THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK 2017

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ZONING

A Message from Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



As Village President, I am proud to announce that 2017 was another year of improvements for the Village of Franklin Park. In terms of development, the Village is thriving. We added over 2.1 million square feet of industrial square footage in the past year. We have plenty of construction lined up for 2018 as well. We are honored to have such a strong industrial, commercial, and freight related presence in the Chicagoland region.

With so much development taking place, the need for a new Comprehensive Plan was clear. The Village approved a new Comprehensive Plan with the help of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) in August of 2017. This plan will help guide

Village Approves New Comprehensive Plan

As the Village continues its recent surge as an industrial leader in the Chicago region (see page 8), adopting a plan to coordinate this surge was essential. Particularly, a plan that focused on improving infrastructure, such as street conditions and stormwater was critical. However, the plan goes much further than improving infrastructure; it allows the Village to engage a wide range of residents and stakeholders in a variety of other topics such as housing, recreation, and multimodal transportation.

With assistance from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the Village of Franklin Park unveiled its Comprehensive Plan in August 2017. The plan provides recommendations for a number of topics and geographic locations. These recommendations are organized into chapters that correspond with the land uses within Franklin Park, these uses include: Residential Areas, Commercial Areas, Industrial Areas, Transportation, and Natural Areas. While each chapter contains recommendations that are unique in terms of their geography, there are a number of common overarching themes that run through the document, these include: Infrastructure improvement and coordination, regulatory changes, interorganizational collaboration and image enhancement. the Village through the next decade by providing clear development, transportation, housing, and land use goals. The Village's Plan Commission worked with the Department of Community Development and CMAP to produce the plan. Visioning workshops with the public were held, and we would like to thank all who participated. These workshops resulted in an implementation focused document that envisions a well-connected, healthy, and thriving Franklin Park.

In addition, the Village received several different grants in 2017 that will help fund noticeable infrastructure changes in the future. Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways awarded an "Invest in Cook" grant to the Village for Phase I engineering of the reconstruction of Franklin Avenue. We also received a commitment of funding from the North Central Council of Mayors for Phase I & II engineering. Recently, the Village received a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation to install pedestrian safety gates on three railroad crossings in downtown Franklin Park. The addition of these gates will make Franklin Park safer for pedestrians. These gates will also implement a "Quiet Zone" designation for the Village of Franklin Park.



The cover of the Village of Franklin Park's Comprehensive Plan. A digital copy of the plan is available on the Community Development homepage.

Not only does this plan provide recommendations and strategies for improving the land use areas in the Village, it aligns the recommendations and strategies with implementation approaches. These land use strategies will be important in the update to the Zoning Ordinance in 2018. At the end of each land use chapter, implementation approaches are prioritized as near- and long-term. Near-term approaches are prioritized for action in the next oneto-four years and long-term approaches are for five to 10 years. By providing these implementation approaches, it provides Village staff a tool to move forward a shared vision for the future of Franklin Park that was created by residents and key stakeholders of the Village during the planning process.

MEET the Department of Community Development and Zoning



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In the last two years

In the last two years, over

57 million gallons of stormwater storage have

been added to the Village



in 2014 to 7.8% in 2017.

has dropped from

30



New construction in 2017 totaled over **2.1 million** square feet. That's almost 1/2 the square footage of the Willis Tower

The Village Welcomes New National Retailers

In 2017, the Village of Franklin Park welcomed new retailers to the Franklin Park Marketplace and the corner of Grand Avenue and Mannheim Road including Starbucks, Chipotle, and T-Mobile. Starbucks is an important anchor for the once unoccupied corner.

Across Grand Avenue to the east of Mannheim Road, the space that once housed Savers is now a Salvation Army Family Thrift Store. Serving 128 countries around the globe and 1.5 million members, Salvation Army assists approximately 25 million Americans annually. The store opened in late 2017 and has given a fresh look to the large shopping center it sits within. They are a welcomed addition to the Franklin Park community.



Ribbon cutting ceremony at Starbucks at 2800 Mannheim Road.



