

South Suburban Coalition

Fiscal Year 2022 Federal Priorities



Matteson Village Hall



SouthCom Emergency Dispatch Center





May 2021

To the Illinois Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson as well as SouthCom Combined Dispatch Center, we are pleased to present you SouthCom Coalition’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Federal Agenda. Thanks to the substantial support we have always received from the Illinois Congressional Delegation and their staff, SouthCom Coalition members have and continue to utilize valuable federal resources that have a nexus with our community interests.

With the change of a new Administration in Washington, D.C., the Coalition has developed a focused and concise FY 2022 Federal Agenda that aligns with the priorities set forth by Congress and the White House. The FY 2022 Federal Agenda concentrates on federal priorities that are crucial to our communities, including funding for community and economic development, public safety as well as transportation and infrastructure maintenance and development. The Agenda also highlights federal legislation of interest to the Coalition such as the Housing is Infrastructure Act, the Outdoors for All Act, and Next Generation 9-1-1 Act that would expand and provide additional sources of funding for the Coalition to enhance the communities they serve.

The Coalition’s FY2022 Federal Agenda also provides detailed information and updates on the Villages’ individual needs and ongoing projects. Similar to previous years, the Villages remain focused on improving its existing transportation, water, and sewer infrastructure while encouraging economic development to create both safe and vibrant communities. Projects of interest include the redevelopment of downtown/town center and former mall areas, construction of water and storm water infrastructure, and replacement of police and firefighter equipment. The coalition hopes to match these needs with federal competitive grant announcements, and in addition have submitted 3 proposals to Congress that would enhance emergency dispatch operations, modernize heavily-used roadways, and improve local street conditions for consideration as congressionally directed funding projects.

The Villages appreciate all that the Illinois delegation has done and continues to do for our communities. We look forward to working with you and your staff in the coming year to better the lives of our residents and welcome your feedback on our FY2022 Federal Agenda.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Vanderbilt
Mayor
Village of Park Forest

Rick Reinbold
Village President
Village of Richton Park

Sheila Y. Chalmers-Currin
Village President
Village of Matteson



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Community and Economic Development

Community Development – Housing Stock and Redevelopment

Priority #1. *Fair and Affordable Housing Legislation.* Endorse and support the introduction or reintroduction of federal legislation in the 117th Congress that prioritize fair and affordable housing policies including funding for the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing units as well as addressing homelessness within communities. The Coalition is supportive of many of the housing and homelessness proposals included in President Biden’s American Jobs Plan. Fair and affordable housing legislation introduced in the previous 116th Congress include:

- Housing is Infrastructure Act
- Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act
- American Housing and Economic Mobility Act

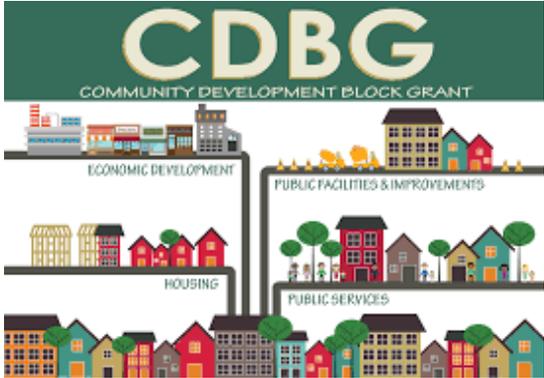
The South Suburban Coalition partners have been and remain committed as strong advocates for the development of equitable opportunities within the South Chicago Suburbs for residents to live and work. While these bills were introduced in the 116th Congress, the Coalition urges support for their reintroduction and passage of these important legislation in the 117th Congress. Together, these bills would provide significant investments to affordable housing infrastructure including many of those listed below that the Coalition partners support. These bills would also expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) and establish new programs and funding to construct new housing units for low-income and middle-class families as well as down payment assistance for underserved communities.



FAIR HOUSING IS THE LAW!

Priority #2. *Federal Housing Program Funding.* Support robust funding for federal affordable housing and other housing-related programs including:

- Within the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) –
 - i. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
 - ii. HOME Investment Partnerships Program
 - iii. Public Housing Fund (PHF)
 - iv. Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)/Section 8 Program
- Within the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF) –
 - i. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) –
 - i. Brownfields Programs



The Coalition partners benefit from a number of federal programs that provide critical financial support for community development and rehabilitation projects as well as housing needs. Funding provided through CDBG to the partners has enabled the Villages to make necessary improvements within their communities due to the flexible nature of the program, while other HUD programs including HOME, PHF, and HCV programs ensure the availability of affordable housing stock and provide housing financial assistance for low-income families.

