

# NEWS & VIEWS

3600 KIRCHOFF ROAD | ROLLING MEADOWS, IL 60008 | 847-394-8500 | WWW.CITYRM.ORG

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VOLUME 28 ISSUE 2



Sergeant John Manfredi (right) receives the Exceptional Duty Award from Chief John Nowacki, after guiding the Police Department's successful reaccreditation effort.

## POLICE DEPT. COMPLETES ILEAP REACCREDITATION Sgt. John Manfredi Honored for 'Exceptional Duty'

The Rolling Meadows Police Department's successful reaccreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP) affirms its compliance with 67 established standards of excellence, Police Chief John Nowacki reports.

ILEAP is an initiative of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

### Dedication to Excellence

Four-year reaccreditation followed a rigorous onsite review and assessment of RMPD operations by members of the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Council.

"Rolling Meadows is fortunate to have the exemplary men and women who comprise this department serving the community," Chief Nowacki

said. "This reaccreditation reflects their dedication to excellence and their uncompromising commitment to public safety. I'm extremely proud to work alongside them."

### Recognized for Exceptional Duty

As Accreditation Manager, Sergeant John Manfredi was responsible for guiding the department's reaccreditation effort. His attention to detail, combined with his knowledge and ability to successfully coordinate all facets of the accreditation process, drew praise from the assessors who reviewed RMPD operations.

That praise, along with the success of the overall initiative, led Chief Nowacki to present Sgt. Manfredi with the Police Department's Exceptional Duty Award for his effort.

## PACE 'ON DEMAND' TRANSIT PROGRAM EXPANDS SERVICE ZONE

Pace's reservation-based rideshare service, Pace on Demand, now features an expanded zone to better serve customers in the Arlington Heights/Rolling Meadows region.

The program provides weekday service in an area roughly bounded by Euclid Avenue, Arlington Heights Road, I-90/Golf Road, and Route 53.

According to a Pace statement, the expanded zone will "enhance the area's overall transit network by providing new connections with many Pace routes at the Pace Northwest Transportation Center and near Randhurst Village."

For more information or to make a reservation, visit [www.PaceBus.com/OnDemand](http://www.PaceBus.com/OnDemand) or call 224-803-9277.



"John's skills and abilities were so evident that the assessors reviewing our department requested his expertise for evaluating other law enforcement agencies," Chief Nowacki explained. "He is a credit to this organization and this community, and I commend him for his exceptional service."

Learn more about ILEAP at [www.ilchiefs.org/ileap-illinois-law-enforcement-accreditation-program](http://www.ilchiefs.org/ileap-illinois-law-enforcement-accreditation-program).

## CITY ADOPTS THREE-YEAR PLAN TO GUIDE LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Rolling Meadows' adoption of a wide-ranging plan to encourage and guide local business development for the next three years features an ambitious set of strategies and actions to support economic growth.

### Respond to Changing Needs

The Plan, approved by City Council members last December, is based on the results of multiple focus groups with business stakeholders, residents, and real estate professionals. Feedback from those groups, plus information gleaned from an online community survey, helped create a blueprint for promoting local business development and growth through 2026.

The effort also involved research into municipal business development "best practices," an analysis of existing conditions, and a 360-degree review of the City's current business development policies, activities, and programs.

"Our goal throughout the strategic planning process was to figure out how we can support the changing needs of our local business community and the customers they serve – particularly in light of shifting consumer habits and the growing impact of e-commerce," explained Martha Corner, Rolling Meadows' Business Development Manager. "We are grateful for everyone who participated in the online survey and focus groups. Feedback has been invaluable for developing a plan that meets the needs of our community," she added.



Rolling Meadows' three year strategic plan will help City leaders identify opportunities to support the changing needs of local businesses and the customers they serve.

