



MEMORANDUM

TO: David A. Hulseberg, Village Manager

THROUGH: Carl S. Goldsmith, Director of Public Works *CS*

FROM: David P. Gorman, Asst. Director of Public Works *DPG*

SUBJECT: 2011 Sustainability Award

DATE: May 10, 2011

The Environmental Concerns Committee voted on April 26<sup>th</sup> to award the Village's first Sustainability Award to Mr. Dustin Smith for his house reconstruction at 41 S. Second Avenue. Mr. Smith will receive the award at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees so please provide President Mueller with a copy of this memo for the presentation. Keith Steiskal of the Department of Community Development nominated this project so he will be available at the meeting to further expound upon the project.

The purpose of the Sustainability Award Program is to recognize and promote sustainable construction techniques, building materials, operations, procedures, maintenance practices and public education within the Village of Lombard. The Village's Sustainability Framework (available on our website) is used as guidance for actions and practices that should be recognized by an award. Mr. Smith's project demonstrates sustainable practices for material reuse, energy efficiency, water conservation, low-maintenance landscaping (still getting established) and tree preservation. Mr. Steiskal listed the following points in nominating this project:

Site Improvements:

- Obtained a variance to build the new house where it originally stood. This allowed a reduction of the impact to the existing trees and reduced compaction of soils. The new second story allowed a reduction of the original footprint, thereby increasing the pervious area on the lot.
- All excavated soil remained onsite and was reworked into the landscape. No additional soil had to be trucked in.
- The sump pump discharges to a rain garden to help keep rain water on site, and reduces the use of domestic potable water.
- Grading and drainage management was designed to keep rain water on site as long as possible. This reduces the amount of water discharging into storm sewers, and it also waters the plants.
- Reused brick and flagstone found on site for walkway pavers. This eliminated the need to haul them away to a landfill, and increased rain infiltration by eliminating the need for a typical impervious concrete sidewalk.
- Native and edible plants are being used for landscaping in place of plants that are typically trucked in, watered heavily after planting, and offer no edible benefit.

Building Improvements:

- This was one of the first new houses to meet the 2009 International Energy Code (most current code). Creative design components such as increased attic insulation and extra air sealing allowed for standard 2x4 wall construction to keep on budget. Most builders across the country use 2x6 walls to meet the code. The clever design used on this house allowed less wood to be used at a lower cost, while obtaining one of the most efficient houses built in Lombard.
- All energy-efficient windows were saved from the original structure, except the bathroom and egress windows. This required extra effort to design the new house to fit the old windows.
- Extra effort was put into placing the windows to maximize natural lighting and ventilation. This house has ceiling fans in each room instead of air conditioning.
- A 91% efficient furnace was installed, even though the code would have allowed for an 80% efficient furnace. This choice required a higher initial investment although energy savings will pay it back in time.
- Compact fluorescent and LED lighting was used throughout the house.
- Energy Star appliances were installed throughout the house.

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