THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK

Gear in Review 2019

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ZONING

A Message from **Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen**



2019 proved to be another year of continued progress in establishing Franklin Park as a regional hub for industry and economic activity with vibrant spaces and job opportunities. Since becoming Mayor, the Village has added more than 4.2 million square feet of new industrial development, attracting modern businesses that embrace trends in advanced manufacturing, high technology, and logistics that maximize productivity and provide positive economic impact. We were proud to welcome new industrial tenants such as Peloton, a leading manufacturer in high-end home fitness equipment; Travelon, an industry leading manufacturer of innovative anti-theft travel goods; and Agility Logistics, one of the world's largest integrated logistics providers. 2019 also saw continued progress in modern industrial development, as Digital Realty added 18 acres to their campus at 9401 Grand Avenue and Crow Holdings completed a 113,747 square foot office and warehouse building at 3311 Charles Street.

Village staff has also made strides in attracting new retail opportunities with continued infrastructure and engineering work at Grand Avenue and Mannheim Road. The newly built development at 2830 Mannheim Road is now home to the AT&T Store and Jersey Mike's Subs with room for an additional tenant. Additionally, staff has been working with engineers and developers to prepare the remaining vacant lots for future opportunities that best suit market needs.

2019 also brought much needed updates to Village infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing industrial corridor and to create safer, more efficient travel for residents and visitors. The Village acquired necessary funding for the Franklin Avenue Reconstruction Project with a \$784,000 grant through Cook County's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program. Franklin Park was also awarded \$25,000 through the CN EcoConnexions - From the Ground Up program, a grant provided by Canadian National Railway (CN) and America in Bloom to provide landscaping and infrastructure improvements to the Metra parking lot on the southeast corner of 25th and Belmont Avenues. In addition, new bus shelters have been installed along Pace Bus routes within Franklin Park, allowing residents and visitors to wait for buses covered from the elements.

I am proud to represent a community that is rich with opportunity. I look forward to continuing the progress that we have made as we lay the groundwork for smarter development and sustained success.

Infrastructure Improvements & Downtown Beautification through

Grant Funding

The Village found success in identifying funding sources through grant programs that will facillitate ongoing infrastructure improvements and support Downtown beautification efforts. In 2019, Franklin Park was awarded funds through Cook County's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program and the CN EcoConnexions - From the Ground Up program from Canadian National Railway (CN) and America in Bloom.

The \$784,000 from CMAQ will be utilized as additional funding for the reconstruction of Franklin Avenue from Runge Street to Williams Drive and through to Belmont Avenue to Mannheim Road. Recognized as a high priority, the project previously finished first in the state for the Department of Transportation's Competitive Freight Program which resulted in a \$22,960,000 grant award. Additional funding commitments came from the "Invest in Cook" grant, awarded by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways for \$340,000 and from the North Central Council of Mayors for \$2,040,000 for the Phase I and II engineering. In total, the \$31 million project will provide much needed improvements to Franklin Avenue, creating more efficient traffic flow, improved public safety, and the ability to accommodate future demand as regional redevelopment occurs.



The Franklin Avenue Reconstruction and Widening Project will allow for safer, more efficient travel with improved connections to Mannheim Road and the Illinois Tollway system.

The EcoConnexions program by CN and America in Bloom encourages communities along the CN corridor to take environmental action by improving their communities through healthy urban forests, natural landscaping, groundcover improvement, and flower displays. The \$25,000 will be used to spark ongoing Downtown Franklin Park beautification efforts with new landscaping and environmentally conscious infrastructure improvements to the Metra parking lot on the southeast corner of 25th and Belmont Avenues. In 2020, Franklin Park is participating in America in Bloom's National Awards program which gives national recognition for municipalities' intiatives that promote beautification through education and community involvement.

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ZONING CODE UPDATE =

camiros





The Community Development Department held a kickoff meeting with Arista Strungys and Christopher Jennette of Camiros.

