

# Village News



## Mayor's Desk



### Quiet Zone Application Update

Over the last several years the Village has had countless meetings with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as on-going discussions with the railroads to complete the process for a Quiet Zone designation. We worked diligently to secure \$1.2 million in funding for the required safety improvements which included installing delineators down the centerline of the roads at 25th and Ruby. We coordinated with the Village of River Grove as they completed installation of delineators at the River Road and Thatcher Avenue crossings, and worked with Metra to complete their required pedestrian safety upgrades.

Additional paperwork required for our joint application with the Village of River Grove to establish a Quiet Zone was submitted to the ICC in late August. I have confirmed with the ICC that our application is being processed. I also indicated that if any additional information is required, the Village is prepared to respond immediately and will submit any documentation that may be needed.

I appreciate the community's patience during this long process, and we are hopeful that a Quiet Zone designation is on the horizon. Please watch our Village website and Facebook page for the latest updates.

### Franklin Park Receives Climate Resiliency Planning Assistance

Thanks to Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Franklin Park is one of five communities selected to participate in the Climate Resiliency Planning program. This nearly \$16 million program will help communities prepare for more frequent

and severe weather events like rainstorms, higher temperatures, and droughts. It is critical that communities are prepared to mitigate damage and losses and to safeguard the health and well-being of our residents.

Extreme weather events and escalating climate disruption are causing severe damage to our infrastructure, our economy, and our quality of life. It is imperative that lifesaving and planet-saving efforts begin immediately.

The grant will allow us to develop Climate Resiliency Plans by engaging in a community driven planning process to set goals, identify potential projects, and risks. Additionally, the County will support implementing nature-based solutions and other resiliency measures, such as green infrastructure improvements, stormwater management, and renewable energy installations.

Communities were selected through a competitive process and were also assessed on the need for resources, tree canopy coverage, flooding risk, and the number of impervious surfaces.

The County is able to provide funding for the Climate Resiliency for Communities Program through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The County allocated over \$100 million in ARPA funding to support a clean environment for all and to fight climate change.

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



45th Annual  
**EDDIE BIONDO**  
Fall Fest Parade

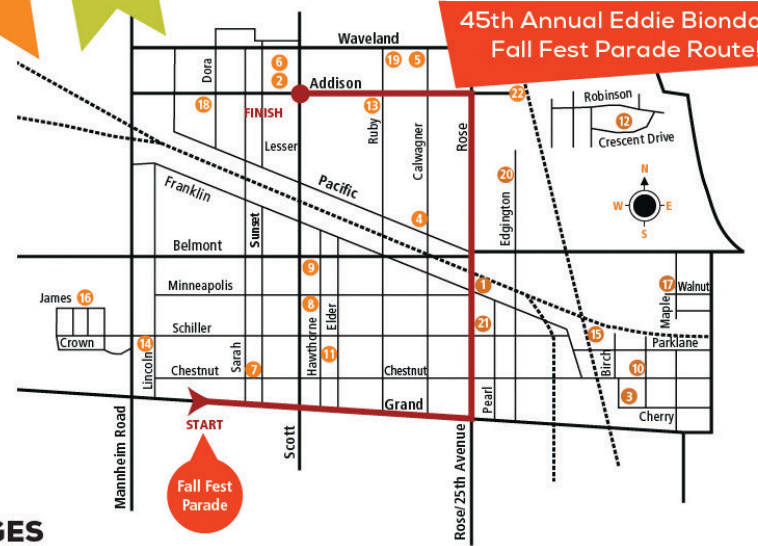
FREE

#### ALL AGES

Gather your friends, family, and neighbors to see floats, marching bands, local schools, and more showcasing the heart of Franklin Park. The parade marches from the intersection of Grand Avenue and Scott Street, heads east on Grand, then north on 25th Avenue (Rose Street), and ends at Addison and Scott Street (North Park). Be sure to join us after the parade for our annual Pumpkin Fest at North Park. Contact the Park District at 847-455-2852 for a parade entry form.

Day	Date	Time
Su	Oct 1	1-2 pm

Location: Scott Street and Grand Avenue



FREE

## Pumpkin Fest

#### ALL AGES

The fun isn't over after the Eddie Biondo Fall Fest Parade. Continue celebrating at North Park with the Pumpkin Fest! We will have loads of bright orange pumpkins waiting to be painted and taken home. The afternoon is full of family-friendly activities, inflatables, face painting, and more!

