



## Village of Bedford Park Board Briefs

January 4, 2019

*"Preserving the past to enhance the future"*

### **Senior Services**

The Village of Bedford Park offers many services to senior residents ages 65 and over. By offering these services, the village is striving to encourage independence for senior adults through advocacy and assistance. The following are offered free of charge: lawn service, snow shoveling, transportation services, knoxbox program, LifeAlert services and many more.

**We recently made changes to the Senior Services program. Moving forward, all questions, issues, or to schedule for transportation services, please contact the Village Hall at (708) 458-2067.** If you are not signed up for the program, please contact the Village Hall.

### **Snow**

We appreciate everyone's efforts to help our Public Works in keeping our streets clear of snow. Kindly recall that vehicles must be removed by 9:00 am on days that snowfall is 2 inches or higher or the vehicle owner will be subject to a citation. If you have not registered for the senior removal program, please do so by calling the Village Hall at (708) 458-2067. A special thanks to Kevin Ormins and his Public Works staff for their great work.

### **Residential Properties**

We are very happy with the construction of the new homes in the residential area. The new homes meet the village standards and have been sold in a rapid time frame. Kindly recall, the village offers incentives for construction on 35 and 50 ft. lots. The incentive for the 35 ft. lots differs from the past in that the village will not own the property and will be limited to two properties per year on a first-come first-serve basis. The village will rebate the appraised fair market price of up to \$200,000 for construction of a new home on a 35 ft. lot that meets the village construction standards for a total reimbursement of \$400,000 per year. The appraisal will be conducted by a village approved appraiser. Construction standards will be proportional in size and consistent with our previous standards for the other two incentives. We will also rebate

up to \$20,000 for demolition costs. Reimbursement is rendered at the time of occupancy of the new home.

The Village Board strongly feels that revitalizing and maintaining the quality of the residential area are the most important factors for our future. The program reflects similar incentives the village has done in the industrial area for a long time and reflect housing incentives in other municipalities. Specific details can be picked up in the Village Hall. The vacant lots in the village fall into a separate incentive program.

### **Park District Consolidation**

We are continuing to work with the Park District on consolidation efforts. The consolidation would take an Intergovernmental Agreement. We greatly appreciate everyone who voted on this issue to help us in the way guided by the voters.

### **Event Center**

The village has secured financing for the planned event center. We hope to have final architectural drawings completed by next week with construction to begin in April. The center will be built on the south side of the 5401 W. 65<sup>th</sup> ST site and we tied into a private hotel development. Financing is backed by TIF funds and holds no obligation to property tax funds. Our plan is to have the Recreational Department oversee a management company in running the facility. The Recreational Department would be created through the consolidation with the Park District. We hope the facility will be completed by the spring of 2020. Alpa Construction, a Bedford Park business that does major construction projects throughout the United States, will be doing the architecture and construction management for the facility. The goal of the project is to increase our hotel business through regional and national tournaments on weekends and to have local usage during the week. We will also target potential convention use.

### **Residential Alleys**

We plan on doing some minor upgrades of the residential alleys in the spring or weather permitting during the winter. We will notify the residents of this work when the planning is completed.

### **Businesses**

According to local realtors, the industrial area in Bedford Park is doing as well as any other in the Chicago area with business occupancy running about 93%

of capacity. We are losing Alliance Steel to Indiana at the end of 2019. However since they lease their property, we will not see a major loss of property tax revenue with their departure. Home Chef on 65<sup>th</sup> Street is planning a major expansion. Hotel business is up 8% for the year. With the two gas stations we have added in the past 3 years, our sales tax revenue is up substantially. Plans for the hotel development at 65<sup>th</sup> and Central continue.

We hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and wishing you and your family a happy and healthy new year.

***Happy New Year!!!***