### CORE FOCUS AREAS

The Business Development Strategic Plan, developed by members of the Economic Development Committee and City staff, establishes 10 core focus areas:

- **Business Attraction:** welcoming new businesses to the community.
- **Business Retention and Expansion:** retaining existing businesses and supporting their continued growth.
- **Encourage Entrepreneurship:** fostering a culture that supports entrepreneurial activities.
- **Financial Resources and Incentives:** providing resources and opportunities that encourage businesses to invest in Rolling Meadows.
- **Local and Regional Partnerships:** building relationships with organizations that support economic growth.
- **Communication, Outreach, and Marketing:** developing effective marketing channels and platforms to share information and expand awareness.
- **Community Vibrancy:** emphasizing strategies for improving the City's overall quality of life.
- **Development, Redevelopment, and Repositioning:** focusing on urban planning and development to position Rolling Meadows for future growth.
- **Workforce Development:** enhancing the skills and employability of the local workforce.
- **Arlington Park Redevelopment:** understanding and planning for potential impacts of the future Arlington Park project.

Each section identifies opportunities and challenges, and presents strategies for achieving specific goals.

View the Rolling Meadows Business Development Strategic Plan by clicking the link on the City's homepage ([www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)).

## COMMUNITY GARDEN PREPARES FOR 2024; NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO 'DIG IN'

Rolling Meadows' Community Garden will begin its 11th growing season this spring and welcomes residents who want to join the fun.

The garden is located on a City-owned parcel of property near Salt Creek, just north of the Jewel Shopping Center on Kirchoff Road.

It features 52 individual plots that residents may use to grow fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, and other types

of plants. Plots are available for a \$25 annual fee.

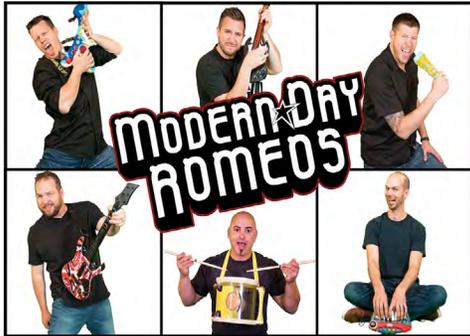
The Community Garden was established in 2014 to help residents to learn more about gardening, encourage community fellowship, and give anyone – especially those who live in apartments and condominiums – an opportunity to "get their hands dirty."

For more information or to join, email [tomkathy.rmcarden@yahoo.com](mailto:tomkathy.rmcarden@yahoo.com).



## LIVE MUSIC PREVIEW: MIKE & JOE, MODERN DAY ROMEOS AMONG HIGH-PROFILE ACTS BOOKED TO HEADLINE 2024'S 'SUMMER IN THE MEADOWS'

In the mood for great live music this summer? You're in luck! We're bringing some of the area's greatest live bands home to you, for a series of outstanding performances held right here in Rolling Meadows!



### MODERN DAY ROMEOS

**Friday, June 7th, 8:00 pm**  
**Community Block Party on Central Rd.**

For over 20 years, Modern Day Romeos has maintained its position as a top drawing party band. Its members come from different musical backgrounds but, together, create one of the most fun, unique, and high-energy shows. Setlists feature Motown classics, classic rock treasures, metal anthems, 80's favorites, 90's gems, and the top hits of the 2000s.

### MIKE & JOE

**Friday, Sept. 13th, 8:00 pm**  
**Friday's ROCK! Concert & Duck Race in Kimball Hill Park**

Mike & Joe's set list includes popular rock from the 90's through today, as well as occasional tunes from the 70's and 80's. Artists covered include Blink 182, Maroon 5, U2, Fall Out Boy, Fleetwood Mac, Justin Timberlake, Third Eye Blind, Mumford and Sons, Sublime, Dave Matthews Band, Weezer, Train, Keith Urban, Ed Sheeran, The Eagles, Jimmy Eat World, Goo Goo Dolls, Foo Fighters, Florida Georgia Line, OAR, The Cure, Pearl Jam, and many more.