Construction on the Franklin Park Marketplace in 2017.



Salvation Army Family Store and Donation Center at 10205 Grand.

Digital Realty Continues to Make Headway in Franklin Park

In January 2017, the San Francisco-based data center firm Digital Realty began the process of demolishing the former headquarters of Motorola at the 18.5 acre property located at 9401 W. Grand. Before the demolition took place, a ceremony was held on January 25th, 2017. In late 2017, Digital began the process of demolishing the existing concrete building and remediating the site. Construction of the 390,000 sq. ft. building shell and core is slated to begin in March 2018 with a completion date of early 2022.

With Digital Realty encompassing large blocks along Grand Ave., a main artery into the Village, the Village required the data center firm to beautify the area around the new building and also the property to the east. By hiring well known landscape architects, Wolff Landscape Architecture, Digital Realty has committed to enhance the image of Franklin Park along Grand Ave. by installing a number of perennials, shrubs, and trees.

DIGITAL REALTY

Below, a conceptual view of Digital Realty's planned expansion, which will increase the data firm's Franklin Park campus to 41 acres in area



Digital Realty has been ranked 6th on the Environmental Protection Agency's Top 30 Tech & Telecom list of the largest consumers of green power and also ranks twelfth on the EPA's National Top 100 list of green power users. The 9401 Grand building is no exception. The building will be LEED certified and will utilize the latest industry leading data center efficiency standards including outside air economization, allowing Digital Realty to limit its direct energy usage by utilizing temperate outside air to cool the computer equipment housed in the data center.

Village Receives Grant for Franklin Avenue Engineering

The Village of Franklin Park applied for a grant to improve Franklin Avenue through Cook County's Invest in Cook program. Franklin Avenue will serve as an exit route for the I-490. In addition, over 1,500,000 new square feet of industrial space are being built along Franklin Avenue. The Canadian Pacific Railroad also has its longest American rail yard in the corridor, solidifying Franklin Avenue as a major route for national, state, regional, and local freight movement, as well as a main artery for the Village of Franklin Park and Cook County.

The Village continues to work on making necessary infrastructure and road improvements to Franklin Avenue west of Mannheim Road. The "Invest in Cook" grant (granted by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways) totalling \$320,000 was awarded to the Village in October. This grant will help to fund the ongoing Phase I study for the reconstruction of Franklin Avenue, and the Village has also received a commitment from the North Central Council of Mayors for \$2,040,000 for the Phase I and II engineering. The Village has enlisted EXP Services, an engineering company in Chicago, to complete the Phase I study.



The proposed Franklin Avenue reconstruction project would not only reconstruct Franklin Avenue, but Williams Street and a portion of Belmont.

MANUFACTURING DAY Inspiring the Next Generation of Manufacturers

For the third year, the Village of Franklin Park celebrated Manufacturing Day in October of 2017. Manufacturing Day is a national event celebrated across the country where manufacturers open their doors and show the public what manufacturing really is. The Village of Franklin Park partnered with Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC), Triton College, Leyden High School District 212, and local industrial businesses to expose high school students to education and careers in manufacturing.



Above, students get an inside look at manufacturing processes at the Deluxe Stitcher in Franklin Park

The day began at Triton College where Mayor Pedersen gave a speech on the importance of manufacturing in Franklin Park to the participating students and attendees. The students then toured Triton College's School of Technical Careers and learned about the variety of programs offered in the fields of engineering, industrial design and manufacturing. The students spent the rest of the day touring Deluxe Stitcher and Sloan Valve. Each tour began with a presentation from the company where the students had the opportunity to ask questions about the kinds of jobs available. Students and attendees then toured the floor of each facility and were shown what these jobs actually entail.

The Manufacturing Day event is something that the Village intends to continue coordinating. With the high amount of new industrial businesses relocating to Franklin Park, the Department of Community Development hopes to expose students to jobs in industry as well as the educational programs available at Triton College. Planning is already underway for Manufacturing Day 2018.

