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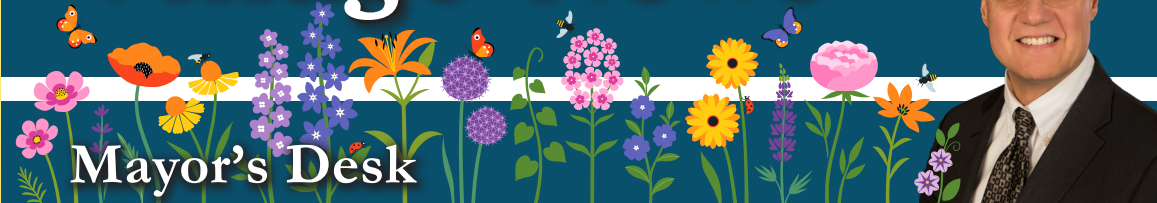
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THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK

July 2026

Village News



Franklin Park Fest Featured Something for Everyone

Despite a lack of cooperation from Mother Nature causing us to cancel the first night of the festival, the rest of the event provided great food, excellent music, a thrilling carnival, and the opportunity to make memories with family and neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Fest a success, especially our sponsors for their generous donations to underwrite the free live entertainment and to provide family-focused activities for our residents. Franklin Park Fest is more than an annual event, it's a celebration of our heritage, our community, and everyone who makes Franklin Park their home. Please visit our website to view the video that highlights this year's event. Also, you can find a list of our 2026 Fest sponsors on Page 4 of this newsletter.

Summer Activities Continue

Everyone is invited to attend Saturday events sponsored by the Park District of Franklin Park at the new Plaza downtown at the corner of Franklin Avenue and 25th Avenue. Events include exercise classes and activities for children and families. To learn more, go to fpparks.org/events. Also, don't miss the Park District's annual Street Dance on Franklin Avenue outside the Community Center on Friday, July 10 from 6 until 11PM. This annual event includes live music, local food vendors, children's activities, and more.

Save the date for our Village-wide garage sale scheduled for August 21-23. Watch our website and Facebook page for details.

Leyden Family Services Assistance Available at Village Hall

A representative from Leyden Family Services is scheduled to be at Village Hall on the third Wednesday of each month to help residents who have questions or need help applying for government programs. Take advantage of this opportunity to get one on one assistance with programs including Medicare, Medicaid, and LIHEAP. They can also help to make sense of medical bills, provide prescription assistance, and more. No appointment is necessary. Please remember to bring your Social Security award letter and paycheck stubs that show the amount of income you receive.

Scheduled Village Hall dates for the remainder of this year are from 9 AM to noon on July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, and December 16.

See you around town this summer!

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

April Arellano
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:
Irene Avitia
Gil Hagerstrom
John Johnson
Bill Ruhl
Karen Special
Andy Ybarra

9500 Belmont Ave.
Franklin Park, IL 60131
847-671-4800
www.vofp.com
villagenews@vofp.com

Emergency 911

Police & Fire
(Non-Emergency)
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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT FRANKLIN PARK FEST – SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

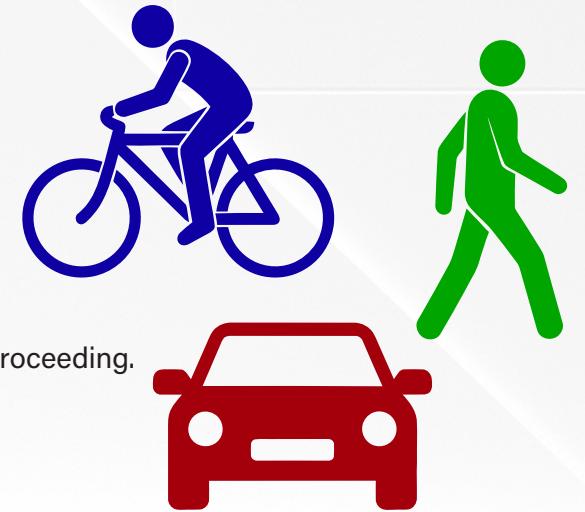


We Are All Responsible for Sharing the Road Safely

As the use of e-bikes continues to grow in our area, promoting safe and responsible riding remains a top priority for the Village. Whether driving, bicycling, or walking, we are all responsible for sharing the road safely with other vehicles and users. Please review the following safety tips that will help ensure everyone reaches their destination safely.

