

“Vehicle Stickers Returning to the Village”

Effective October 1, 2014



Many of our residents have called or stopped by the Village Hall to raise the question of “...why the Village does not institute a Vehicle Licensing Program?...”. Regardless of the name, most suburbs in the greater Chicagoland area have some form of vehicle licensing and registration program, sometimes referred to as a “vehicle sticker”, “wheel tax” or a “vehicle license”.

Although the concept may initially meet resistance, the rationale used to initiate such a program in Olympia Fields is critically important. First and foremost, from a public safety benefit perspective, Police Chief Krull has stated that vehicle stickers will allow our patrol officers to quickly and easily identify our residents and determine who may be from out of the area. This information greatly assists our officers in their safety patrol of our neighborhoods. Most residents recognize the value of identifying a Village resident from a “stranger” or “transient” driving or parking in our neighborhoods.

As an added benefit to our code enforcement activities, vehicles which belong to new residents due to the influx of rental properties would be required to display a vehicle sticker reducing the possibility of unstructured housing arrangements. Compliance with the vehicle licensing program would further reduce the possibility of multiple vehicles being parked or stored in a driveway or parked on the street which are not properly registered to an Olympia Fields address as required by the Illinois Secretary of State.

The cost of the vehicle license (\$50.00) for residents of the Village falls near the average of other municipalities (seniors 65 and over discount rate of \$25.00). There are some municipalities with lower costs and many municipalities with much higher costs. Any revenue generated from this initiative will be earmarked to fund the replacement of patrol squads and patrol squad related equipment such as mobile data terminals, video recording units and roadway maintenance projects.

Many residents have voiced concern regarding enforcement actions from other jurisdictions questioning, or in some cases, even issuing citations to residents of Olympia Fields for failing to display a vehicle license sticker. This failure to display a window sticker can ultimately result in an unnecessary court appearance. This program will virtually eliminate this type of enforcement action and reduce any question as to where the vehicle belongs and if that vehicle is properly licensed.

We believe this Vehicle Licensing Program will increase civic pride and create a sense of “belonging” and cohesiveness for our residents.

October 1, 2014 – First Day to Obtain Vehicle Sticker
October 31, 2014 - Last Day to Obtain Vehicle Sticker without Late Fee

Correspondence will be forwarded to our residents in the beginning of September outlining procedures, deadlines, fees and fines for non-compliance for this new initiative.