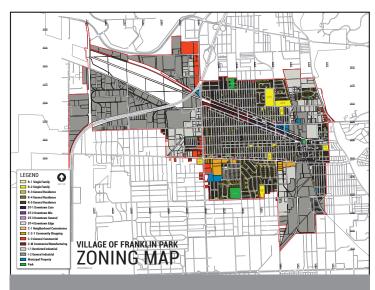
In late 2018, the Village of Franklin Park Board of Trustees formally approved funding for the rewrite of the zoning code. The current version of the zoning code was written in 1974 and has been amended countless times over the past 45 years, but not on a comprehensive level. A full update will allow the Village to facilitate construction that preserves existing development when necessary while encouraging emerging industries, promoting sustainability, and revitalizing commercial corridors through landscape, building, and site design standards. The new code will take several plans into consideration that have been adopted over the years including the Franklin Park Downtown Zoning Code (2014), the Franklin Park O'Hare Industrial Plan (2014), and the Franklin Park Comprehensive Plan (2017).

At the May 20, 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting, Director of Community Development and Zoning, John Schneider, introduced Arista Strungys of Camiros to announce our partnership in this endeavor. During the interview process, it became evident that Camiros prepared a comprehensive gameplan for the modernization of Franklin Park's zoning ordinance that displayed a deeper understanding of the community's development patterns and vision for the future. Village staff was also impressed by their holistic approach that focused on collaboration with Village leaders and included opportunities for public engagement, guidance for transitioning into the new ordinance, and in depth analysis of Franklin Park. The firm is well known for providing a full range of services in the areas of planning, zoning, urban design, economic development, and landscape architecture. Founded in 1976 and located in Chicago, they have provided services to over 250 communities across the United States.

The Department of Community Development and Zoning held a kickoff meeting with Camiros on June 14, 2019 to discuss the zoning code and tour the Village. Together, it is our goal to comprehensively update the Franklin Park Zoning Code in order to facilitate modern redevelopment and uses while still respecting existing conditions. Another focus of the update will be to make it more user friendly. The code will be easier to read with diagrams, definitions, and have well organized standards and procedures that regulate clearly and effectively.

Camiros and Village staff fully intend to address both public and stakeholder concerns with the Franklin Park's existing zoning code. Village staff has been reviewing the zoning ordinance with Camiros in order to identify opportunities for improvement and highlight trends and best practices that are in line with Franklin Park's goals and vision for the future. Camiros also held stakeholder interviews with key community leaders that represented Village staff, residents, business owners, elected officials, and developers that gave deeper insight into Franklin Park's long term goals. There will also be additional opportunities for feedback via future public meetings, and comments and concerns can submitted through the project website.

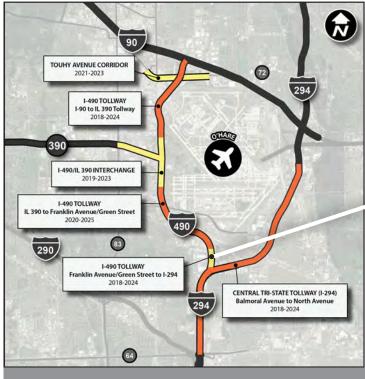
Visit www.FranklinParkZoning.com to stay updated on the project's progress, review staff reports, view presentations, and to find information on opportunities to get involved.



The Village's current Zoning Map.

The Illinois Tollway Drives New Development

The Village of Franklin Park is situated at the crossroads of two of the largest roadway projects in the history of the Illinois Tollway. Ongoing efforts for improved regional connectivity have proven to be a strong incentive for new businesses looking at Franklin Park as a potential location for their operations.



Map of the Elgin-O'Hare Western Access Plan that includes I-490 (Courtesy of the Illinois Tollway)

In 2019, construction continued in Franklin Park and included advance work to prepare for construction of the I-490/I-294 Interchange that will connect both the I-490 Tollway and the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Projects. Work included sanitary, watermain and storm sewer relocation and the installation of a new retaining wall and earthwork for the I-490 Tollway and for the future Powell Street detention pond. The rehabilitation and widening of I-294 between the O'Hare Oasis and Balmoral Avenue was also completed in 2019.

