The transportation network is a critical component of the well-being of Homer Glen residents, viability of local businesses, and attraction of visitors. The network connects workers to jobs, patrons to businesses, students to schools, families to community amenities, and people in general to opportunities that enrich their lives. As Homer Glen prepares for the future, the Village must ensure its transportation network can handle a growing community, increased traffic from more development, and potential to expand facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users.

**ROADWAY NETWORK**

The roadway hierarchy that defines Homer Glen’s transportation network is illustrated on the map in Figure 9.1. The graphics in Figure 9.2 illustrate some of the roadway improvements along 159th Street, which are indicative of the types of elements that will enhance access, safety, and mobility around Homer Glen along other roadways like Bell Road, 143rd Street, and Cedar Road with similar improvement projects.

In addition, these improvements create a built environment that advances Village goals regarding business attraction, community investment, and stronger connectivity to neighborhoods, business areas, and employment centers.

The current roadway hierarchy is structured well to serve anticipated traffic flow along Homer Glen’s arterials, collectors, and local streets. The Village’s pursuit to transfer road district stewardship from Homer Township provides greater municipal control of the maintenance and management of the road network. This will be important as Homer Glen continues to enhance roadways to support economic development and provide for a multimodal system with facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit.
2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

DISTANCES TO NEARBY METRA STATIONS
(AS MEASURED USING GOOGLE MAPS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Metra Line</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lemont</td>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>2.2 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romeoville</td>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>2.5 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockport</td>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>6.3 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet</td>
<td>Heritage, Rock Island (Main)</td>
<td>8.0 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Lenox</td>
<td>Rock Island (Main)</td>
<td>4.6 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143rd St/Orland Park</td>
<td>SouthWest Service</td>
<td>3.3 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>153rd St/Orland Park</td>
<td>SouthWest Service</td>
<td>2.2 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>179th St/Orland Park</td>
<td>SouthWest Service</td>
<td>0.4 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRANSIT

Transit service in Homer Glen is limited, with Pace Bus Route #832 being the only transit line within the Village’s municipal limits. Operating between Orland Park and Joliet, the #832 bus traverses along 159th Street with a few bus stops in Homer Glen. In addition to the #832 bus, Pace offers ADA-accessible paratransit service to disabled and senior residents in Central Will County who schedule a ride in advance.

Metra commuter rail service is available nearby; however, no stations are located within Homer Glen’s municipal limits. The nearest Metra stations are located in neighboring municipalities.

FIGURE 9.2
TYPICAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS
While the graphic above is specific to the 159th Street Road Improvements project, many of the elements can be applied to other roads in Homer Glen, whether part of a current, planned, or potential improvement project.

Source: IDOT

WIDENED RIGHT-OF-WAY
Expansion of the ROW provides more space for additional travel lanes, sidewalks and trails, and landscaped parkways.

CENTER & SIDE PARKWAYS
Landscaped parkways in the center or sides of the ROW allow for native landscaping, stormwater management, and softening of hardscapes.

SIDEWALKS & TRAILS
Dedicated travel spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists provide opportunities for them to connect to businesses, neighborhoods, employment centers, schools, parks, and open spaces without the use of a car.

Sidewalks also provide safe and accessible connectivity to cutout areas for bus stops in the potentiality that Pace bus service expands in Homer Glen.

SWALES
Swales provide for natural stormwater management, including collection of water runoff and infiltration of pollutants.
TRAILS & WALKS

Homer Glen is presently served by about 17 miles of public multi-use trails, which can accommodate a range of users from bicyclists and pedestrians to joggers and horse riders. Heritage Park will add 5 miles of new trails once completed. Expansion of the Heroes Trail will also add to the trail network. The map in Figure 9.1 shows existing and potential trails. The Village’s 2013 Parks and Recreation Master Plan recommends that current and planned trails should connect local parks and regional trails. This includes expanding the trail network with multi-use paths that connect to existing and new developments.

The graphic in Figure 9.2 also emphasizes how recent roadway improvements provide larger right-of-way to accommodate safe travel spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists to connect to businesses, neighborhoods, employment centers, schools, parks, and open spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to integrate roadway, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure improvement projects into the Village’s Capital Improvement Plan
- Monitor truck traffic and impacts on residential areas
- Evaluate the need for new traffic signals at major intersections as development and traffic patterns warrant
- Implement the Complete Streets policy that guides transportation planning, and adopt performance measures
- Collaborate with Pace and other transit agencies to evaluate the potential to expand bus service
- Conduct studies of north-south arterials to support both residential and business-oriented vehicle traffic generated by population growth

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

The recommendations above are keyed into the overall Implementation Plan provided in Chapter 12, which outlines details such as phasing, partners, and potential funding resources to support Village officials in putting the Homer Glen Comprehensive Plan Update into action.