APPROVED

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2026
LAKEFRONT PARKING TASK FORCE
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT & VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm and roll was called.

Task Force Members present:
Gary Hazan, Glencoe Park District Commissioner and Co-Chair
Joe Halwax, Trustee, Village of Glencoe and Co-Chair
Stefanie Boron, Member
Aaron Goltz, Member
Michael LaPorte, Member
Julianna Ethell, Member
Lee Feder, Member
Andre Lerman, Member
James Rosenfield, Member
Jon Ruderman, Member
Maggie Shapack, Member
Luca Cacela, Student Member (non-voting)

Staff present:
Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director, Glencoe Park District
Phil Kiraly, Village Manager, Village of Glencoe
Bobby Collins, Deputy Director/Director of Recreation and Facilities
Adam Wohl, Assistant Director of Recreation and Facilities
Monica Sarna, Director of Public Works, Village of Glencoe
Adam Hall, Assistant Village Manager, Village of Glencoe
Sean Loughran, Public Safety Director

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke: Jeff Shapack and Steve Varick

Introductions and Meeting Etiquette: The Lakefront Parking Task Force meeting was called to order. Task force members introduced themselves and shared how long they had lived in Glencoe, where they lived within the community, and how they typically use the lakefront. Members represented different areas of Glencoe and described a variety of lakefront uses, including swimming, boating and paddleboarding, volleyball, camps and programs, walking, use of Lakefront Park, and general recreation. Park District and Village staff also introduced themselves.

The co-chairs thanked members for participating and reviewed expectations for respectful and productive discussion. Staff explained that the Task Force is a recommending body and that its work will ultimately result in recommendations to both the Village Board and Park District Board. The September meeting was intended to establish background information, review changes made during the 2026 season, and identify the primary issues and stakeholder groups that should guide future discussion. The October meeting will focus more extensively on data related to those issues.

Presentation of Lakefront History and Relevant Information for Surrounding Lakefront Communities: Park District staff reviewed the history of Lakefront Park and Glencoe Beach, noting that the lakefront has served as an important community recreation area for more than a century. Staff discussed the development of beach facilities, boating, playgrounds, camps, events, and other amenities over time and noted that periods of high attendance and use by both residents and non-residents are not new. Staff also reviewed more recent changes in beach operations. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the District moved to a pass-holder model to manage capacity. Since that time, beach attendance has shifted significantly toward season-pass use. Approximately 84% of current visits are by pass holders, compared with approximately 25% before 2020. Staff reported just over 24,000 beach visits during the 2026 season.

Staff clarified the respective responsibilities of the Park District and Village. The Park District manages Glencoe Beach and Lakefront Park and establishes beach admission policies, fees, hours, and operating procedures. The Village controls public streets and neighborhood parking and is responsible for traffic, parking regulations, signage, and enforcement. Staff also explained that the Park District may establish resident and non-resident fees, passes, daily admission policies, and capacity limits, but may not simply prohibit non-residents from using the beach.

Village staff reviewed existing parking regulations and enforcement practices. Approximately 96 angled parking spaces are located around Lakefront Park on Village owned right-of-way, including spaces on Park Avenue, Longwood Avenue, and Hazel Avenue. Staff discussed general Village parking regulations, the use of Community Service Officers and Public Safety Officers for enforcement, and technology used to monitor time-limited parking. It was noted that Sheridan Road is under IDOT jurisdiction rather than Village control.

Task Force members discussed the relationship between beach admission policies and parking demand. A member provided background on the Northbrook reciprocity agreement. Members also discussed changes in beach attendance before and after COVID and the effect of the weekend season-pass requirement on peak attendance and

neighborhood parking. It was noted that parking concerns appear to be most significant on warm, high-attendance weekends rather than consistently throughout the season.

Staff explained that extensive parking information was collected during the 2026 season. Park District staff recorded available spaces around the lakefront three times per day throughout the season and obtained aerial and street-level photographs on selected warm-weather days. Additional visitation information will be available through Placer.ai, a third-party service to which the Park District subscribes to provide information regarding park and beach users. Village staff will also provide information regarding parking citations, calls for service, traffic incidents, and enforcement activity. This information will be presented at a future meeting.

Staff also presented a comparison of parking practices in other North Shore lakefront communities, including Lake Bluff, Highland Park, Winnetka, Wilmette, Lake Forest, and Kenilworth. Approaches vary considerably depending on the amount and ownership of parking, the lakefront configuration, and available amenities. Some communities rely heavily on street parking, while others have dedicated beach lots and use permits, fees, residency requirements, or time restrictions. Members requested that future comparisons also include beach admission policies, parking and permit fees, time restrictions, annual visitation, topography and beach access, and other information that would allow for more direct comparisons with Glencoe.

