

CITY OF
WEST CHICAGO
WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 15, 2024
7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Establish a Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes of April 17 2024
3. Public Participation/Presentations
 - a. Kay McKeen, Founder and Executive Director, School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education (SCARCE)
4. Items for Consent
 - a. None
5. Review and Discuss the Commission Priority List
 - a. Current List
 - i. Blooming Fest – May 18, 2024
 1. 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Main Street, Downtown
 2. Bareroot Giveaways Preparation
 - a. Thursday, May 16, 2024 & Friday, May 17, 2024
 - b. 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at 119 W Washington St
 3. Coordinating ongoing (e.g. County, Public Works, City Hall)
 - ii. Rain Barrel Program
 1. Order Start Date: March 1, 2024
 2. Order End Date: May 27, 2024
 - iii. Paper Recycling Event & Rain Barrel Pick Up – June 1, 2024
 1. 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Metra Parking Lot, 508 Main Street
 2. Coordination ongoing (e.g., agreements, SCARCE, Public Works)
 3. Flyer and Location & Traffic Control Map (Attached)
6. New Additions
7. Other Business
 - a. Playground grand opening discussion follow-up.
 - i. March 24, 2024, West Chicago Park District social media post.
 - b. Resident survey intent of “Development of More Green Spaces/Parks.”
 - c. Establish a date for the Commission’s recommendations for the waste contract.
8. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April 17, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum
 - a. *Staff Liaison, Dave Shah, called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Roll call found Chair Nazree Williams, Co-Chair Thomas Cherrington, Commissioner Allen Rodriguez, Commissioner Bob Blaus, Commissioner Tyler Kesler, and Commissioner Victoria Burris present.*
 - b. *Staff liaison present included Assistant Director of Public Works, Dave Shah.*

2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes of January 23, 2024
 - i. *Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Cherrington, to approve the Meeting Minutes.*
 1. *Voting Yea: Williams, Blaus, Burris*
 2. *Voting Nay: None*

3. Public Participation/Presentations
 - a. *None*

4. Items for Consent
 - a. *None*

5. Review and Discuss the Commission Priority List
 - a. Current List
 - i. Blooming Fest – May 18, 2024
 1. Bareroot Giveaways Preparation
 - a. *Thursday, May 16, 2024 & Friday, May 17, 2024*
 - b. *The time originally was proposed from 7pm to 9pm. Can this time be changed from 6pm to 8pm?*
Discussion: The Commission agreed to change the time from 6pm to 8pm. Shah mentioned that the preparation will be held at the Public Works facility located at 119 W Washington St.
 - ii. Rain Barrel Program
 1. *Order Start Date: March 1, 2024*
 2. *Order End Date: May 27, 2024*
Discussion: Shah mentioned that there are currently ten orders placed.
 - iii. *Paper Recycling Event & Rain Barrel Pick Up – June 1, 2024*

6. New Additions
 - a. *None*

7. Other Business

a. Status on the resident survey

Discussion: The Commission preferred Shah to work with the City staff to post the survey on the website.

b. DuPage River Sweep – May 4th 2024

i. <https://theconservationfoundation.org/rivers-streams/river-sweep/>

Discussion: The Commission was not interested.

c. Establish a date for the Commission's recommendations for the waste contract.

Discussion: Blaus will follow up with SCARCE to see if they are able to attend the May 15, 2024, Environmental Commission Meeting to discuss what other neighboring communities are doing for their waste contracts.

d. Commission's Adopt-A-Highway Spring and Fall Dates

Discussion: The Commission was not interested in a Spring clean-up event. The Fall clean-up event date will be established at a later date. The Commission was further interested in adopting a different section of roadway for their Adopt-A-Highway efforts.

e. Volunteers needed for the Great Western Trails Clean up – Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 9:00 am (Attached)

Discussion: Shah mentioned that the volunteers will meet at the Great Western Trail endpoint at Sassafras Drive beginning at 9am in the Willow Creek & Prestonfield Subdivision.

