



Members of the Plan Commission

Village of Oak Park

August 21, 2019

RE: Village Impact Review

Dear Members of the Plan Commission:

I have reviewed the proposed senior development to be located at 711 Madison Street. Pursuant to my review on August 20, 2019, I have determined that the development proposal will have an impact on the Fire Department.

The impact will be an increased number of fire department calls, primarily of an emergency medical nature. The Fire Department responded to a comparable senior building, Belmont Village, 224 times in 2018. Of that 224, 210 were for emergency medical service (EMS) calls, 14 were for other building related calls such as fire alarm activations and invalid assists. This proposed development has a slightly higher occupancy than Belmont, and has three floors of specialized care which often requires more EMS responses.

Our EMS responses have been steadily increasing for the last ten years with 4500 calls in 2018. Roughly 20% of those calls were to senior buildings, and 50% of our EMS calls are for the demographic of persons 60 years and older. An industry standard is that one ambulance can perform 2000 calls per year before a strain is felt on the EMS delivery. We currently have two ambulances in service every day, and the addition of three additional personnel last year has enabled us to transition to running a third ambulance 25-33% of the time now. If the current EMS demand trend continues, a full-time third ambulance may be a necessity by the time this project comes on-line in early 2022. Running three ambulances full-time will require additional staffing for the fire department.

Closing Euclid Av. will require the installation of a new fire hydrant in the resulting cul-de-sac. Response time to the 500 block of S. Euclid will be slightly increased due to the extra travel distance for fire apparatus and ambulances coming from the main station at 100 N. Euclid Av.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Ebsen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas Ebsen

Fire Chief, Village of Oak Park