



PRESS RELEASE

VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD–6900 N. LINCOLN AVE – LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VILLAGE BOARD TO REVIEW DRAFT ORDINANCE CONCERNING GROUP HOMES/COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

LINCOLNWOOD, IL – At its Tuesday, November 15, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Lincolnwood Village Board will review the first draft of a proposed Ordinance amending the Zoning Code concerning group homes, also referred to as community residences. A community residence is a residential facility where a number of unrelated people in need of care, support, or supervision live together. Currently, the Zoning Code limits such community residences to the R4 residential district. A Zoning Code Text Amendment could allow the establishment of community residences in additional zoning districts, or allow them under certain conditions.

Those living in a community residence typically include both disabled individuals and caregivers. Under the Federal Fair Housing Act (FHA), the Village may not restrict the establishment of community residences in a manner that constitutes discrimination against individuals with disabilities. To ensure that a community residence request is treated and evaluated fairly and in accordance with the FHA,

the Village Board is reviewing its Zoning Code regulations applicable to community residences.

The Village Board originally considered this matter at its Committee of the Whole meeting on July 21, 2011. At that meeting, the matter was referred to the Plan Commission, which held two Public Hearings on August 24, 2011 and September 7, 2011. By a vote of 3-3, the Plan Commission recommended not to amend the Zoning Code concerning community residences. The Village Board then considered the matter at its October 18, 2011 Village Board meeting, where there was discussion among the Village Board and 15 members of the public provided comments. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Village Board directed the Village Attorney to prepare a proposed Ordinance amending the Zoning Code concerning community residences for further consideration at the November 15, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Village is inviting all members of the public to attend the November 15, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Chambers, located at 6900 North Lincoln Avenue. Public comment is invited on this or any other matter on the agenda. The agenda and draft Ordinance will be available for public view after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 11, 2011 at www.lincolnwoodil.org/boardmeetings.cfm. Feel free to contact the Community Development Department at (847) 745-4710 for more information.