

Village News



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

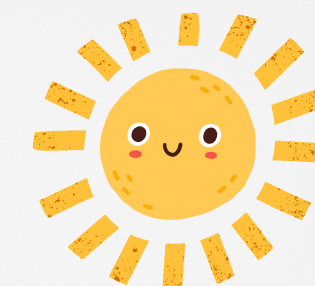
April Arellano
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:
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Gil Hagerstrom
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Emergency 911

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



Happy Summer!

Mayor's Desk

hello july!

Answers to Questions About Water Department Billing

I want to address the confusion with the Water Department's billing process. The Board and I regret any stress and misunderstandings it may have caused.

Village. Please know that if you received an unusually high ADJUSTED bill, this is not going to be your monthly bill going forward.

Many residents have been receiving ESTIMATED bills, rather than ACTUAL readings, while the Water Department works to replace transponders in the meters.

If your bill still states ESTIMATED, do not delay in contacting the Village. Please call (847) 671-8252 or email ekubkowski@vofp.com to make an appointment to upgrade your meter's responder or to schedule a meeting to determine adjustments, payment plans, and/ or reimbursements.

The transponders inside the water meters only have a working life of approximately 15 years. Water usage is recorded in the meter head and transmitted to the Village.

We have added weekend and evening appointments for your convenience. We also have staff that can assist in Spanish and in Polish.

The Village has been upgrading the meters, replacing the transponders, since 2019; upgrading over 2600 transponders. This effort stopped during COVID as workers were not allowed to enter homes. After the pandemic, parts were not immediately available.

I have requested that the water department staff review each and every claim or inquiry received and get back to you as soon as possible.

When the transponder stops working, the meter head is no longer able to transmit your ACTUAL water use, so an ESTIMATE is being charged for your use. The new transponder calculates the ACTUAL usage back to the date when the meter went into estimating mode. Estimated rates are calculated at the lowest rate charged since the meter went into estimate mode.

Going forward, I urge you to sign up for the Water Smart Program. The Water Smart Program shows your hourly and historical water usage and provides leak notices. Complete information is available on our website. We will continue to distribute more information and background on this issue on our website and our Facebook page. We appreciate the opportunity to answer your questions and to help you through this transition.

That is why some people received an unusually high bill after the new transponders were installed and others have received reimbursements from the

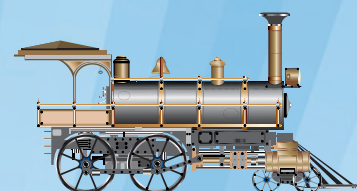
Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen

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Thank You To Our 2024 Sponsors!

I am touched and overwhelmed by the outpouring of good wishes and prayers that I have received following my recent transplant surgery. I am recovering well, and I am back at work at the job that I love. I owe tremendous thanks to our Village Clerk, Trustees, and staff who performed so ably in my brief absence.

I am enormously grateful to the Transplant Team and medical staff at Loyola Hospital. Their professionalism, compassionate care, and cutting-edge techniques are what makes Loyola a world-class institution.

Thank you to all, I am very appreciative.

Mayor Barrett Pedersen

High Water Bills Could Mean You Have a Leak

To avoid unusually high-water bills, check to make sure that your faucets and toilets are not leaking or running and that they are in good operating condition. If you suspect there is a leak somewhere in your home and you need help locating it, schedule an appointment with the Village's Water Department, by emailing ekubkowski@vofp.com with your name, address, and phone number. Also, check the top of your water bill for the type of reading you received. **If your bill states ESTIMATED, please call (847) 671-8252 to schedule an appointment to obtain an accurate reading.**



Passport Service Available at the Library

The Clerk's Office will provide passport service at the Franklin Park Library by appointment only from 10 AM to 3 PM on Saturday, June 29, July 27, and August 24 ONLY. On-site photo services will be available. To schedule your appointment or for more information, contact the Clerk's Office at 847-671-8242.