Two significant Tollway projects will have a positive impact on congestion and connectivity issues within Franklin Park. The new I-490 Tollway providing connections to the Illinois Route 390 Tollway and the Tri-State Tollway will provide improved access with new exit and entry points that connect Franklin Park to the western suburbs. Simultaneously, the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project will reconstruct and widen the north-south interstate to "right size" the corridor to accommodate demand and reduce congestion overflow onto Franklin Park's roadways.

According to the Illinois Tollway, the regional economic benefits of these Illinois Tollway-led improvements will include \$145 million in annual savings in time and fuel costs for those traveling on the west side of O'Hare International Airport and \$330 million in similar savings for the Central Tri-State users.





Map of the I-490/I-294 Interchange Project (via the Illinois Tollway)

The improvements delivered through both projects by 2025 are expected to enhance economic development and travel performance in the region, solidifying the Village of Franklin Park as a central point of access to and through the region.

Looking Ahead...

The 2020 construction season is expected to move forward work to support construction of the new I-490 Tollway as well as rebuilding and widening of I-294 between the O'Hare Oasis and Wolf Road. In 2020, the Tollway will construct \$10 million in planned improvements associated with the future I-490 Tollway which includes additional earthwork and drainage improvements that will enhance the drainage system within Franklin Park's industrial corridor, providing improved flood relief during significant storm events.

Franklin Park's strong partnership with the Illinois Tollway allows for the concerns of our community to be addressed as large scale, regional projects are completed. The Village looks forward to the completion of these and future projects and hopes to continue to be a part of the Tollway's efforts in improving regional connectivity.

Franklin Park's -

Modern Industrial Movement

The Village saw continued investment as a global hub for industrial development due to its proximity to O'Hare International Airport, the Canadian Pacific Intermodal Yard, and other major transportation routes. This sustained success has occurred because of partnerships with nationally recognized developers like Bridge Development and established real estate cornerstones such as Stream Realty.

The recent introduction of modern development has attracted a new workforce in sectors such as high technology, logistics, distribution, and research and development. Businesses such as Vital Proteins, Digital Realty, and Peloton now call Franklin Park home, ushering in a modern industrial era for the Village. Here are a few new businesses that the Village was able to welcome in 2019:



TRAVELON - 11333 ADDISON, SUITE 200 - 110,557 SQUARE FEET - 57 EMPLOYEES



AGILITY LOGISTICS - 10501 Franklin - 117,771 Square Feet - 125 Employees



Founded as a domestic manufacturer of luggage carts more than 30 years ago, Travelon is now a travel goods industry leader making high quality, innovative, anti-theft travel bags and travel accessories. Travelon moved their global headquarters and research and development sector to the Village of Franklin Park in the spring of 2019.



Agility Logistics is one of the world's largest integrated logistics providers. The company got its start as a local warehousing provider in Kuwait and grew to become the largest logistics company in the Middle East. Agility now has its presence in over 100 countries. The Franklin Park location contains a foreign trade zone, offices, and a distribution facility.





Switchboard Apparatus Inc. (SAI) is the leading supplier of reliable custom electrical distributing products in North America. SAI traces their roots back to 1907 in Chicago where Switchboard Apparatus Co. was established with the mission of applying ingenuity to further electric manufacturing. SAI has locations across the country.



DSV - 10701 SEYMOUR - 158,811 SQUARE FEET - 80 EMPLOYEES



DSV Air & Sea is a supplier of transport, warehouse, and logistics services. With locations in over 90 countries on 6 continents, DSV provides supply chain solutions for thousands of companies. Their expansive pool of service providers allows DSV to engineer the optimum choice of carriers to meet each client's needs, schedule, and budget.

Industrial Development Updates





Crow Holdings, headquartered in Dallas, Texas with a regional office now open in Chicago, redeveloped a 6.83 acre parcel that contained a vacant 80,341 square foot industrial building. After the outdated building was demolished, Crow Holdings was able to complete construction on an 113,747 square foot Class A, investment-grade office and warehouse building at 3311 Charles Street, steps from the I-294 Tollway. The facility features 32' ceiling heights, 16 exterior loading docks, 97 parking spaces, LED lighting, and on-site stormwater detention.

