community's parks and recreation needs are considered, and avoid duplication of facilities and services.

Ethics Committee – (two Board members, one resident: Sheehan, Spaeth, Chaplain H. Scott Matheney; Park District Attorney Andrew Paine Matheney) Per the Gift Ban Act, the Board created an Ethics Board to enforce the provisions of the law. The committee shall meet as needed to perform its duties.

Finance Liaison – (two Board members: Kubiesa, Scarsella)
Reviews check registers weekly with Friday approval to release vouchers to vendors.

Human Resource Liaison – (Vice-President: Kubiesa)
Coordinates the Executive Director's yearly evaluation. The committee reports to the Board relative to the progress being made in the various areas the Board has asked the Executive Director to address.

Legislative Liaison – (one Board member: Ubriaco)
Establishes relationships with legislators, attends legislative events, and reports as needed on legislation affecting parks and recreation through the Illinois General Assembly.

Policy Review Committee – (two Board members: Sheehan, Smentek)
The Board has a standing Policy Committee. The role of the Policy Committee is to meet to review various Board policies, when necessary, and recommend action to the full Board.

Sugar Creek Golf Course – (one Board member: Spaeth and one staff member; even years has two District representatives)
The 9-hole golf course and driving range is jointly owned and operated by the Elmhurst Park District and the Village of Villa Park

Our Values

Customer
Service
Excellence

Belonging

Fun

Community
Focused

Integrity

Our Mission

We **enrich lives**
while having fun!

Our Vision

To be a **national leader** in
providing memorable parks
and recreation experiences
to **our community**.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Freedom of Information Act Requests

The District will disclose public records as required by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140/). The District will review all written requests and will respond to each written request to inspect, copy, or certify public records in a manner consistent with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act after payment of any fees, if applicable.

The District can deny a request for records that are specifically exempt from coverage under the Act, including information that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or a compromise of security.

All requests must be submitted in writing to the attention of the Freedom of Information Act Officer FOIAOfficer@epd.org or as listed below. Applicants may use the Elmhurst Park District FOIA Request Form available at <https://www.epd.org/freedom-information-act> or may submit their own written request for records. Requestors who decide not to use the provided form must submit a detailed description of the documents they are requesting, indicate whether the request is for commercial use, and specify the preferred format (i.e., electronic/paper) for the response.

Requests can be submitted via the following means.

Drop-off or Mail:

Elmhurst Park District
FOIA Request
Administrative Office
375 W. First Street
Elmhurst, IL 60126

E-Mail:

FOIAOfficer@epd.org

Records available for inspection online at www.epd.org

[Board Meeting Schedule](#)

[District Salary Ranges](#)

[District Capital Projects](#)

[District Goals & Objectives](#)

[Current Annual Audit](#)

[Information pursuant to OMA 97-609](#)

Established Fees

Copies (8.5 x 11" or 8.5x 14", B&W)

- First 50 pages Free
- Additional pages \$0.15/side
- Color Pages Actual cost
- Cost of electronic medium

Mailing

- Cost of Postage

If the requested records are of a type not listed above, then the fees charged for copying the records will be the actual charges incurred by the District, and the above fees will not apply. The above fees will also not apply if the fee for the requested records is otherwise fixed by statute. If the requested records are produced on an electronic medium, then the Requestor must pay the actual cost of the medium.



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Elmhurst, IL 60126
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