Village Awarded Grant to Fund Tree Canopy

The Village of Franklin Park has been awarded a \$109,770.00 subgrant by Morton Arboretum's Chicago Region Trees Initiative to improve our urban tree canopy. The funding will allow the Village to purchase and plant 140 diversified species of trees, to train staff in the care of trees, and promote the benefits of trees to residents. From helping to mitigate flooding to reducing urban heat islands, community forest projects like this make neighborhoods greener and have many important benefits.



Help Shape the Future of Grand Avenue!

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is partnering with the Village of Franklin Park to create a plan to transform Grand Avenue into a safe, accessible, and thriving corridor. The plan will help residents and elected and appointed officials guide future actions, decisions, and development in the community. We want to hear your thoughts on the design, character, and functionality of Grand Avenue. Your input will guide the recommendations in the corridor plan. Fill out the visual preference survey on the Village's homepage at vofp.com or here:



Apply NOW for Sidewalk Program

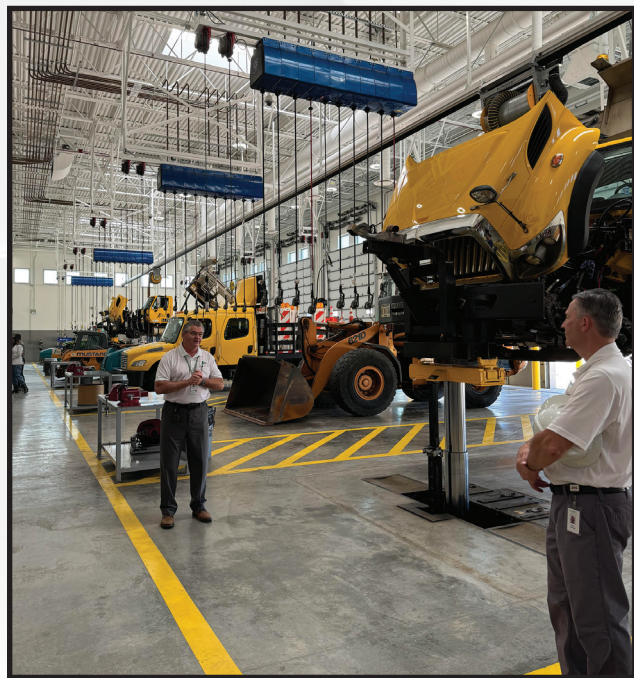
The Village is accepting applications now for the 50/50 Sidewalk Program to replace damaged and cracked concrete on the public sidewalk near your home. Homeowners and the Village will share the cost evenly. Please call (847) 671-8308 to be placed on the list for this summer. The Village will contact you to make an appointment to discuss the details. If you apply after July 31, 2024, you will be placed on the list for next year.

Save the Date - Mark your calendars and watch for more information!



Village-wide Garage Sale - August 23, 24, & 25 from 8 AM until 7 PM

Sell your unwanted items and one-of-a-kind treasures at the Village-wide Garage Sale. You can register to be included in the list of participating addresses by emailing clerk@vofp.com or calling (847) 671-8242.



Shred and Recycling Event - October 5 from 9 AM Until Noon

Residents can shred documents that contain their financial and personally identifiable information, recycle electronics, and turn-in unused or expired medications at this free event.



Health and Resource Fair - October 18

This event will feature dozens of vendors providing important health care information, sample products, giveaways, and FREE medical testing. Plan to get your vaccinations and renew your driver's license too!

▲ On June 14th, the Village's Community Development Director Nicholas Walny participated in a walking and bus tour of the Tollway's LEED-Certified Bensenville maintenance facility, three active I-490 construction sites, and industrial sites in Franklin Park and Bensenville. The tour highlighted the partnerships and the positive economic impact that I-390 and I-490 are having on surrounding communities. The tour was presented by Metro Strategies and was a collaborative effort between the Illinois Tollway, and Villages of Franklin Park, and Bensenville.