Other groups set to appear on Rolling Meadows' summer 2024 stages include:

- **Nerdvana** – delivering a memorable performance that will keep audiences on their feet for hours while they experience the best hits of the 90's.

These Nerds can also perform anything from the 60's, 70's, 80's & the latest Top 40 hits of today. (Friday, June 21st @ Kimball Hill Park)

- **Radio Gaga** – a one of a kind, Vegas-style theatrical production featuring the music of Queen and Lady Gaga. (Friday, July 19th @ Kimball Hill Park)
- **The Chicago Experience** – a group of musicians who call Chicago home and who share a love for the music of one of the greatest rock & roll bands of all time: Chicago. (Friday, August 16th @ Kimball Hill Park)

View a complete listing of upcoming community events, including all bands scheduled to perform in 2024, at [www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events](http://www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events).

*\*Events are subject to postponement/cancellation at any time. Find updates online and on Facebook.*



## City of Rolling Meadows - Identity Development - Input Needed

Please help us start our re-branding initiative by answering the questions below.

Ayúdenos a poner en marcha nuestra iniciativa de cambio de marca respondiendo a estas preguntas

**1. What is your current perception of the City of Rolling Meadows? What is your ideal perception?**

¿Cuál es su percepción actual de la ciudad de Rolling Meadows? ¿Cuál es su percepción ideal?

→

**2. What are the key words that come to mind when you think about Rolling Meadows?**

¿Cuáles son las palabras clave que le vienen a la mente cuando piensa en Rolling Meadows?

→

**3. What makes Rolling Meadows unique?**

¿Que hace única a la Ciudad de Rolling Meadows?

→

**4. If Rolling Meadows was a car, what kind would it be? What do you want it to be?**

¿Si Rolling Meadows fuera un coche, ¿de qué tipo sería? ¿Qué quieres que sea?

→

**5. What are your goals for a new Logo/Brand?**

¿Cuáles son sus objetivos para un nuevo logotipo/marca?

→

### Return Information

**Address:** Rolling Meadows City Hall  
at 3600 Kirchoff Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.  
**Dirección:** Ayuntamiento de Rolling Meadows,  
3600 Kirchoff Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

### Return Date March 15<sup>th</sup> / Fecha de Retorno Marzo 15<sup>th</sup>

**WALK IN:** Finance Department counter  
Mostrador del Departamento de Finanzas  
**DRIVE-UP:** White drop box near the US postal box  
Buzón blanco cerca del apartado de correos de EE.UU.

# MARCH 2024

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WANT MORE NEWS?</b> Check out Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, eNews, at <a href="http://www.cityrm.org">www.cityrm.org</a> .					1	2
3	4	5 Environmental Committee, 6:00 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9:00 am	12 City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm	13 Library Board Meeting, 7:00 pm (3110 Martin Lane)	14 Adjudication Hearings 11:00 am (Red Light); 1:00 pm (Code); 2:00 pm (Parking)	15	16
17 <i>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</i>	18	19 <i>First Day of Spring</i> CEF Volunteer Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:00 pm	20 <i>Water bills due</i>	21	22	23
24 <i>EASTER</i> 31	25	26 Veterans Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm	27	28	29 <i>GOOD FRIDAY</i> <i>Early refuse set-out ends</i>	30

# APRIL 2024

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <i>Yard waste collection begins</i> Economic Development Committee, 6:00 pm	2 Environmental Committee, 6:00 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 pm	3	4	5	6
7	8 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 8:30 am	9 City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm	10 Library Board Meeting, 7:00 pm (3110 Martin Lane)	11 Adjudication Hearings 11:00 am (Red Light); 1:00 pm (Code); 2:00 pm (Parking)	12	13
14	15	16 CEF Volunteer Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:00 pm	17	18	19	20
21	22 <i>PASSOVER BEGINS</i> <i>EARTH DAY</i> <i>Water bills due</i> Police Pension Board, 8:30 am	23 Veterans Committee, 6:00 pm Capital Projects Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm	24	25	26 <i>ARBOR DAY</i>	27
28	29	30	<b>VIEW UPCOMING MEETING AGENDAS</b> Find agendas for upcoming City Council meetings, and minutes of past meetings, at <a href="http://www.cityrm.org/AgendaCenter">www.cityrm.org/AgendaCenter</a> .			