f. Other discussions:

i. *Shah distributed uniforms to the Commissioners.*

ii. *Rodriguez asked why the City did not invite the Commission to a new park's ribbon-cutting ceremony. Shah mentioned that he was not aware of any ribbon-cutting ceremony sponsored by the City in recent weeks but will look into it. Rodriguez further stated that the City should involve the Commission in City matters involving Environmental impact on the Community. The Commission would further like to be involved with new community park development at the former Kerr-McGee property as the Commission believes that there are various portions of the park planning that are directly related to the Environmental it's impact on the community. Rodriguez instructed Williams to work with elected officials and instructed Shah to work with the City Administration to discuss these matters.*

iii. *Charrington was interested in discussing items pertaining to various Environmental topics such as meadowscaping, usage of gas-powered equipment, effects of pesticides, etc. with the City Council in the upcoming months.*

8. Adjournment

a. *At 8:28 P.M., Blaus made a motion to adjourn and Cherrington seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Respectfully,

Dave Shah, PE
Assistant Director of Public Works

PAPER SHRED & MEDICAL DISPOSAL EVENT

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 1**

**METRA Parking Lot at
508 Main Street from
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

This event is **FREE** for all
residents & businesses.

This event is organized through the
partnership of the City of West
Chicago, the West Chicago
Environmental Commission,
SCARCE, the DuPage County
Sheriff's Office, and DuPage County.



For more information,
please visit westchicago.org,
and for questions about
disposables please contact
SCARCE at (630) 545-9710.

Paper Shredding

Bring up to (10) standard office-sized boxes of documents to be destroyed. Documents and/or paper may also be brought in plastic bags. Bags and boxes will not be disposed on-site.

Please remember to remove all binders, rubber bands, binder clips, page protectors, plastic bags, plastic file tabs, CDs, vinyl checkbook holders, batteries, and other hard items. Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed.

Service provided by Accurate Document Destruction which is a subsidiary of West Chicago's waste management service provider, Groot Industries.

Medication and Sharps Disposal

The DuPage County Sheriff's Department will be accepting the following on-site:

- *Expired or unused medications and vitamins.* Please place all pills and ointments in a zip-lock bag; please do not bring pill bottles.
- *Medical sharps including syringes, epi-pens, lancets, and needles.* Please place all collected sharps in a thick plastic container, such as a laundry detergent bottle, and secure lid with tape.
- *Inhaler canisters.* Please do not bring holders.

Additional Items Accepted

The West Chicago Environmental Commission will also be accepting used American flags, eye glasses, and hearing aids at the event for proper recycling.

Rain-Barrel Program Pick-Up

Pick up your pre-ordered rain barrel from the City's Rain Barrel Program. Please make sure to have an adequately sized vehicle and room to transport barrel(s).