Aside from federal housing programs, the South Suburban Coalition also urges Congress to provide full funding for LIHEAP as well as EPA’s Brownfields Program. LIHEAP provides assistance to families to ensure that they can pay for electricity and heating in their homes to prevent dangerous disruptions in service or unsafe heating and cooling practices. Lastly, the Brownfields program helps rehabilitate and clean up polluted or contaminated property to spur redevelopment and encourage investment in brownfield sites and their surrounding neighborhood while improving the environment.



Housing Stock and Redevelopment Programs and Projects

Housing Rehabilitation and Construction Trades Training Program. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$500,000 to support a housing rehabilitation program that focuses on vacant, tax delinquent, and/or foreclosed home within the community while incorporating workforce training in construction trades for local students and community members. Partnering with the South Suburban and Prairie State Colleges, the Village has developed the South Suburban Trades Initiative (SSTI), which has helped rehabilitate two dilapidated and tax delinquent properties to date and is currently in the process of rehabilitating a third property. Once rehabilitation is completed by the students and local trade union apprentices, the houses are sold at market rates, boosting home values within the community while raising property tax revenue and providing practical training for the participating students and apprentices.



A grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority has enabled the Village to purchase materials and hire needed personnel to ensure that projects are completed in a timely manner. The requested funding would allow more house to be rehabilitated, addressing the problem of vacant and abandoned homes within the region while providing opportunities for local students and trade apprentices.

South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$1,000,000 for the acquisition, renovation, demolition, and maintenance of vacant, foreclosed, and blighted properties within the South Chicago Suburbs to help address the problem of abandoned homes within the region. Established in 2012, the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority was the first land bank in the State of Illinois created in response to the impact of





foreclosures within the region. As the State of Illinois does not provide assistance to sustain Land Bank organizations, it is difficult for the Land Bank to effectively conduct its work and maintain self-sufficiency while acquiring and maintaining a large portfolio of properties without any funding assistance.

Community Development – Parks and Recreation

Priority #3. *Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Legislation.* Endorse and support the reintroduction of the Outdoors for All Act in the 117th Congress or introduction of similar legislation that adjusts ORLP grant eligibility to include “Urban Cluster” communities with a population between 2,500 and 49,999.

While the Coalition is encouraged by the enactment of the Great American Outdoors Act in 2020 and the expansion of federal assistance under NPS’s Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grants Program to urban parks and recreation spaces and facilities, ORLP limits grant recipients to urbanized areas with a minimum population of 50,000, making smaller urban communities like the Villages ineligible for this crucial recreation funding. Despite this, the Villages together own and operate many park spaces that are in need of renovations due to a lack of funding and grant opportunities available. As such, the Coalition partners’ urge the Congressional delegation to support legislation like the Outdoors for All Act, which would revise current ORLP eligibility criteria to include communities like the Villages which are located near urbanized areas but have a population of less than 50,000.

Parks and Recreation Programs and Projects

Community Intra-Village Multi-Use Trails and Community Recreation. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$850,000 to upgrade a number of existing park paths within the Village to multi-use trails. Adopted by the Park Forest Board of Trustees in 2014 and developed with assistance from the Chicago Metropolitan



Agency on Planning (CMAP), the Park Forest Bike & Pedestrian Plan outlined a network of routes that are established to encourage and enhance pedestrian and bicycle traffic to and from primary destinations within the Village. Together, the proposed projects would provide greater interconnectivity and safe links between the largest parks within the Village as well as a performing arts venue, library, swimming pool, Main Street Farmers Market, and Downtown Park Forest.

Community Development – Community Service

Priority #4. *Federal Community Service Programs Funding.* Support robust funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service’s (CNCS’s) National and Community Service Programs including:

- AmeriCorps State and National Grants Program
- National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)



AmeriCorps State and National Grants Program along with the NCCC subprogram engages 18- to 24-year-olds in team-based national and community service within the United States. In particular, NCCC teams complete about 4 different 6- to 8-week long projects during their 10-month term of service in communities of need to help improve existing infrastructure, promote environmental stewardship, and assist in urban development, among others. The Village of Park Forest has had 5 rounds of NCCC teams in recent years (2016-2020) while the Village of Richton Park was successful in obtaining resources from NCCC in 2017 and 2018. Both Villages are applying for to the NCCC program again in 2021.



