



## EPA Grant to Fund Assessment in Brownfield Sites in Western Suburbs

The EPA has awarded a \$600,000 grant to Cook County and a coalition of seven western suburbs, including Franklin Park to assess potentially contaminated properties and their redevelopment potential.

“Intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration allows us to work together to leverage grant funding that we may not be able to secure on our own,” stated Franklin Park Mayor Barrett Pedersen. “This grant will help to address environmental issues that hinder redevelopment and to ultimately attract new investment to our community.”

The County’s Department of Environmental Control has begun working with coalition member communities on next steps. Go to [vofp.com](http://vofp.com) to read more about this effort.

### Comcast Highlights Franklin Park

Mayor Barrett Pedersen recently was a guest on the Comcast program “Newsmakers” and discussed Franklin Park’s advantages for business. Go to the Homepage of the Village website at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com) to click the link and watch the interview.

### Application Available for Senior Snow Removal

Seniors are encouraged to apply now for the Village-subsidized Senior Snow Removal Program that allows participants to pay \$15 per service request. If you were previously enrolled in the program, you MUST enroll again before it fills up. Applications are available at Village Hall or by calling 847-671-8240.



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen discusses plans with coalition members to begin conducting environmental assessments of brownfield sites in western suburbs and the goal of getting them cleaned-up and back into productive private or public use.

### October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Breast cancer is one of the leading health crises for women in the United States. 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. An early diagnosis is critical to survival. Getting a high-quality mammogram and having a clinical breast exam on a regular basis are the most effective ways to detect breast cancer early. Go to [www.nationalbreastcancer.org](http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org).

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence is an epidemic affecting individuals in every community. On average, nearly 20 people per minute are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in the United States. If you need help, call the National Domestic Violence hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2014

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN



Mayor's Desk

## Planes, Trains and Street Improvements

Let's face it- this is Franklin Park.

Our proximity to O'Hare International Airport and all the roadways and rail that allows inter-modal commerce is a great locational advantage for our business community. We respect O'Hare as the economic engine of our region and we value our region's preeminence as a transportation center.

But the price of progress cannot be the public health and safety of our citizens. Since the opening of the new runway last October, Franklin Park along with other communities adjacent to the airport, have endured unprecedented levels of noise and pollution, a result we were promised would not happen. I worked closely with Congressmen Quigley to advocate that the FAA conduct a new Environmental Impact Study on the noise and pollution effects of the new runway configuration. They declined and indicated that they will conduct a new study after all the new runways are completed- in a few years!

That is not acceptable. Our residents and businesses cannot wait to discover what the effects are of these new traffic patterns.

I, and the Board, will continue to work with Congressman Quigley to get relief sooner.

Additionally, we are watching legislation that has been introduced in Springfield that would request the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study on the environmental and health impacts caused by the new air traffic patterns.

We are also requesting additional sound monitors and increased funding for soundproofing from the City of Chicago's Department of Aviation and the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission.

### Report Airplane Noise

But we need your help! Please continue to register EVERY complaint of noise, disturbances and pollution to 1-800-435-9569. You may also file an on-line complaint and get more information at our website, [vofp.com](http://vofp.com). The more documented complaints the Department of Aviation receives, the quicker we can get relief.

### Train Horn Quiet Zones

While train horns can be very annoying, it is important to remember that the horns are blown as a safety measure. It has been our goal to investigate establishing a train horn "Quiet Zone". In order to get a Quiet Zone designation, Villages must make substantial investments in alternative safety measures at each grade crossing to cease the bothersome horns.

Because Franklin Park has several train crossings and multiple tracks, we have been told that to effectively reduce the noise, and meet the safety requirements, all crossings must be re-configured.

We will be hosting a Community Presentation on Wednesday, October 29 at 7 PM at the Police Station to discuss this important issue. Please join us to learn about progress made to date, hear recommendations and review the path to achieving a 'Quiet Zone' designation.

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### The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen  
Mayor  
Tommy Thomson  
Village Clerk

Trustees:  
John Johnson  
Cheryl McLean  
Randy Petersen  
Bill Ruhl  
Karen Special  
Andy Ybarra

9500 Belmont Ave.  
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[www.villagenews@vofp.com](http://www.villagenews@vofp.com)

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

Village Hall will be closed on Monday, October 13 for Columbus Day

Trick or Treat Hours are 3-7 PM on Halloween





## ◀ Mayor's Desk Continued from Page 1.

### Street Improvements Proceed

Thanks to your approval of the 1% sales tax, dedicated to street improvements, we are moving forward with revitalizing our streets. We are also moving forward to make critical repairs and updates to our water and sewer infrastructure paid for through the water and sewer utility fund.

