

Peer Communities Analysis

For the Finance and Budget Committee



Michael Van Dorpe
Financial Analyst

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Presentation Overview

- Feedback in January
- Data Sources
- “Short List” Criteria
- Parameters Evaluated
- Recommended Peer Communities (7 Communities)

Feedback in January

- Establishing a list of “Peer Communities” is a priority in 2024
- Important Criteria for Peer Communities identified:
 - Population
 - Geographic Location and County
 - Presence of a 4-Year University
 - Make-up of residents
 - Units within a government (i.e. Parks Department)
- Target number for the initial peer list: 7-10 communities

Data Sources

- US Census “QuickFacts”
- Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (“ACFR” a.k.a. “Annual Audits”)
- Budget Documents
- Community Websites

“Short List” Criteria

“Short List” = 40 Communities

1. “50-50” Criteria :: *(29 of 40)*
 - a. Within 50% of Evanston’s Population
- AND -
 - b. Within 50 miles of Evanston
2. 4-Year University with at least 10,000 students :: *(8 of 40)*
3. Mentioned by name at January 2024 Finance & Budget Meeting :: *(7 of 40)*
4. Not considering Chicago

Parameters Evaluated

17 Parameters Evaluated:	
Distance from Evanston	City Council/Village Board Composition
County	Fire Department
Foundation Year	Library Component Unit
Population	Parks and Recreation Department
Population per Square Mile	Water Plant
Total EAV	Illinois Certified Health Department
Median Home Value	Township Services
Median Family Income	4-Year College/University over 5,000 Students
% Population white, non-Hispanic	

Community	TOTAL	Distance from Evanston	County	Foundation Year	Population	Population per Square Mile	Total EAV	Median Home Value	Median Family Income	% white, non-Hispanic	Council/ Board Composition	Fire Dept	Library Comp. Unit	Parks Dept	Water Plant	Certified Health Dept	Township Services	4-year University (5,000+)
Evanston	17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Skokie	11.5	1	1	1	1	0.5	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Oak Park	11	1	1	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Des Plaines	10	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bloomington	9.5	0	0	1	1	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Palatine	9.5	1	1	1	1	0	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arlington Heights	9	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Park Ridge	9	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Berwyn	8.5	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cicero	8.5	1	1	1	1	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Glenview	8.5	1	1	1	0.5	0	1	0.5	0.5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mount Prospect	8.5	1	1	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Oak Lawn	8.5	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elgin	8	1	1	1	0.5	0	1	0.5	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Orland Park	8	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Wheaton	8	1	0	1	0.5	0	1	1	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Downers Grove	7.5	1	0	1	0.5	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Elmhurst	7.5	1	0	1	0.5	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Romeoville	7.5	1	0	1	0.5	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0.5
Schaumburg	7.5	1	1	0	1	0	1	0.5	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tinley Park	7.5	1	1	1	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
DeKalb	7	0	0	1	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Buffalo Grove	6.5	1	1	0	0.5	0	0.5	1	0.5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Champaign	6.5	0	0	1	1	0	0.5	0	0.5	1	0.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Edwardsville	6.5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.5	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hoffman Estates	6.5	1	1	0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lombard	6.5	1	0	1	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peoria	6.5	0	0	1	0.5	0	0.5	0	0.5	1	0.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0.5
Waukegan	6.5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Carbondale	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Normal	6	0	0	1	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Urbana	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Addison	5.5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bartlett	5.5	1	1	1	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bolingbrook	5.5	1	0	0	1	0	1	0.5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crystal Lake	5	1	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Naperville	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plainfield	5	1	0	1	0.5	0	0.5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Streamwood	5	1	1	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmette	5	1	1	1	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carol Stream	4	1	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Recommended Communities

Staff Recommended Communities:		Next Tier to Consider (Listed alphabetically):
1. Skokie		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Berwyn
2. Oak Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cicero
3. Des Plaines		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Elgin
4. Bloomington		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Glenview
5. Palatine		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mount Prospect
6. Arlington Heights		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Oak Lawn
7. Park Ridge		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Orland Park
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wheaton