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Media Release

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NEW GRANT WILL SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF A TRUCK ROUTE Allows Area Towns to Prepare for Increased Truck Movement and to Support Local Industry

Franklin Park, IL – The Chicago Metropolitan Planning Agency (CMAP) awarded a Local Technical Assistance Program grant to Franklin Park and ten neighboring communities in the O'Hare sub-region. The grant will allow for the development of a plan which will strengthen existing freight infrastructure and boost the competitive advantage of the region.

The Village of Franklin Park prepared the technical assistance grant for CMAP for at truck route study on behalf of 10 neighboring communities. The collaborative effort includes the O'Hare sub-region municipalities of Bellwood, Bensenville, Des Plaines, Elk Grove, Franklin Park, Itasca, Maywood, Melrose Park, Northlake, Schiller Park, and Wood Dale.

"Disconnected truck routes, poor roadway conditions and congestion are problems in Franklin Park that must be addressed," stated Mayor Barrett Pedersen. "A truck routing and infrastructure plan will help our Village plan for new connections, coordinate with neighboring municipalities, prioritize capital improvement projects and identify sources of funding. This grant will help to ensure the economic competitiveness of our Village as we prepare for the future."

“Excellent access to freight infrastructure is a primary benefit to industrial companies and the O'Hare sub-region truck network is especially vital in supporting our industrial base,” said Mayor Pedersen.

The O'Hare sub-region is one of two major freight and manufacturing hubs in the Chicago metropolitan area and is home to over 3,300 industrial businesses, providing jobs to 73,000 employees. In Franklin Park, the truck route supports 424 industrial businesses with 13,000 employees.

“The Village has found that our industrial businesses are relying more on trucks over any other freight mode,” added Mayor Pedersen. “Also, the completion of the Elgin-O'Hare Western Access project is projected to increase the amount of truck movement throughout the area. This grant will create a truck routing and infrastructure plan to allow the O'Hare sub-region municipalities to best prepare for the increase in truck movement and also better support local industrial activity.”

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