The site can accommodate a maximum of four potential tenants ranging from 29,000 to 115,000 square feet. Given the location of the development, future tenants may include a mix of assembly, light manufacturing, distribution and logistics, and cold storage. Leasing is underway.

Construction of Phase III of the Digital Realty campus made significant progress in 2019 at 9401 W. Grand Avenue. The 390,000 square foot expansion will be home to a LEED Certified, state-of-the-art facility containing performance optimized data centers that will be leased to third-party tenants. The building utilizes the latest in industry leading data center efficiency standards.

In conjunction with the construction of the 9401 building, ComEd is building a 78,000 SF substation located directly behind the building that will support the capacity required to power the expansion of Digital Realty's campus. The ComEd expansion project is being paid for by Digital Realty and will be beneficial for the entire Village. ComEd's existing area substations, such as the one near Mannheim Road and Belmont Avenue, will now have more available capacity to power other businesses in the Village once Phase III is completed and the existing electrical service is transitioned to the new substation.

New National Retailers & Commercial Investment

The Village of Franklin Park saw continued growth at the Franklin Park Marketplace. Located at the corner of Mannheim Road and Grand Avenue, 2019 saw the introduction of Jersey Mike's and AT&T at 2830 Mannheim Road. The newly built retail development currently has one remaining suite available for lease.

The Glazier Corporation development is located next door to other national retailers like Starbucks, Chipotle, and T-Mobile. Village staff has also been working to prepare the remaining vacant lots to meet market standards. To accomplish this, the Village has partnered with consultants and engineering firms to establish plans that address concerns with site access and storm water management and also reconfigure the lots to maximize development potential. As the Franklin Park Marketplace continues to attract new retail offerings and job opportunities, the Village looks forward to continued redevelopment and private investment at Grand Avenue and Mannheim Road.







Des Plaines River Trail Improvements Project



Trail Advisory Group Members discuss route findings during a roundtable exercise with Christopher B. Burke Engineering.

The Des Plaines River Trail Improvements Project took another step forward last year as a diverse selection of community, municipal, and county organizations agreed on a preferred route alternative for the Des Plaines River Trail. The plan—which aims to fix years of chronic flooding, disrepair, and unsafe road crossings—will undergo a public comment period before moving into phase II planning later in 2020.

The effort is being spearheaded by an intergovernmental coalition of municipalities including Franklin Park, Rosemont, Des Plaines, Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Maywood, Melrose Park, Norridge, Park Ridge, River Forest, River Grove, and Schiller Park. Moreover, organizations such as Christopher B. Burke Engineering, the West Central Municipal Conference, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Triton College, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, and the Active Transportation Alliance have all taken an interest in the Des Plaines River Trail.

In 2019, the coalition held multiple Trail Advisory Group (TAG) meetings to garner feedback from stakeholders regarding potential trail improvements and to identify preferred route alternatives.



Michael Kerr of Christopher B. Burke Engineering presents findings at a Trail Advisory Group meeting.

Discussions were focused on the costs of potential improvements, best practices, maximizing user safety, and minimizing environmental impact. The coalition also walked and biked the trail in order to accurately report on existing conditions, identify areas for improvement, and assess the viability of route alternatives.

The preferred route alternative aims to revitalize the archaic bridle path from Touhy Avenue in Park Ridge to North Avenue in Melrose Park. Additionally, the path will be extended to a new terminus at the Illinois Prairie Path in Maywood. The Des Plaines River Trail Improvements project has so far received \$721,000 of STP funds allocated from the North Central Council of Mayors, \$240,000 from the Cook County "Invest in Cook" grant, \$1,030,000 from the West Central Municipal Conference, and \$100,000 from the Chicago Community Trust. Together, these contributions have funded Phase I engineering and planning undertaken by Christopher Burke Engineering of Rosemont.



Trail research with Christopher B. Burke Engineering and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.