Franklin Park Continues Partnership with IMEC

In 2017, the Village of Franklin Park continued our partnership with the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC). The Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center is a team of improvement specialists and technicians dedicated to providing organizations in Illinois with the tools and techniques to create sustainable competitive futures. IMEC works with clients all over the state to improve and plan business strategy. Because Franklin Park has such a strong manufacturing presence, IMEC has worked closely with the Department of Community Develop to facilitate workshops for various businesses. IMEC assisted the Department of Community Development with the planning for Manufacturing Day 2017. IMEC is already working with the Village on Manufacturing Day for 2018. The Village has also facilitated the connection between IMEC and companies within Franklin Park, and will continue to do so.



Amy Clary and John Bradarich of IMEC with Mayor Pedersen.

Village Recieves Rail Safety Grant for New Pedestrian Gates

In December of 2017, the Department of Community Development applied for a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation's Local Rail/Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program. The Village submitted three applications for the rail crossings at Calwagner Street, 25th Avenue, and the Franklin Park Metra Station. The applications requested funding for three pedestrian level gates at each crossing.

The Village received letters of support from the Regional Transportation Authority, Metra, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, State Representative Kathleen Willis, State Representative Camille Y. Lilly, the Superintendent of Leyden High School District 212, Franklin Park Public School District 84, Active Transportation Alliance, the Chamber by O'Hare, and The Crossings Condo Association.

The Village has been awarded the grant. The installation of these pedestrian gates will be completed by Metra. These pedestrian gates get the Village one step closer to obtaining Quiet Zone status for passing Metra trains.

Tollway Begins Work on Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project

The Village of Franklin Park has been working with the Illinois Tollway Board and staff for many years in a partnership on the planning and design of the new I-490 Tollway, which will be constructed along the western edge of Franklin Park. With construction starting in the Village this year and an expected completion date of 2025, the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project will open Franklin Park to the western suburbs. The project is expected to enhance economic development and travel performance in the region, solidifying Franklin Park as a point of access to and through the Greater Chicagoland Region.

The project is expected to save drivers \$145 million in time and fuel annually by the year 2040, reduce delays by 24 percent and decrease traffic more than 16 percent on local roads, accommodate

three times as many vehicles per day as local roads carry now, reduce travel time by more than 7 minutes for the 11-mile trip between the west side of O'Hare International Airport and U.S. Route 20 – a savings of 25 percent, relieve congestion near existing I-290/ Thorndale Avenue interchange, reducing travel times by up to 35 percent and serve an estimated 120,000 vehicles per day.

Local improvements under the EOWA Project will include direct access to I-294 by way of interchange at Franklin Avenue. With these improvements and over two million square feet of new industrial coming online in the next couple of years, Franklin Avenue and the West Industrial Corridor will experience increased traffic volume as a result. With support from the Village, and assistance from Cook County Department of Transportation, the West Central Municipal Conference was awarded a grant through Invest in Cook to study the impacts of increased traffic volume on Franklin Avenue. It's critically important that the Village provide infrastructure to support existing and future industrial development. The Franklin Avenue project will improve the safety of freight movement and help to connect goods, services and people to key destinations across the region.



BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Economic Development Commission

In 2017, the Economic Development Commission reviewed 6 applications for the Cook County Real Estate 6b Classification. The County program is designed to encourage industrial development and increase employment opportunities.

Zoning Board of Appeals

This year, the Zoning Board of Appeals reviewed 16 applications for zoning relief. These cases resulted in the approval of 9 business openings or expansions and provided important updates to the Village's Zoning Code, which was adopted in 1974.

Plan Commission

In 2017, the Plan Commission was involved in the new Franklin Park Comprehensive Plan and a Franklin Park Complete Streets Policy. Both the Complete Streets Policy and Comprehensive Plan were approved.





Another Big Year for Construction in Franklin Park

The Village once again continues to see major investment in the Franklin Park O'Hare Industrial Corridor in 2017. The construction of 5 major redevelopments began over the course of the year, totaling over 2.3 million square feet in new industrial space. The O'Hare Industrial Corridor is one of the regions hottest areas for industrial businesses due to the proximity to O'Hare International Airport, the Bensenville Intermodal Yard and major transportation routes.

