

Why would a new plant on an inland site to the west, such as the water tower site, not fit into character of the area?

The distribution site is structured with a water transmission main that extends through the center of the Village and transmits water to the north and south. A site further inland would require substantial construction costs for a water transmission main to be built to go through the Skokie Lagoons. There are also environmental restrictions from the EPA as the site is an abandoned landfill.

Why wasn't a site near the Glencoe Golf Club considered?

The Cook County Forest Preserve District will not sell the land for such purposes. In addition, there may be zoning and cost-related issues as well as concerns about the maintenance of water transmission mains that would be needed, as there are no existing municipal water facilities located near the site.

Did the Village consider other water plant location options, such as street ends or the Takiff Center?

Street ends are not feasible largely because of the elevation of the bluffs. A building would need to be constructed at street level, and water would need to travel up and down approximately 70 feet. The Takiff Center is located on Park District property, and has not been offered as a potential site.

Could the Village consider public land located at the South Avenue or Dell Place street ends?

While the Village does have public right-of-way that extends down to the Lake at the east end of Dell Place and South Avenue, the right-of-way parcels are only 66 feet in width. A water plant facility of the capacity required to serve the Village of Glencoe is expected to require 1 to 1.5 acres of buildable land and suitable access for material deliveries and operations. Neither of these locations meets these requirements. Additionally, construction of a new plant that is located away from the existing water distribution backbone, which currently is located along the Park Avenue corridor, significantly increases the cost and construction impact of such an improvement.

Could there be a potential arrangement to purchase water from Northbrook? To distribute water, does it have to go to the plant or can it go to the tower? Is it possible that Northbrook could supply the water tower so we didn't have to buy from Highland Park during construction?

Northbrook is not a viable alternative as a source of purchased water for the Village. There are environmental issues and long-term reliability issues associated with the area between the existing elevated tank and the distribution system. Because of these difficulties, purchasing significant volumes of water long term from Northbrook at the point of the existing interconnect would be impractical compared to other options.

Once the Village treats and produces finished water, it is pumped into the Village's distribution system, including the water tower. We could not have Northbrook supply water to the tower because it does not have the treatment capacity and it would be cost prohibitive to build the infrastructure required.