Bicyclists and Micromobility Users

- Obey the same traffic laws, signs, and signals that apply to motorists.
- Be visible. Use a front light and a rear reflector when riding at night.
- Ride as close to the right edge of the road as is safe.
- Communicate using hand signals.
- Avoid the “door zone” of people exiting parked cars.
- Ride in the same direction as other traffic, not against traffic.



Pedestrians

- Always stop before leaving driveways or sidewalks.
- Before crossing, stop at the curb, edge of the road, or corner before proceeding.
- Look left, look right and look left again before crossing.
- Continue to check for traffic while crossing.
- If there is a pedestrian signal, only cross when allowed.

Motorists

- Allow space for passing cyclists and micromobility users: By law, you must allow at least 3 feet of space between your vehicle and the bicyclist, and more space is better, especially when driving at higher speeds.
- Prevent “Dooring”: When exiting a vehicle, look out for any passing cyclists or micromobility users. Use the “Dutch Reach” method – reach across with the hand farthest from the vehicle door when preparing to exit.
- Respect the bike lane: Even if bicyclists are not present, do not drive, park or stand in the bike lane. Wait for bicyclists to pass before entering the lane to park.
- Check for cyclists before turning: Yield to cyclists and do not underestimate their speed. Watch for oncoming bicycle traffic when turning left. Do not pass and then cut in front of a cyclist when turning right.
- Respect bicyclists: Cyclists may need to ride outside a bike lane, and motorists should be prepared to move safely around them.

Watch our website for information on new state regulations to be enacted soon and to learn more about ways to be safe on the road.

New Water Rate Information for 2026

Each June, the City of Chicago increases the amount it charges the Village to purchase water. The Village’s water rate is then increased to reflect the new amount charged to the Village. In June 2026, the City of Chicago increased the amount it charges the Village for water by 1.85%. The Village is applying an additional percentage increase of 3% to help fund infrastructure repairs and upgrades which it has done in the past years.

Therefore, the Village is now increasing the amount it charges for water by 4.85% which will be applied to the July bills.

The monthly cost of garbage is \$27.80 for a single-family or a two-family home. The collection service days remain unchanged and continue to include removing unlimited garbage and recycling on Mondays and removal of yard waste on Tuesdays. Additional trash cans can be rented directly from Republic Services for \$4 per month. The Village will continue to subsidize the garbage collection rate for qualified senior citizens, age 65 and older, to allow them to receive FREE monthly garbage collection services. Qualified disabled and low-income residents will continue to be eligible to receive a reduced garbage collection fee of 50 percent. (Seniors and disabled residents must demonstrate their eligibility every year by December 30.)

All Franklin Park households receive free seasonal branch pick-up and have year-round access to the Village’s free unlimited electronics recycling bin located at 9364 Franklin Avenue (north of Franklin & Martens intersection) which is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 3 PM. The rates for water, sewer, and garbage services are assessed in compliance with the Village Code. If you have questions regarding water bill payments, call Village Hall at (847) 671-4800.

Thank You for Being a Good Neighbor!

While hosting an outdoor gathering in your backyard can be a great way to enjoy the warmer weather with friends and family, please be considerate of your neighbors. After dark, please do what you can to **minimize noise disturbance by keeping the music low and encouraging quiet conversations.**

Always clean-up after your pets immediately, even on your own property. Dog waste is full of disease-causing bacteria and parasites and can be harmful to humans and spread disease to other dogs. **Dog waste is also a food supply for rodents.** Remember to carry extra waste bags with you wherever you go with your dog and please keep your pets on a leash. Thank you for your consideration!



Back-to-School Bash – July 31

The Village of Franklin Park, the Office of Congressman Jesús “Chuy” García, the Office of Representative Norma Hernandez, and West40 are hosting a Back-to-School Resource Fair to equip students and families with the needed tools for a successful school year. The event will be held on Friday, July 31, from 5 until 7 PM at the Joseph “Tiny” Lauro Plaza, located at 9601 Franklin Ave

Help us improve Franklin Park’s website, please take the survey on our website at vofp.com.