

---

## Park Progress Newsletter

---

### Park District Hosts Ceremonial Groundbreaking for New Segment of DuPage River Trail



The Park District hosted a ceremonial groundbreaking for a new segment of the DuPage River Trail on June 23. The ceremony took place at Riverview Park.

The trail segment is expected to be completed this fall. When complete, the DuPage River Trail eventually will be a 29-mile trail running along the DuPage River from Naperville to Channahon.

The Park District received \$1,215,500 in American and Recovery Reinvestment Act funding for the development of the DuPage River Trail from Riverview Park to the Com Ed right-of-way at 143rd Street and Route 59. These monies are being utilized in conjunction with \$656,000 in Illinois Enhancement Transportation Program funds from the Illinois Department of Transportation and \$80,000 in federal SAFETEA-LU funds.

*Pictured from left to right are John Mayer, Project Manager with Engineering Resource Associates, Inc.; Mike Brann, Vice President of the Park District Board of Commissioners; Michelle Kelly, President of the Park District Board of Commissioners; Greg Bott, Park District Executive Director; Mary Kay Ludemann, Park District Commissioner; Cameron Bettin, Park District Planning Superintendent; Brian Murphy, Village Administrator; Michael Collins, Mayor; Larry Kachel, Village Trustee; and Bill Lamb, Village Trustee.*

---

### Ottawa Street Pool extends season through Labor Day

The Park District will extend its Ottawa Street Pool season through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 6.

Weekday hours are Monday – Friday, 1-4:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. Weekend and holiday hours are Saturday and Sunday (and Labor Day Monday), 1-8 p.m. Please note that weekday hours will be extended to 1-8 p.m. the week of Aug. 16, then shortened to 4-8 p.m. when school starts on Tuesday, Aug. 24.

---

### Construction continues on Village Green Redevelopment Project

Construction on the Village Green Redevelopment Project is scheduled to be completed by August.

The playground and picnic shelter remain open during construction. However, the picnic shelter is not available for rent.

The Park District received a \$250,000 Open Space Land Acquisition and Development grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in 2009 to re-develop the park.

“Obviously we were very pleased and excited to receive the grant,” said Park District Executive Director Greg Bott. “This project will enhance the enjoyment of park users, as well as compliment the improvements in downtown Plainfield such as the Streetscape project and the planned Riverfront project.”

The funds are being used to relocate the existing basketball court to expand the play area to include a spray

ground, a new amenity to the Park District. Plans also include construction of a new half basketball court and the replacement of a concrete pad with a rain garden. In addition, the project will include the renovation of the existing restrooms to meet ADA accessibility guidelines; the installation of new site furnishings including benches, trash receptacles, and drinking fountains; the replacement of fencing and surfacing at the

## Park Progress Newsletter

### Plainfield Park District Demonstrates Fiscal Responsibility

#### Saves taxpayers nearly \$345,000 with bond sale

The Park District recently refunded a 2000 series of general obligation bonds at a current, lower interest rate to save its taxpayers almost \$345,000.

The bond sale took place May 5, resulting in a \$344,537 interest savings over a 7-year period. It will save Park District residents approximately \$49,000 a year from 2011 to 2017.

“It may not amount to a lot of savings for the individual tax payer, but it’s just one more way we are trying to be sensitive to our community during these tough economic times,” said Park District Executive Director Greg Bott. “We saw an opportunity to save some money and we took advantage of it.”

As a point of clarification, the bond sale does not put money into the park district’s budget for it to spend. Rather, it saves residents money that would have been spent in interest.

In addition, Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services affirmed the Plainfield Park District’s ‘AA’ bond rating. Last year, the Park District’s bond rat-

#### Receives recognition for excellence in financial reporting for 4th year in a row

The Park District received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the fourth year in a row. The award is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

“This recognition, especially for the fourth consecutive year, reinforces the Park District’s overall level of fiscal responsibility and a continued trend of sound and positive financial performance, especially when you consider today’s economic climate,” said Executive Director Greg Bott.

The Park District’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the GFOA program. This included demonstrating a “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

ing was raised three grades from ‘A’ through ‘A+’ and ‘AA-’ to its current rating of ‘AA’. The Park District’s ‘AA’ rating means it has a very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments, a reflection of its well-managed budget and demonstrated fiscal responsibility.

Credit ratings are forward-looking opinions about credit risk. Standard

& Poor’s credit ratings express their opinion about the ability and willingness of an issuer, such as the Park District, to meet its financial obligations in full and on time. Last year’s rating upgrade reflected the Park District’s continued trend of sound and positive financial performance leading to maintained reserve levels and moderate debt burden.

tennis courts; lighting upgrades; and the renovation of the existing path system.

The Village Green is 2.7-acre community park located just south of historic downtown Plainfield at Fox River and Chicago Streets. Platted in 1834, it has been used for a variety of recreational purposes, including a croquet field, swimming pool, baseball diamond, and outdoor amphitheater. Except for the replacement of the playground in 1999, it has not has a major renovation in 30 years.

