

CHAPTER 103. VILLAGE OF STEGER ANNEX

103.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINT OF CONTACT

Primary Point of Contact

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103.2 JURISDICTION PROFILE

The following is a summary of key information about the jurisdiction and its history:

- **Date of Incorporation:** December 1896
- **Current Population:** 9,591 as of 2012 Census
- **Population Growth:** The Village of Steger has experienced a flat rate of growth over the past decade with a minor reduction at -9% since 2000.
- **Location and Description:** Steger is a far south suburb of Chicago that lies in two counties; Cook and Will, and is 35 miles south of Chicago city limits. The Village is surrounded by the following three Villages: South Chicago Heights to the north, Sauk Village to the east, and Crete to the south. The West Side Village limits are Cook County Forest preserve property and unincorporated Will County areas. According to the 2010 census, the Village has a total area of 4 square miles. 2 square miles are considered rural (well & septic) and the other 2 are service by Village water and sewer.
- **Brief History:** In 1893, John Valentine Steger opened a piano factory on 20 acres (81,000 square meters) of land alongside the railroad south of Chicago Heights. When the Village grew to 324 residents, the village incorporated in 1896. John Steger agreed to pay \$400 toward incorporation costs to ensure that the name of the town be dubbed "Steger" rather than "Columbia Heights". Steger and Son pianos were made in the village until 1926. By 1920, Steger was considered by some as the "piano capital of the world" producing more than a hundred pianos a day. Steger & Sons built exceptionally high quality, expensive pianos from 1893-1956 in the village of Steger.
- **Climate:** The climate of Steger and the Chicago area is classified as humid continental, with all four seasons distinctly represented: wet springs; hot and humid summers; pleasant autumns; and cold winters. Annual precipitation is average, and reaches its lowest points in the months of January and February, and peaks in the months of May and June. Winter proves quite variable. Seasonal snowfall in the Village has ranged from 9 – 90 inches. The daily average temperature in January at Midway Airport is 24.8 °F (-4.0 °C), and temperatures often stay below freezing for several consecutive days or even weeks in January and February. Temperatures drop to or below 0 °F (-18 °C) on 5.5 nights annually at Midway and 8.2 nights at O'Hare. Spring in the Chicago area is perhaps the areas wettest and unpredictable season. Winter like conditions can persist well into April and even occasionally