



**To:** Trustee Zachary Wilson, Chairperson  
Finance Committee

**From:** Timothy Sexton, Director of Finance

**Date:** October 15, 2009

**Subject: Downtown Landscape Enhancement Recommendations**

At the Village Board meeting on September 17, 2009, staff presented a Downtown Lombard Landscape Enhancement Recommendations report prepared by Hitchcock Design (copy attached for your reference). Included in the report is the following information:

- Identify key locations in which enhanced landscape design can contribute to improving the overall design aesthetic of the downtown;
- Develop recommendations as to appropriate landscape features on public property, public rights-of-way and private property;
- Offer a narrative and recommendations as to appropriate plant materials and structures for each of the identified locations;
- Offer cost estimates for implementing each of the identified elements; and
- For sites not specifically identified within the report, identify common design elements that should be carried through the downtown area.

The Village Board directed that the Downtown Landscape Enhancement Recommendations report be presented to various Committees and Commissions for review at their October meetings. Attached is a memorandum from the Village Manger to each of the Committees and Commissions identifying items to consider when reviewing the report. Specifically, the Finance Committee was asked to consider the following:

*“Review of the available funding mechanisms for the initial plantings and to recommend the use of funds for long-term maintenance. “*

Comments received from the Finance Committee will be combined with comments from other committees and commissions and will be forwarded to the Village Board for consideration.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Finance Committee consider the following aspects when reviewing the Downtown Lombard Landscape Enhancement Recommendations report:

1. Does the Finance Committee support the use of TIF funds for landscape enhancements in the public right-of-way, as well as the long-term maintenance of these enhancements?
2. Does the Finance Committee support the use of TIF funds for landscape enhancements on private property through the use of Downtown Grant programs? The Economic and Community Development Committee suggested that if the Village is going to assist with the private plantings and improvements, an ongoing maintenance program should also be considered with any grant request.
3. Are there any additional comments or recommendations the Finance Committee wishes to include in the Downtown Lombard Landscape Enhancement Recommendations report?