

**PETER J. KOUKOS, CIAO**  
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## **PUBLIC SERVICE RESUME**

### **EXPERIENCE:**

- Organized the Advocates for the Public Interest in Fort Sheridan, which created a plan to protect the Fort's lakefront, historic district and open space for public use at no expense to local taxpayers. Mitigated the impact on the school districts.
- 21-year municipal bond professional working with local governments.
- Provided advice to the Lake County Forest Preserve District on land acquisition financing.
- Supported additional senior and affordable housing for Highland Park residents.
- Supported the Highland Park Greenways Plan
- Worked to prepare and adopt the Ravinia Strategic Plan and its implementation
- Initiated the height moratorium and the Teardown Delay Ordinance
- Initiated the Park Avenue/Skokie Highway pedestrian overpass
- Supported more restrictive zoning resulting in the City's current Master Plan Revision process, providing for each neighborhood to generate its own recommendations
- Supported historic preservation in the City resulting in ordinance changes
- Initiated the conversion of the Highland Park Country Club to a truly public, daily fee golf course
- Initiated revisions to the Real Estate Transfer Tax so those residents who sell and buy in Highland Park receive a rebate.
- Worked in conjunction with the residents to rezone the Vine Triangle neighborhood from RM1, multi-family, to R7, two-family zoning.
- Initiated public information signs for ZBA hearing, and Plan, Design Review, Traffic, and Historic Preservation Commission hearings.
- Initiated traffic calming measures to slow traffic and reduce the need for stop signs.
- Initiated the Council's support for implementation of the GIS system and increasing the City's fund balances in order to achieve the Aaa rating from Moody's Investors Service.

### **LEADERSHIP:**

- Chairman of the City Council finance committee
- Serve on the City Council Public Safety Subcommittee.
- Served on the City Council/Park District Golf Advisory Committee.
- Council liaison to the Design Review Commission, Ravinia Festival Commission, and SWALCO.
- Alternate to Northwest Municipal Conference and Lake County Municipal League.
- Chair, Deer Task Force Subcommittee
- Chair, Finance Committee Assessed Value Remediation Subcommittee
- Served on the Local Redevelopment Authority for Fort Sheridan
- Changed the attitude of many Lake County assessors so that they recognize property owner rights
- Made the Moraine Township Assessor's office transparent to eliminate the need for citizens to submit FOIA requests.

**PUBLIC SERVICE:**

- Assessor, Moraine Township, 2006 - 2009
- Councilman, City of Highland Park – 1991-2003.
- Commissioner, President, Park District of Highland Park, 1973-1991.
- Founded and Chaired the Advocates for the Public Interest in Fort Sheridan
- Served on the City's Plan, Recreation and Lakefront commissions.
- Served as Director and Vice President of the United Way.
- Served on School District 107 Caucus and as Chairman.
- Served as a member of the Indian Trail PTO.
- Director, President, Illinois Association of Park Districts. Allen M. Weissburg (Outstanding Illinois Commissioner) Award recipient. 1984.
- Trustee, Vice Chair, National Recreation and Park Association, 1982-1991.
- Director, President, Illinois Conservation Foundation, 1981-1991.
- Served as Congressman John Porter's Lake County field director, 1993-1999.
- Hosted a fundraiser for Congressman Mark Kirk in 2000.

**AFFILIATIONS:**

- Friend of Illinois Parks
- Active member, Friends of the Forest Preserve
- Sierra Club
- Williamsburg Foundation
- CDGA and USGA
- Life member, North Shore Yacht Club
- Waukegan Yacht Club
- Life member, Illinois Association of Park Districts
- Republicans for Environmental Protection
- Highland Park Historical Society
- Life member, American Legion Post #145
- Chicago Botanic Garden

**EMPLOYMENT:**

- Vice President, Public Finance, Mesirow Financial.
- 610 Central, Highland Park IL 60035
- Phone: 847-681-2380 Fax: 847-681-2407
- Pkoukos@mesirofinancial.com

**EDUCATION:**

- MBA University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business
- BS Bradley University, Economics and Finance

**FAMILY:**

Married to Peg, 57 years, two married sons, and two delightful granddaughters.

Pete Koukos, Vice President

Area of Focus: Public Finance

Profile:

- Responsible for assisting clients in all aspects of debt issuance, including specialties in debt structuring and financial reporting and analysis
- Has over 20 years of experience working with the State of Illinois including park districts and municipalities
- Has worked on over 200 municipal bond offerings including general obligation bonds, alternate revenue bonds and debt certificates
- Past president of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, and former vice chairman of the National Recreation and Park Association
- Previously was vice president at Dominick's Finer Foods and a vice president and general manager of the Chicago division of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company
- Has held numerous public office positions for the City of Highland Park, including: Park Commissioner, City Councilman and Township Assessor

Education:

- B.S., Bradley University
- M.B.A., University of Chicago

Affiliations:

- Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood, president