When completed, the Des Plaines River Trail will provide connections to other trail systems that extend from the Wisconsin border to the Stevenson Expressway—a distance of over 50 miles! A trail of this scale is an important amenity that provides communities with opportunities for educational and recreational programs while connecting people to the natural environment. Such ambition corresponds with CMAP's ON TO 2050 Plan of a continuous Greenway and Trails network for Northeastern Illinois.

Serving as more than a recreational amenity, the Des Plaines River Trail project and other planned improvements will help to create more opportunities for vibrant public spaces while creating safer access to destinations around Franklin Park. People will be able to visit our Downtown District and get to Metra Stations, Pace Bus stops, schools, and places of employment without relying on the ownership of a vehicle. Franklin Park remains strongly committed to working with neighboring communities to garner active investment, encourage public involvement, and identify funding sources to facillitate initiatives that accommodate safer, more enjoyable cyclist and pedestrian travel.

Manufacturing Day



Jesus Dominguez of Sloan Valve gives a presentation on the company's history, impact, and opportunities before a tour of the production floor.

The Village of Franklin Park celebrated its fifth annual Manufacturing Day in October of 2019. The national event celebrates industrial businesses as a way to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. This year, the Village of Franklin Park partnered with Leyden High School District 212, Sloan Valve, and Digital Realty to introduce nearly 100 interested junior and senior high school students to careers and opportunities that are available in manufacturing.

Sloan Valve participated in Manufacturing Day for its third straight year. The world's leading manufacturer of commercial plumbing systems, students and attendees were given a presentation about Sloan's history, impact, and the many opportunities that working with this company can offer. This was followed by a tour of the main production floor where students received a first hand look at Sloan's



Students from Leyden High School District 212 get a behind the scenes look at the operations at Digital Realty.

manufacturing process and proven technology and machinery. Students also toured the campus of Digital Realty, a global leader in the data center industry and first time participant in Manufacturing Day. Upon arrival to Digital Realty, Mayor Pedersen gave a brief speech to students and attendees regarding the importance of manufacturing and why it's important for students to consider careers in manufacturing. This was followed by a tour of the facility and an opportunity to ask questions.

Manufacturing Day is something that the Village intends to continue coordinating annually. With the large amount of new industrial businesses relocating in Franklin Park, the Department of Community Development hopes to introduce students to the wide variety of careers, educational programs, and opportunities in the trade industry.

Cook County Brownfield Remediation Revolving Loan Fund





In October, the Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability and Weaver Consultants Group provided information to members of the Cook County Revolving Loan Fund Coalition for Brownfield Remediation. A brownfield is a property where redevelopment may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The coalition includes Bellwood, Franklin Park, Schiller Park, and other Cook County municipalities with strong manufacturing histories where brownfield sites may be more likely to exist. As part of the program, coalition members are encouraged to identify potential brownfield sites that qualify for loans for cleanup and remediation.

The program is currently prioritizing projects that are ready for remediation and redevelopment. The goal of the revolving loan fund is to revitalize contaminated sites within eligible municipalities in order to attract employers that will redevelop problem properties, leverage existing transportation and logistics assets, generate living wage jobs, and create new public green space. A prime example of this kind of project is the redevelopment that was completed by Bridge Development Partners at 10501-10701 Franklin Avenue where approximately 48 acres of vacant land containing large chemical tanks were remediated to make way for a state of the art industrial campus with environmental features that ease flooding issues. With these goals in mind, the County and participating municipalities will foster livable, vibrant communities that are safe, healthy, and amenity-rich for all residents by bringing brownfield sites to productive uses.

If you know of any brownfield sites within Franklin Park that may be eligible for redevelopment through this loan, contact the Community Development Department at (847) 671-8276 for more information.

Meet the Department of Community Development and Zoning



John P. Schneider
Director of Community
Development and Zoning



Nicholas Walny
Senior Planner



Ryan Adriatico
Village Planner



Rudolph Repa
Village Planner

From 2009 to 2019, the Village of Franklin Park received

over \$66 million in grant funding for projects & infrastructure improvements.