## CITY OFFERS DISCOUNTED REFUSE RATE FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS

Rolling Meadows residents ages 65 and up are invited to apply for a 10% discount on their monthly refuse collection fees.

To receive the discount, applicants must be:

- At least 65 years of age at the time of application,
- A current resident, and,
- Current with their utility account – no outstanding or past-due balances.



Applications are available by clicking the link on the City's homepage ([www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)).

Include proof of age and a copy of a current utility bill with your name and address.

Return completed applications and supporting documents to City Hall in-person (weekdays 8:00 am - 4:00 pm) or mail them to:

City of Rolling Meadows  
Finance Department  
3600 Kirchoff Road  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

For more information, contact the Finance Department at 847-394-8500 or [fin@cityrm.org](mailto:fin@cityrm.org).

## CONFIRM PERMIT REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING HOME & BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Planning home or business improvements this year? Step one is to determine if you need a building permit.

Customers with approved building permits gain access to building inspection services and other City resources that ensure all work is done properly and meets safety code requirements.

Contact the Community Development Department (847-506-6030 or [cd@cityrm.org](mailto:cd@cityrm.org)) for help confirming whether a permit is required for your next project. Learn more at [www.cityrm.org/169/Permits-Inspections](http://www.cityrm.org/169/Permits-Inspections).



## APPLY FOR PERMITS, SCHEDULE INSPECTIONS AND MORE WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PORTAL

Residential and business customers may now submit permit applications, schedule inspections, apply for business and rental licenses, and more through the Community Development portal on the City's website.

Access the web-based service portal and create a user account by visiting [www.cityrm.org/148/Community-Development](http://www.cityrm.org/148/Community-Development).

For more information, contact CDD ([cd@cityrm.org](mailto:cd@cityrm.org) or 847-506-6030).

## NO FOOLING: YARD WASTE COLLECTION TO RESUME APRIL 1ST

Public Works will resume seasonal yard waste collection services on Monday, April 1st. Residents should place yard waste in 30-gallon kraft paper bags and place them at the curb the night before scheduled pick-up.



### Separate Yard Waste from Household Refuse

All yard waste bags collected by Public Works crews are delivered to an eco-friendly composting facility for processing. To minimize the risk of cross-contamination with household refuse (and help crews complete their routes more efficiently), residents should place bags containing yard waste on the opposite end of the driveway and mark them with an "X."

### Early Refuse Set-Out Ends March 29th

Friday, March 29th, is the final day of Rolling Meadows' seasonal early refuse set-out schedule. Beginning Monday, April 1st, residents should place refuse and recyclables at the curb after 6:00 pm, the evening before pick-up.

Learn more about the City's refuse and yard waste collection programs at [www.cityrm.org.311/Refuse-Recycling](http://www.cityrm.org.311/Refuse-Recycling).



Mayor Lara Sanoica (front row, 4th from right) joined municipal leaders from around the world at the Pritzker Forum on Global Cities last November. Photo: Ana Miyares



**CONTACT  
CITY OFFICIALS**  
City Hall Hours  
8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Monday – Friday

**MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL**

- Mayor Lara Sanoica . . . . . 847-770-3097
- 1st Ward Alderman  
Karen McHale . . . . . 773-517-3873
- 2nd Ward Alderman  
Nick Budmats . . . . . 847-202-0855
- 3rd Ward Alderman  
Kevin O'Brien . . . . . 847-212-2587
- 4th Ward Alderman  
Jenifer Vinezeano . . . . . 630-546-8133
- 5th Ward Alderman  
Stefanie Boucher . . . . . 224-200-9015
- 6th Ward Alderman  
Mandy Reyez . . . . . 847-209-5435
- 7th Ward Alderman  
Mike Koehler . . . . . 847-912-8750
- City Manager  
Rob Sabo . . . . . 847-394-8500

