

Woodridge extends boundary to help block impound lot

By Jennie Korb
Staff writer

Woodridge's latest annexation adds 28 acres to the village and should also give some peace of mind to those who do not want to see a gun range or a vehicle impoundment lot built near the Greene Valley Forest Preserve.

Last month, the Woodridge Village Board voted to annex about 28 acres that make up the northern portion of the Greene Valley Waste Water Treatment Plant, west of the intersection of Route 53 and Everglade Avenue.

Peggy Halik, assistant village administrator, said the southern portion of the treatment plant property already was part of the village.

The decision to annex the northern section was prompted by the "limited information" the county has provided the village about the possibility of building a gun range for the DuPage County sheriff's department, or an

impound lot on that property, Halik said.

"Incorporation provides us some authority over what happens there," Halik said.

Though county officials and staff have stated plans to build a gun range at that site are "dead," Halik said the village still has "no written confirmation" as to the county's plans, nor have village officials heard anything about the impound lot.

"Until we get something saying, 'We're not putting it there and here's where we are putting it,' or saying, 'We're not doing it at all,' we really feel like we need to be vigilant in noting our opposition," Halik said.

The Village Board passed a resolution last month "strongly opposing" both potential land uses.

According to Woodridge senior planner Michael Mays, the village now has zoning and land-use authority over the property, which was under the county's jurisdiction prior to the annexation.

State law required the village to annex the land under its most restrictive zoning category, which is R-1 single-family residential, Mays said.

The wastewater division of DuPage County's Public Works Department operates the Greene Valley Waste Water Treatment Plant, which was placed in service in 1983. It processes 12 million gallons of waste water per day, serving Lisle, Woodridge, portions of Naperville and Wheaton and unincorporated areas in the south central part of the county, according to the DuPage County Public Works Department's Web site.

Although the land now is located in Woodridge, the county will continue to own and maintain the plant, Halik said.

"(Annexation) doesn't change the ownership, it doesn't change the operation," she added. "It just means it's incorporated in the village of Woodridge."

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