We will be working on the 3400 and 3500 blocks of Calwagner and also in the Reuter Street Sub Division to inject foam to kill tree roots which clog storm water pipes. We will be studying the whole area which includes Johanna, Leona, Calwagner, Atlantic, Reuter, Richard, Nevada, Sheila and Nona in order to prepare it for engineering with construction in spring of 2016. If you have questions regarding this improvement project, please contact our Village Engineers at 847-671-8304.

This project is part of our multi-year effort to repair, restore and renew our infrastructure. If you think there are places in your area that need improvement, we would like to hear from you. Also, if you are interested, please participate in our Citizens Advisory Committee on Infrastructure which will continue to meet to discuss prioritizing improvement projects for our Village. You can sign-up by calling the Village at 847-671-4800.

**BARRETT F. PEDERSEN**  
MAYOR



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen and Village Trustee Karen Special joined the owners of Baranowski Bakery & Deli to cut the ribbon in Franklin Park. You can visit them at their new location at 9560 Grand Avenue.

## Fire Department's Open House - Oct 11

Join the Franklin Park Fire Department at their annual Open House on Saturday, October 11 from 11 AM to 2 PM at Fire Station #2 at 10001 Addison. Learn how to keep your family safe by utilizing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Refreshments will be served. Kids can see fire engines and ambulances up close, play games and get to use a fire hose. For more information, call 847-671-8798. Remember, working smoke alarms save lives -- test yours every month! To learn more about Fire Prevention Week, October 5 - 11 and to get useful safety tips, go to <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/safety-tip-sheets>.

## Franklin Park Military Days - October 11 & 12

American Legion Post 974 is sponsoring two days of events to support Operation Comfort Warriors. The event will include WWII re-enactments and displays, food booths and a 1940's USO-style dinner dance at Legion Hall on Saturday. For more information, download the event flyer at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com) or email [Fpmilitary-days2014@usa.com](mailto:Fpmilitary-days2014@usa.com).

## Traveling WWII Monument - October 19

Everyone is welcome to view the monument and attend a special presentation sponsored by Franklin Park American Legion on Sunday, October 19 at 1 PM. The event will be held at Post 974, located at 9757 Pacific Avenue in Franklin Park. Admission is free. For more information and to register a WWII VETERAN for the Program Book, Pillars of Honor, call (847) 954-0520. Visit the website at [www.pillarsofhonor.org](http://www.pillarsofhonor.org).

## Village Seeks Veteran Names for Monument



Please submit the name of a veteran from Franklin Park to have it added to our Monument. Submit a copy of the veterans DD-214 form to the Village Clerk, at Village Hall, by October 15th to ensure the name will be added to the wall before our Veteran's Day ceremony on November 11th. For more information, call (847) 671-8244.

## Community Presentation to Discuss Train Horn Quiet Zones

Frustrated with train noise in Franklin Park? Plan to attend a special community presentation to learn about steps required to pursue the establishment of a Quiet Zone in town. The Village will host the presentation on Wednesday, October 29 at 7 PM at the Police Station.

Trains are required by federal law to sound their horns at crossings, but certain crossings can qualify for a "Quiet Zone" status. Quiet Zones are vehicle or pedestrian crossings where a train operator is not required to blow the train horn unless there is a hazard on the tracks or the locomotive is leaving a station. However, without extensive safety upgrades, the crossings in Franklin Park do not qualify.

Everyone is invited to attend the presentation and to learn more about the Quiet Zone establishment process, safety and funding considerations and ways residents can get involved in this initiative.



## Franklin Park Focus - The Police Department

Our Franklin Park Police Department assisted Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart in a gun operation that resulted in dozens of guns coming off the streets before they could get in the hands of dangerous criminals.

Our Department, and Chief Michael Witz, participate in many cooperative programs that stop the trafficking of drugs and guns and keep gang members from coming into our Village. In this operation, they recovered the guns that had been stolen from a River Grove collector.

Sheriff Dart praised our department and said this was a perfect example of how effective law enforcement can be when collaborating closely. We in Franklin Park always knew we had an excellent, effective police force. It is great to see Sheriff Dart and the region now know it as well.

## Police Department Announces Special Needs Registry

Franklin Park residents with special needs or permanent disabilities can now make their situation known to emergency responders and local law enforcement. The new program is designed to give police quick access to critical information about a registered individual with special needs to better assist them in an emergency situation. Residents or family members are encouraged to complete the Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) application at the Police Station. Adults and children with disabilities such as Alzheimer's, Autism, Schizophrenia, Dementia, or any other mental or developmental disorders can be registered. The information will be maintained in a confidential database and will provide police with emergency contact information, detailed physical descriptions, known routines or triggers, favorite attractions or special needs of the individual.



▲ Franklin Park's Police Department collaborated with the Cook County Sheriff's Department in a special operation that took guns off of our streets.

To learn more about the SNAP program, please contact the Police Chief at 847-6718203 or visit the Police Station to complete the application. Please include a recent photo of the individual with the application.