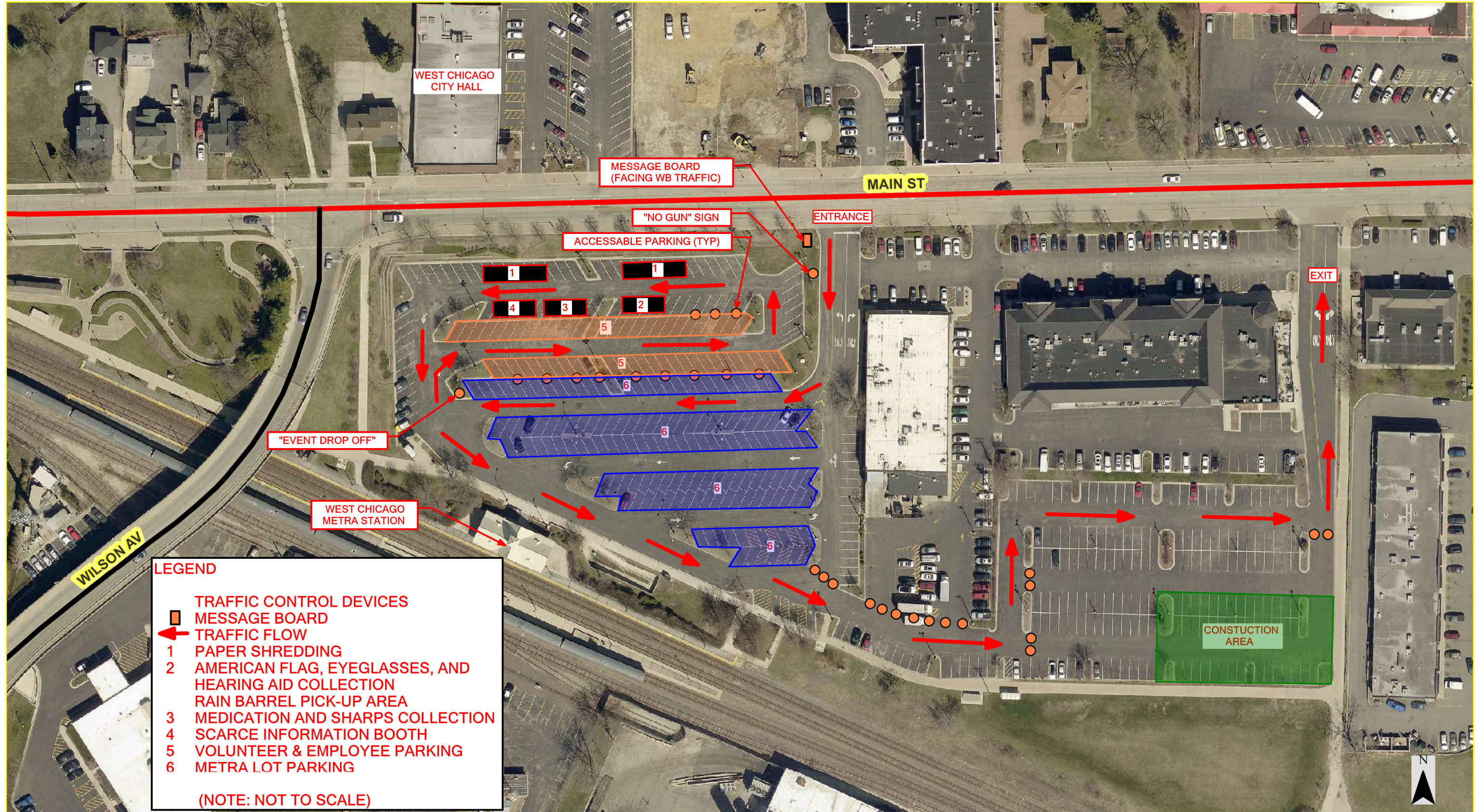
If you're interested in ordering a rain barrel for pick-up at this event, or wish to have one mailed to your household (fees apply), please visit westchicago.org/rainbarrelprogram.

Location Map

Paper Shredding & Medical Disposal Event

June 1, 2024, 9 AM to 12 PM

City of West Chicago, DuPage County



West Chicago Environmental Commission
Key Environmental Concerns Poll

Which of the following environmental issues do you consider most pressing in our community? (Please select up to three)

- Air Quality
- Water Quality
- Waste Management and Recycling
- Green Space and Urban Forestry
- Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation
- Other (Please Specify)

Which of these environmental issues has had the most direct impact on you or your family? (Please select one)

- Pollution (Air, Water, Soil)
- Lack of Green Spaces/Parks
- Poor Waste Management/Recycling Facilities
- Noise Pollution
- Extreme Weather Events (e.g., floods, heatwaves)
- Other (Please Specify)

What type of environmental initiatives would you like to see prioritized in our community? (Please select up to two)"

- Community Recycling and Composting Programs
- Educational Campaigns on Environmental Conservation
- Development of More Green Spaces/Parks
- Renewable Energy Projects
- Enhanced Public Transportation and Bike Lanes
- Strict Regulations on Pollution Control
- Other (Please Specify)