In addition, with the assistance of the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development's Class 6b Program, the property taxes for industrial development has been put on a level tax field compared to surrounding counties. The 6b program helps to keep Cook County and its municipalities competitive.



Clarius Partners completed construction of a 99,079 square foot industrial building at 9300 King Avenue. The property was formerly occupied by Brunner & Lay, Inc. and was vacant for nearly 6 years. As a part of the project, Clarius installed a retention pond on the northern portion of the site, to aid in storm and flood water control and provide a buffer between the site and residential properties located immediately to the north. Marketing efforts are underway.



In late 2017, Panattoni Development Company began the demolition of the former US Smokeless Tobacco building at 11601 Copenhagen and will begin construction of a 378,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art speculative facility. The building will be constructed with pre-cast concrete, contain 36' ceilings, provide parking for nearly 300 cars and have 57 stalls for trailer storage.



CenterPoint, owner of a building at 10601 Seymour, demolished a 458,888 sq. ft. building in 2017 to make way for a new Class A industrial building totaling 225,930 sq. ft. In addition, CenterPoint will construct a new 333,580 sq. ft. building at 10701 Seymour.

The building at 10601 Seymour will be a "front park-rear load" warehouse building containing 57 exterior docks and two drive-in doors. The facility will have positions for 68 trailers and parking for 238 cars. The building at 10701 Seymour will be a cross-dock warehouse facility with 92 exterior docks and two drive-in doors. The facility will have positions for 76 trailers and 188 cars. CenterPoint is a major industrial developer, specializing in new industrial redevelopment, acquisition and management of industrial real estate.



After the completion of a 367,390 sq. ft. building at 3801 Centrella, Molto Properties is developing 3701 Centrella. Molto began construction in late 2017 on a 106,848 sq. ft. light industrial facility that will contain a height of 32', contain 20 exterior docks, 113 parking stalls, and 38 trailer parking stalls. The property could be divisible by three to four tenants and is a single load style building with no cross docks.



In mid-2017, Bridge Development purchased the site of 14 large gas/fuel tanks owned by Magellan Pipeline Company at 10601 Franklin Avenue and immediately began the demolition process. Shortly thereafter in late 2017, Bridge Development began construction of 3 brand new Class A industrial buildings with a total of 656,300 sq. ft. (174,720 sq. ft. 203,840 sq. ft. 288,760 sq. ft.).

The 174,720 sq. ft. building will have 45 exterior docks, 2 drive-in doors, 164 parking spaces and a ceiling height of 36'. The 203,840 sq. ft. building will contain 59 exterior docks, 2 drive-in doors, spaces for 177 cars and a 36' ceiling height. And lastly, the 288, 760 sq. ft. building will provide 59 exterior docks, 2 drive-in doors, spaces for 177 cars and a ceiling height of 36'.

Bridge Development Partners is an industrial developer who has acquired, developed and sold nearly \$2.5 billion of real estate since 2013. This is their first project in Franklin Park.

Collectively, these redevelopments total nearly 2.2 million square feet of new industrial building area in Franklin Park. All 6 projects will result in new job opportunities and an increased tax base. The activity is consistent with the vision of industrial areas outlined in the Village of Franklin Park Comprehensive Plan, which states that "The Franklin Park O'Hare Industrial Corridor will maintain, strengthen, and grow its industrial businesses and employment, and continue to be a key industrial center for the Village and the region." The redevelopment of these sites includes modern industrial real estate market standards and will reduce flooding issues across the industrial corridor with a combined 16 million gallons of new stormwater retention and detention.

The Village Kicks Off Des Plaines River Trail Coalition

In March of 2017, The Village of Franklin Park organized an application of a grant to the Invest in Cook program (granted by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways) for Phase I engineering on the Des Plaines River Trail between North Avenue and Touhy Avenue. The Des Plaines Trail system is a 27.2 mile trail that stretches from North Avenue in Melrose Park to Lake Cook Road in the Potawatomi Woods. The Des Plaines River serves as a critical component of the regional recreational trail system of the western suburbs. However, the trail along the river between North Avenue and Touhy Avenue has long been underutilized, unsafe, and uninspired. The trail suffers from gaps in connectivity, flooding, and a lack of signage.

