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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**  
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**For More Information**  
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### **SAVERS STORE TO OPEN IN FRANKLIN PARK** **Store Will Occupy Part of the Former K-Mart Site**

**Franklin Park** – Yesterday, the Village Board supported a request by Savers, a national second-hand retailer, to occupy approximately 28,900 square feet of retail space at 10205 West Grand Avenue, in the site of the former K-Mart store. Savers is a privately held thrift store chain that operates nearly 300 stores across the United States, Canada and Australia. There are several stores in the Chicago area, including in St. Charles, Downers Grove and Naperville.

“I am very pleased that Savers will be opening a store in Franklin Park which will provide an affordable shopping opportunity for local families and will also create new jobs, with good benefits for our community,” stated Barrett Pedersen, Mayor of Franklin Park. “The addition of Savers to the former K-Mart site will help continue our retail revitalization efforts and help us to attract additional retailers to this location.”

Savers is making an investment in this site by upgrading landscaping and by making other site and parking lot improvements. Village officials believe that the repurposing of this vacant portion of the K-Mart facility will have a positive impact on the property values within the neighborhood.”

## **MEDIA RELEASE (continued)**

Savers purchases gently-used clothing and home goods collected in the community by local non-profit organizations like the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago. Savers then resells these items in their department style stores.

“By purchasing and reselling donated items, Savers has paid more than \$1 billion directly to its nonprofit partners and has turned otherwise unused items into sustainable revenue to support a non-profit’s programs and services,” said Pedersen. “The company is also committed to helping protect our planet by being one of the largest recyclers of used clothing in the world. Their efforts have prevented more than 600 million pounds of goods each year from ending up in landfills.”

Savers ships items not suitable for store shelves to developing countries for resale and to domestic material wholesalers to be recycled into new materials such as mixed rags, car insulation and much more.

Savers was granted a request in December by the Village’s Zoning Board to construct a Community Donation Drop-off Area which will consist of a drive-up/drive-thru facility to allow patrons to donate items to a store employee in a covered carport area. Savers will retrofit a portion of the former K-Mart Garden Center to construct this Community Drop-off Area and will include landscaping and parking lot improvements. Donations will only be accepted during regular hours of operation and a “after hours” collection bin will not be allowed.

“We are pleased to welcome another national retail chain to Franklin Park,” concluded Pedersen. “We have been working hard to attract new commercial developments to our community and this addition, and the recently opened Big Lots store, will provide quality shopping options for our residents.”

The Savers store is projected to open in September.

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