5 new restaurants opened in Franklin Park in 2019

The Village welcomed

5 or expansions
or expansions
or 2 0 1 9
which led to the creation of over

950 new jobs.

Since its formal designation in 2016, the Franklin Park
Enterprise Zone Program has helped to facilitate over \$435 million in new construction and the introduction of over 2100 ioos

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Economic Development Commission

In 2019, the Economic
Development Commission
reviewed 2 applications
for the Cook County Real
Estate 6b Classification. The
County program is designed
to encourage industrial
development and increase
employment opportunities.

The Zoning Board of Appeals reviewed 19 applications pertaining to zoning related matters. This included 9 conditional uses, a map amendment, 2 variances, and 7 text amendments to the Village Zoning Ordinance.

The Plan Commission had a series of discussions on the pros and cons of development patterns within Franklin Park's industrial and commercial corridors in order to form recommendations for the comprehensive update of the Village Zoning Code.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

Alongside Mayor Barrett Pedersen and Village Trustees, the Department of Community Development and Zoning held ribbon cutting events in 2019 to celebrate new business in town.







The Village of Franklin Park was proud to welcome the following new businesses and expansions in 2019:

Ace Rent A Car **Agility Logistics** Amlings Interior Landscape Anthem Excavation Demolition, LLC **Apex Logisitics** AT&T Avis Budget Car Rental **Boost Mobile** CAR E.F.I. Chess Transport Freight Services **Climate Solutions Cortina Tool & Molding CRM North America Group** David's Mexican Grill **Debann Fitness Dollar Tree** DSV Air & Sea Elevate Physical Therapy & Fitness Everest Transportation Systems, Inc Ever's Nutrition Flexport, Inc Fratelli Pagani USA Inc. Granite One Corp. Intergrity Tech Jersey Mike's Subs Katz's Gyros Lino's Party Rental Marco's Tacos Martin Rock Interiors Master Brick Builders Inc. Metro Air Service Michael A. Walsh Podiatry Mobil New Image Hair Salon Peloton Interactive. Inc. Perfect Auto **Powernet Motors** Prevost Car (US) Inc. R&R Hydraulic Repair Resurrection Lutheran Church **Royal Limited LLC** RS Safety Consulting LLC RT Wholesale Sprint Switchboard Apparatus Inc. Taco Azteca Corp **Tire Wheel Connection Traffix Trucks** Travelon **Tro Manufacturing** Valdez Tax Services Woodmax Wrench Auto **Xpress Global Systems Inc.**

























A YEAR IN PICTURES

From left to right, top to bottom: (1) Mayor Pedersen touring the new DB Schenker distribution facility at 10501 Seymour Avenue (2) Village Trustees and Mayor Pedersen honor former trustee Cheryl McLean at the dedication ceremony of the Cheryl McLean Walking Path (3) Mayor Pedersen and Trustee Karen Special presenting the 2019 winner of the Vehicle Sticker design contest, Mauricio Hernandez of East Leyden High School (4) Mayor Pedersen with Vipers Baseball team members (5) Breakfast with Your Representatives with Senator Don Harmon and State Representatives Kathleen Willis and Camille Lilly at Lulu Belle's (6) Mayor Pedersen with Village Staff at a tree planting on Grand Avenue (7) NBC 5 Chicago's LeeAnn Trotter interviews Mayor Pedersen at the 2019 Franklin Park Fest for NBC 5 News' Summer Series (8) Director of Community Development and Zoning, John Schneider, with Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDTH) Superintendant, John Yonan; CCDTH Director of Strategic Planning and Policy, Maria Choca Urban; Alex Beata of CDM Smith; and Milt Sees, former Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation (9) Superintendent of Leyden High School District 212, Nick Polyak, and Mayor Pedersen tour the new facilities at East Leyden High School (10) Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri and Mayor Pedersen (11) Mayor Pedersen with Mayor Nick Caiafa of Schiller Park and Mayor David Guerin of River Grove at Franklin Park's Annual Senior Fair (12) Mayor Pedersen, Fire Chief Bill Brehm, and Trustee John Johnson with Members of the American Legion.