As part of the development of the Village of Franklin Park Comprehensive Plan, which looked at the Village's bike trail connectivity, reconstruction of the Des Plaines River Trail became a goal. The Village of Franklin Park organized a coalition including the West Central Municipal Conference and the west suburban municipalities of Village of Rosemont, City of Des Plaines, City of Park Ridge, Village of River Grove, Village of Elmwood Park, Village of Schiller Park, and the Village of Norridge. The coalition submitted to Cook County's Invest in Cook Program, with the Village of Rosemont as the lead applicant.

The coalition received \$309,000 from the Invest in Cook Program (granted by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways), along with matching funds from the North Central Council of Mayors. With the procurement of this grant, the Village of Franklin Park looked for an organization to lead the project. The Village and the coalition, working with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, applied for and received a grant from the Chicago Community Trust. With this grant, the Village and the coalition enlisted Active Transportation Alliance. At the coalition's request, Active Transportation Alliance will bring together key stakeholders, from local elected officials to County, State, and Federal agencies to regional planning bodies, to address access and connectivity issues along the southern end of the Des Plaines River Trail from Touhy Avenue to North Avenue. The Forest Preserves of Cook County, who have jurisdiction over the Des Plaines River Trail, are also involved and have been a tremendous help. The Village and the rest of the coalition are committed to the creation of a well-connected, beautiful, multi-modal trail that runs alongside the river.



The Des Plaines River Trail runs through Cook and Lake County all the way to the Illinois/Wisconsin border.

Village Increases Stormwater Capacity

57 Million Gallons of Storage Added Since 2015

Flooding has occurred throughout the Village's history and in April 2013, a flood event was considered a major disaster in Cook County, inundating numerous properties in Franklin Park. In several neighborhoods, residents are susceptible to basement backups, roadway ponding and rear-yard ponding that can damage property and be of nuisance to residents. As the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan illustrates, the Village must take a holistic approach to stormwater management and flood risk reduction. To do this requires coordination among all watershed stakeholders upstream and downstream and consider limiting redevelopment in the floodplain and update ordinances to support stormwater management.

To alleviate the pressure of continued flood events, the Village adopted a stormwater ordinance in 2011 as part of the Village Code. The ordinance requires a combination of storage and controlled release of stormwater runoff for all commercial, industrial, and residential developments exceeding ten thousand (10,000) square feet in area. Since adopting the ordinance, the Village has added over 40 million gallons (8 million gallons from private development and 32 million gallons from Public Works projects) of storage since 2015 and will add another 17 million gallons that is currently under construction from private development, potentially decreasing the likelihood of a major flood event.



Two different stormwater detention ponds in the Village. New industrial development has contributed significantly to the Village's stormwater capacity.

O'Hare Subregion Truck Routing and Infrastructure Plan



Community Development staff worked with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Cambridge Systematics and Sam Schwartz Engineering to advance the O'Hare Subregion Truck Routing and Infrastructure Plan. In 2015, CMAP awarded a Local Technical Assistance (LTA) grant to the Village of Franklin Park and 10 neighboring communities in the subregion surrounding O'Hare International Airport. The communities included Itasca, Woodridge, Bensenville, Elk Grove, Des Plaines, Schiller Park, Franklin Park, Melrose, Bellwood and Maywood.

The plan investigated ways to collaborate across municipalities to address issues of inconsistent regulation, poor roadway conditions, traffic congestion, community impacts, and uncoordinated routing for oversize/overweight vehicle permits. This plan will be a helpful addition to those communities who participated.



