George Koczwara

George Koczwara has over 25 years of local government experience and currently serves as Village Manager for the Village of Orland Park, IL. Orland Park is located 30 miles southwest of Chicago's downtown with a residential population of nearly 60,000, and is the commercial and retail hub of the Chicago south suburban region. Orland Park has a unique blend of residential and business in the midst of more than 700 acres of parks and open lands. As Village Manager, Mr. Koczwara provides leadership and direction to twelve direct reports including the Police Chief, Public Works Director, Recreation and Parks Director, Finance Director, Human Resources Director, Information Technology Director, Communications and Marketing Director, Engineering Director, and Development Services Director. Services are provided via 270 full-time and 700 part-time and seasonal employees, represented by six bargaining units, with a \$180 million annual budget. In 2021, Orland Park was ranked the safest city in Illinois by Safety.com and was named one of Chicago Magazine's Best Places to Live in the June/July 2022 edition of the publication.

Prior to his experience in Orland Park, Mr. Koczwara served as Deputy City Manager and Finance Director for the City of Crystal Lake, IL, a northwest suburb of Chicago with a population of nearly 40,000. Mr. Koczwara holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Public Administration also from Northern Illinois University. While a graduate student, Mr. Koczwara was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct graduate research into the historical development of local government administration in Poland. He is also a certified trainer of Situational Leadership by the Ken Blanchard Companies as well as a certified trainer in Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue by Crucial Learning.