

June 19, 2020

Dear President Bielinski,

As you know, per the Illinois Affordable Housing Planning and Appeals Act, Wilmette has a deadline of June 28, 2020 to respond to the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) with the Village's plan to increase our percentage of affordable housing units.

We know Wilmette remains committed to the vision in the 2004 Affordable Housing Plan and has made progress toward increasing affordable units through Cleland Place and the planned donation to support permanently affordable units through Optima Place. In the correspondence to be sent by the Village to IHDA for the June 28 deadline, in addition to referencing progress in adding to the affordable housing stock, we ask you to affirm Wilmette's intention for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan to include a robust affordable housing section.

As Village leadership seeks to deliver on its commitment, stated in the June 4 letter to the community, to fostering an inclusive environment where people of all racial, ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds feel safe and welcome, informing IHDA about the Village's intent to review the need, opportunities, tools and incentives to increase affordable housing in our community is a concrete step we can take now.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to an inclusive and welcoming Wilmette.

Regards,

Cindy Levine & Wendy Zun

Co-Presidents, LWV-Wilmette