1000 Ideas Furniture at 10220 Grand Avenue



Omnilife at 10007 Grand Avenue



ATA Martial Arts at 9678 Franklin Avenue



Chipotle at 2926 Mannheim Road

Ribbon Cuttings

Alongside Mayor Barrett Pedersen and

Village Trustees, the Department of

Community Development and Zoning

held ribbon cutting events in 2017 to

celebrate new business in town.

2017



Al Gelato at 3220 Mannheim Road

Successful Second Year for Franklin Park Enterprise Zone

In 2016, The Village of Franklin Park applied for and received Enterprise Zone designation with the state of Illinois. Enterprise Zone is a state program that provides state sales tax relief for the purchase of building materials for commercial and industrial projects within a designated "Enterprise Zone."

2017 was the Village's second year as an Enterprise Zone, and the program supported several different commercial and industrial projects. In 2017, four projects applied and received the state sales tax exemption. The total cost of all four developments and was \$30,848,431. The estimated cost of building materials for all four projects was \$18,170,000. With the application of the Franklin Park Enterprise Zone, these projects saved a total of \$1,135,625 by not paying state sales tax on the purchase of the building materials.

Anyone interested in applying for an Enterprise Zone tax exemption in 2018 should contact the Department of Community Development. Several projects underway have already received this exemption for the upcoming year.

New Businesses of

2017

In 2017, the Village of Franklin Park was proud to welcome the following new businesses or business expansions:

1000 Ideas Furniture Store 2 Guys and a Van A&B World Wide Flight Services **A&E Business Services** Ahi Real Estate & Insurance Aramsco **ATA Martial Arts Cabral Tax Services Central States Trucking Centro Omnilife Chicago Hardware** Chipotle **Classic Insurance** Davan Inc. **Divine Beauty Salon Expolanka Farmers Insurance First Green Landscaping Focus Transport & Logistics** Grab Brothers Iron Works **Grand Furniture Grant Park Packaging Guilbert Express Inc. Integrity Tech** International Furniture Direct **Just Manufacturing K&D Elite LLC KCP Metal Fabrications Inc.** La Botana **Lino's Party Rental** Luis Hair Design Master Brick Builders, Inc. Metro PCS **Omega Home Solutions Roxy Kabob Rubicon Technologies** Scarpita Cartage Inc. Show Sage Society of American Bosnians and Herzegovinians Sorrento's Fresh Italian Café Starbucks **Stay Fit Nutrition** Taqueria Y Restaurant El Gallo de Oro II **The Right Barbers The Salvation Army** Tierpoint **T-Mobile** Yadi's Grill Zoom In Inc.

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A YEAR IN PICTURES

From left to right, top to bottom: (1) Groundbreaking ceremony for I-390 with the Illinois Tollway including Chairman Bob Schillerstrom, Mayor Pedersen, and other mayors in the western suburbs. (2) Trustees and staff participate in a Complete Streets tour and workshop with Mark Fenton, a design expert. (3) Mayor Pedersen with President Mary-Rita Moore of Triton College, who spoke at 2017's Business Appreciation Lunch. (4) Trustee John Johnson, Mayor Pedersen, President Mary-Rita Moore, Clerk Irene Avitia, Trustee Karen Special, and Trustee Andy Ybarra at 2017's Business Appreciation Lunch. (5) Rafal Rak of Digital Realty, John P. Schneider, Mayor Pedersen, Michael Hahn of Al Gelato, and Sheila Owens of ComEd at 2017's Business Appreciation Lunch. (6) Mayor Pedersen, Trustees, and staff at the ribbon cutting ceremony for ATA Martial Arts at 9678 Franklin Avenue. (7) 2017 Business Appreciation Lunch. (8) Trustee Andy Ybarra, Trustee Cheryl McLean, Clerk Irene Avitia, Trustee Karen Special, Trustee John Johnson, Trustee James Caporusso, and Mayor Pedersen. (9) Railroad Day 2017. (10) Comprehensive Plan Visioning Workshop (11) Trustees and Mayor Pedersen at the ribbon cutting ceremony for Chipotle at 2926 Mannheim Road. (12) Trustees, Mayor Pedersen, ComEd, Cook County, and Village staff at Demolition Day.