Economic Development

- Priority #5. Economic Development Programs. Support robust funding for federal economic development programs including:
- Within the Department of Commerce’s (DOC’s) Economic Development Administration (EDA) –
 - i. Economic Development Assistance Programs (Public Works, Economic Adjustment, Planning, Local Technical Assistance, etc.)
 - Within the Small Business Administration (SBA) –
 - i. Business Loan and Development Programs



The Coalition supports funding for EDA economic development assistance programs, which provide grants to communities to help revitalize and spur new economic development through infrastructure upgrades and expansions as well as technical and planning assistance. The Villages also urge the Congressional delegation to provide

full funding for SBA business loan programs and related agencies including the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) to ensure that community business owners have the necessary resources and support to maintain their businesses as the United States emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Safety

Police and Policing Needs

- Priority #6. *Federal Police and Policing Needs Funding.* Support robust funding for federal policing and police support programs including:
- Within the Department of Justice (DOJ) –
 - i. Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne-JAG) Program
 - ii. Body Worn Camera (BWC) Partnership Program
 - iii. COPS Hiring Program (CHP)
 - iv. Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Programs
 - v. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Programs

The Coalition partners strongly support full funding of Department of Justice grants to state and local government that would enable law enforcement agencies to conduct their work safely and efficiently. In

particular, the Byrne-JAG program provides funding assistance to law enforcement agencies for the purchase of equipment and supplies, technological upgrades, and training. CHP funding allows law enforcement agencies to hire new or rehire career law enforcement officers to increase community policing capacity, while the BWC partnership program has helped develop and maintain trust and partnership between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.



Police and Policing Needs Programs and Projects

Policing Equipment Purchases and Replacements. The Villages of Park Forest and Richton Park are seeking \$100,000 and \$25,000 respectively in the upcoming fiscal year for the purchase of license plate readers (LPRs). LPRs enable law enforcement agencies to capture high volumes of point-in-time vehicle license plate data that will support investigations when serious criminal incidents occur along routes with LPRs installed. The Villages of Richton Park and Matteson are also seeking \$180,000 and \$80,000 respectively to replace existing portable radios and add new radios for additional police officers. With the Cook County Sheriff’s Office switching from the previous FDMA radio system to the new TDMA system, TDMA radio replacements for previous FDMA radios are necessary to ensure interoperability in communications for law enforcement agencies within the region.

Individually, the Village of Park Forest is seeking \$75,000 for the purchase of portable video surveillance trailer and pan, tilt, and zoom (PTZ) camera system. These technologically advanced cameras will allow law enforcement officials to efficiently monitor areas with increased criminal activity and gather evidence when crimes occur. The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$40,000 for the operation of its body worn camera (BWC) program including video storage and camera maintenance as well as the purchase of 6 additional BWCs. The Village of Matteson is seeking \$120,000 for the replacement of squad car cameras that are no longer functioning as well as \$45,000 for the replacement of outdated tasers that will no longer be supported by the producing company.



Community Policing and Youth Mentoring. The Village of Matteson is seeking \$75,000 to help fund the Community Policing Bureau, which is currently overseen by a civilian licensed social worker. This bureau oversees the Village’s Senior Triad, Cadet Explorer, Family Youth Initiative, Community Mediation, Peer Jury Alternative Discipline, and Homeowner Association programs. With a limited budget, the Village relies on fundraising to maintain the bureau’s programs and activities that include purchasing uniforms, assisting displaced families, and enriching the younger members of the community.

Firefighter and Firefighting Needs

- Priority #7. *Federal Firefighter and Firefighting Needs Funding.* Support robust funding for federal firefighting and firefighter support programs including:
- Within the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS’s) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) –
 - i. Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) Program

ii. Staffing for Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants Program

The Coalition partners are pleased with increases in funding to both the AFG and SAFER programs in Fiscal Year 2021 compared to Fiscal Year 2020 and urges the Congressional delegation to maintain the current or increase the level of funding for the two programs in Fiscal Year 2022. The FEMA firefighter grant programs have provided critical funding for the Villages, with AFG enabling firefighters and first responders to obtain critically needed equipment including protective gear and emergency vehicles and provide training and other resources needed while the SAFER grant assists local government like the Villages hire and retain firefighting staff. The Coalition has submitted applications for AFG in the past and the Villages of Park Forest and Richton Park have submitted an application each for the Fiscal Year 2021 AFG cycle as listed in the section below.



Firefighter and Firefighting Needs Programs and Projects

Fire Truck Purchase and Replacement. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$800,000 to purchase a quint fire truck, which doubles as both an engine and a ladder truck. Despite having dozens of buildings within the Village that exceed the maximum reach of the fire department’s existing ground ladders, funding constraints in the past years have forced the Village to rely on automatic aid partners to provide ladder truck capabilities, which have become more unreliable in recent years due to increased call volumes and staffing issues. The Village’s AFG application for funding to purchase a quint fire truck for the Park Forest Fire Department would increase the safety of both Village firefighters and residents alike.



The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$750,000 to replace a deteriorating 18-year-old fire engine quickly nearing the 20-year National Fire Protection Association-recommended (NFPA-recommended) retirement recommendation. While the Village has made a number of safety updates to the fire engine over the years, the costs associated with bringing the fire engine to NFPA standards would be costly and better spent on supporting other urgent needs of the Village’s fire department. With a limited budget, an AFG award for a new fire engine would provide more reliable and safer service to the residents of Richton Park and surrounding mutual communities within the South Chicago suburbs.