**SERVICES**

- Fire & Police Emergency . . . . . 911
- Fire Non-emergency . . . . . 847-397-3352
- Police Non-emergency . . . . . 847-255-2416
- Community Development . . . . . 847-506-6030
- Finance/Utility Billing . . . . . 847-394-8500
- Public Works . . . . . 847-963-0500
- Senior Handyman Program . . . . . 847-506-6030
- Crime Stoppers . . . . . 847-590-7867
- ComEd . . . . . 1-800-EDISON-1

 [www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows](http://www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows)

 [www.youtube.com/@cityofrollingmeadows184](http://www.youtube.com/@cityofrollingmeadows184)

**INQUIRE ABOUT CITY SERVICES**

Contact specific departments for information about City services or operations.

**Administration**  
[admin@cityrm.org](mailto:admin@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**City Clerk's Office**  
[clerk@cityrm.org](mailto:clerk@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Community Development**  
[cd@cityrm.org](mailto:cd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-506-6030

**Finance Department**  
[fin@cityrm.org](mailto:fin@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Fire Department**  
[fd@cityrm.org](mailto:fd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-397-3352

**Human Resources**  
[hr@cityrm.org](mailto:hr@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Information Technology**  
[it@cityrm.org](mailto:it@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Police Department**  
[pd@cityrm.org](mailto:pd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-255-2416

**Public Works**  
[pw@cityrm.org](mailto:pw@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-963-0500

**ROLLING MEADOWS PREPARES FOR THE FUTURE AT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GLOBAL FORUM**

*By Mayor Lara Sanoica*

I was proud to represent Rolling Meadows at the three-day 2023 Pritzker Forum on Global Cities in Chicago this past November, where experts and representatives from all over the world discussed how municipalities should harness the power of artificial intelligence (AI). In fact, we were the only other Illinois community invited to participate – due to our smart city initiatives and our unique position as a mid-sized city.

The event's annual Mayoral Roundtable is an opportunity for leaders of major cities around the globe to converse and connect on pressing issues. The discussion in November focused on emerging technologies and their impacts on city governance and urban policy, which complemented the theme of the year's Forum, "Harnessing AI: Tools for Urban Leaders."

In particular, the dialog explored how next-generation technologies such as AI can be leveraged

to enhance city services, strengthen economic development, and ensure equity in education. The big takeaway: AI is here. Therefore, educating employees and citizens to detect disinformation will be more important than ever, given the capability of AI systems to generate misinformation at a rapid pace.

In response, Rolling Meadows will soon begin developing an AI policy that will govern the way our employees interact with AI platforms such as ChatGPT and incorporate best practices pertaining to data and AI resources.

Overall, participation in the Forum was a tremendous opportunity for us to engage with global leaders in technology and governmental representatives worldwide. Best of all, we received many compliments from attendees on the proactive work Rolling Meadows is already doing to embrace and understand AI's applicability in local government.

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***"The dialog explored how next-generation technologies such as AI can be leveraged to enhance city services."***

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**VISIT FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY'S SPRING USED BOOK SALE, MARCH 8TH – 10TH**

Stock up on great reads during the Friends of the Library's spring book sale at the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane).

Hours are:

- Fri., March 8th: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (pre-sale; \$5 entry fee)

- Fri., March 8th: 12:00 – 4:30 pm
- Sat., March 9th: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
- Sun., March 10th: 12:00 – 4:00 pm

For more information, visit [www.rmlib.org/friends.html](http://www.rmlib.org/friends.html) or call 847-259-6050.