Summary of Changes Made for the 2026 Season: Staff reviewed operational and parking changes implemented for the 2026 season. The Park District extended staffed beach hours from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, increased portable restroom servicing, and increased morning garbage and litter removal. Staff explained that the additional hour was intended in part to address the number of people arriving around 7:00 PM as regular beach operations ended.

The Village established a defined beach parking zone and doubled parking fines within that area. Additional no-parking signage was installed near intersections and fire hydrants, pedestrian pavement markings and stop signs were added along the beach access ramp, and overflow parking signage was installed directing visitors to the Metra lots when lakefront parking was full. The Village also resumed use of barricades identifying the beach as closed following operating hours and increased Community Service Officer presence in the lakefront area.

Members discussed communication regarding overflow parking and the difference between Lakefront Park hours, which are generally dawn to dusk, and the 10:00 PM parking restriction for the angled lakefront spaces. Staff explained that fixed parking hours can provide a clearer standard for enforcement.

Review of Task Force Pre-Meeting Questions and Identification of Priority Issues and Stakeholder Groups: Staff reviewed responses to the pre-meeting questions

completed by Task Force members. Responses showed general agreement around five primary areas for further study: seasonal parking demand, parking regulation strategies, residential parking allocation, traffic management, and public safety measures**.** Members agreed these topics appropriately represented the primary issues the Task Force should examine. Staff emphasized that the topics are intentionally neutral and do not assume that parking should necessarily be increased, decreased, or reallocated. The Task Force will use data and discussion to determine whether changes are warranted and, if so, what those changes should be.

Members discussed the relationship between beach operations and parking demand, including concerns regarding unusually warm weather in September and October 2025 when the staffed season had ended and the beach experienced significant crowds. Park District staff explained that shoulder-season beach operations are being considered by the Lakefront Advisory Committee, including whether staffing or other measures should be used during unusually warm periods. Any recommendations affecting beach access or operations will be shared with the Task Force because of their potential effect on parking demand. Staff also reported that the Park District's annual beach survey will ask residents whether parking availability affects their decision to purchase a beach pass or visit the beach.

The Task Force then reviewed potential stakeholder groups which included: immediate lakefront neighbors; beach users; east-side residents; access & mobility users (ADA limited); west-side residents; boater and sailing users; general lakefront park users; staff and operations; neighborhood residential parking; program and event users. Members recommended adding bicyclists and others who travel to the lakefront without a vehicle. Discussion emphasized that changes to parking regulations could have unintended impacts on nearby residents, their guests, contractors, and service providers. Members noted that any future regulations could potentially be seasonal or limited to particular days or hours rather than applying year-round.

Staff outlined information planned for the October meeting. Park District data will include season-pass and daily admission use, boating and rental activity, camps and programs, parking-space counts, weather conditions, beach closures and bacteria conditions, and Placer.ai visitation information. Staff intends to correlate these data to identify when parking demand was highest and how frequently parking capacity was reached. Village data will include parking citations, calls for service, traffic crashes and other incidents, enforcement activity, time-of-day information where available, and resident/non-resident information where it can be determined. Members asked that staff provide neutral definitions for the five priority issues so there is a common understanding of what will be evaluated.

Matters from the Public: Jeff Shapack**,** a Glencoe resident, addressed the Task Force and encouraged it to prioritize the needs of Glencoe residents and taxpayers when

considering lakefront parking recommendations. He advocated consideration of resident parking permits, seasonal restrictions, capacity limits, market-rate non-resident beach and boating fees, and consistent parking enforcement. He also emphasized that residents living immediately adjacent to Lakefront Park should be recognized as a distinct stakeholder group because of the direct effects of overflow parking.

The resident requested that the Task Force review detailed data regarding peak lakefront use, resident versus non-resident use, a full-cost profit and loss for the beach and boating beach, including overhead and capital, parking citations, and a poll of Glencoe residents conducted by the Task Force. He also encouraged staff to make comparisons with neighboring communities as specific and comparable as possible and referenced the Village's existing Dell Place permit parking program as an example of a neighborhood parking strategy that could be considered.

Other Discussion: Task Force members expressed appreciation for the collaborative process between the Village, Park District, residents, and elected officials. Members emphasized the importance of continuing to approach the issue without predetermined conclusions and using reliable data to understand the extent, timing, and causes of lakefront parking concerns before developing recommendations.

Next Step: October 14, 2026 – Discuss and Understand the Priority Issues through Data

Adjourn: Member Feder moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm. Member Ethell seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Sheppard	Philip Kiraly
Secretary/Executive Director	Village Manager