Day	Date	Time
Su	Oct 1	2-4 pm Immediately following the parade

Location: North Park

# HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!



Barrett F. Pedersen  
Mayor

April Arellano  
Village Clerk

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

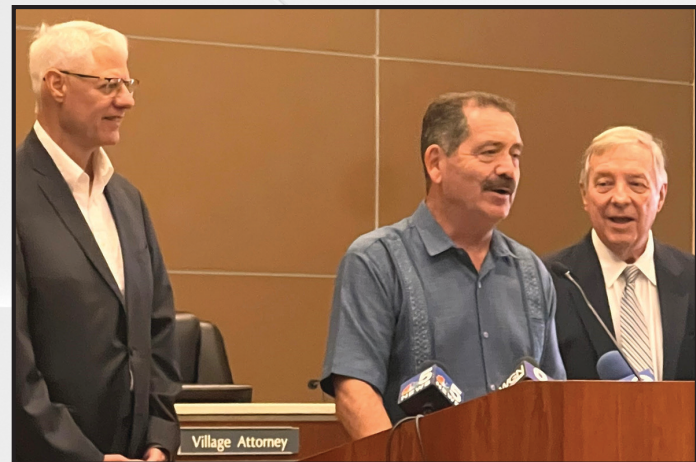
9500 Belmont Ave.  
Franklin Park, IL 60131  
847-671-4800  
www.vofp.com  
villagenews@vofp.com

Emergency 911

Police & Fire  
(Non-Emergency)  
847-678-2444







▲ U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Congressman Jesús G. "Chuy" García (D-IL-4) joined Mayor Pedersen at a press conference on August 22 to discuss Franklin Park's \$8 million rail safety grant. Funding will support safer crossings for roadway users including pedestrians and students, reduce negative impacts of blocked railroad crossings, and aid response time for police, fire, and emergency medical vehicles.

### Leyden Family Services at Village Hall

Leyden Family Services will be at Village Hall to help residents who have questions or need help applying for government programs including Medicare, Medicaid, and LIHEAP. Staff can also help with understanding medical bills, prescription assistance, and more. Bring your Social Security award letter and paycheck stubs that show the amount of income you receive. No appointment is necessary. Please check the Document Checklist on our website at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com) before you visit.

Staff will be available at Village Hall from 9 AM to Noon on the following dates in 2023:

September 20, October 18, November 15, and December 20

## Shred and Recycle Event September 16

The Village will host a free shred and recycle event on Saturday, September 16, from 9 AM until Noon at the Police Station. This is a great opportunity to safely eliminate old documents that may contain your personally identifiable information, to recycle electronics, and turn in expired or unused medications and prescription drugs for safe disposal.

There is a two-box limit per household for shredding. Remove clips and staples. Shredding will be accepted until the truck reaches capacity.

To see a complete list of electronic items that will be accepted at the event, visit the Village's Sustainability Page at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com).

### Village Restarts Municipal Electric Aggregation Program



The Village is again offering residents the opportunity to participate in an electric aggregation program beginning this October with a the rate that is identical to ComEd's rate AND it will provide the Village with the advantages of a Green Power Community designation including Renewable Energy Certificates, all at zero added cost to residents and the Village. As a result of the aggregation program, the Village will be purchasing over 3,000,000 kWh's of green energy, or the equivalent energy of replacing 600 gasoline powered cars for a year!

MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (mc2), was selected to serve eligible residents and small business customers with an **electric supply price equal to the ComEd rate** (it will not be higher or lower) for a 12-month term beginning with the October 2023 ComEd meter read cycle. Residents may opt out at any time with no termination fees.

Several versions of the program announcement letter were sent in late August to different households, so **please read your letter for specific information.** Not all residents will be included in the program, so many of the letters will just be informational. Please understand that while you may receive a different letter than your neighbor, you will not pay a rate that is one penny more than your neighbor's rate.

ComEd will continue to deliver the energy and will provide your monthly bill. "MC Squared Energy Services" will be designated as your supplier in the "Supply" section of your ComEd bill. In addition, no one's rate, or billing will change for the duration of the program.

**If you have questions, contact** MC Squared Energy Services, LLC via email at [FranklinPark@mc2energyservices.com](mailto:FranklinPark@mc2energyservices.com) or by calling (833) 505-3751. You may also contact our consultant, Adam Hoover, at 847-392-9300. Read more about this program on our website at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com).



Everyone had a great time at the Village's World Honeybee Day celebration in August. The event featured informational booths, games, and free honey samples. Attendees learned about why honeybees are an essential pollinator and the crucial role they play in protecting the world's food supply.