The Village of Matteson is seeking \$600,000 to purchase a heavy rescue squad for the Village’s Fire Department and has submitted an application for funding under FEMA’s AFG program. As the Matteson Fire Department currently does not have a heavy rescue squad, the Village must rely on neighboring fire departments for assistance when a heavy rescue squad is needed, limiting the Village Fire Department’s ability to respond quickly to emergencies where heavy duty extrication is required to rescue trapped occupants. The heavy rescue squad would also carry specialized equipment and tools like water and high angle rescue as well as specialized foam equipment needed to combat hazardous material incidents and



extinguish fires on railways. With an interstate, two major state highways, and both commuter and freight railways running through the Village, the purchase of a heavy rescue squad would improve emergency response and safety for the community.

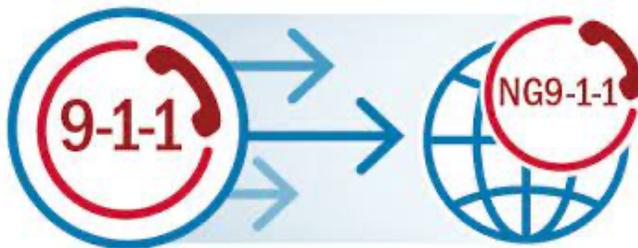
Fire Exhaust Removal System. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$65,000 for the replacement of the Village’s current fire exhaust removal system. As the current exhaust system reaches the 20-year mark, constant maintenance and reliability issues due to its age and heavy use, along with studies showing the devastating health effects like cancer that inhalation of exhaust can have on firefighters, have led to the determination that a replacement and retrofit of certain portions of the system are necessary in order to ensure the safety of the Village’s firefighters in the long term.

Firefighter Training Equipment Needs. The Village of Park Forest, with the support of the Village of Richton Park, is seeking \$400,000 to replace its existing training tower, which was opened in 1965. Used by the Village’s fire department for training and the local Community College to teach classes to fire departments in the surrounding area, the tower is nearing the end of its usable life due to its age and heavy use. Without a new fire training tower, the Village’s fire department will not be able to conduct live fire trainings. The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$27,095 for the purchase of a digital fire extinguisher training system. Using lasers to simulate extinguishing agent discharge from weighted fire extinguishers, the training system can help educate and improve fire-safety knowledge within the community and prevent deadly kitchen fires and others that lead to devastating fire loss.



Emergency Dispatch

Priority #8. *Next Generation 9-1-1 Legislation.* Endorse and support the reintroduction of the Next Generation 9-1-1 Act in the 117th Congress or introduction of similar legislation that encourages efforts by federal, state, and local governments to deploy next generation 9-1-1 systems in the United States.



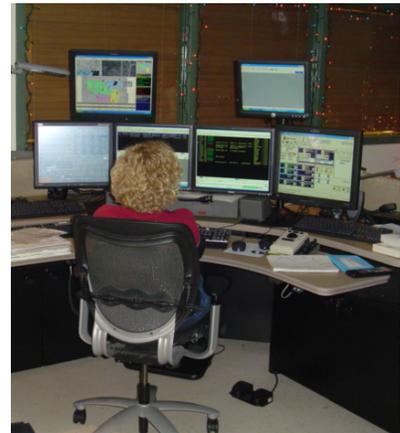
With the introduction of new communications technology, federal funding is necessary to help 9-1-1 systems across the country adapt to accommodate new forms of communication including text messages, pictures, videos, and others sent through smartphones, tablets, and other smart devices in an emergency situation. The Next Generation 9-1-1 Act would establish

a federal grant for state and local governments to upgrade and modernize their 9-1-1 systems to improve the overall reliability and efficiency of our nation’s emergency dispatch systems.



Emergency Dispatch Programs and Projects

Public Safety Technology Upgrades. SouthCom Emergency Dispatch is seeking funding for the purchase of video equipment to be utilized alongside the upgraded microwave system to increase First Responder safety and improve response times for incidents within the communities it serves, which includes the Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, Matteson, and Olympia Fields. With this video equipment, SouthCom’s telecommunicators will be able to provide real time information directly to first responders and allow them to better serve and provide services to residents within our communities while deterring crimes. SouthCom remains committed in providing high level service to our communities, and funding for this video equipment will add to SouthCom’s efforts to ensure safety for our first responders. The SouthCom Emergency Dispatch submitted a \$275,000 FY 2022 community project funding application for technology upgrades that will allow for enhanced community reporting and notification, which is critical to our community’s safety.



Next Generation 9-1-1. SouthCom Emergency Dispatch is seeking funding for additional hardware and software that are needed to support implementation of the text to 9-1-1 system. Text to 9-1-1 provides benefits to both the community and first responders, as community members would now have the ability to text information or send photos to communicate and provide more comprehensive emergency data to SouthCom telecommunicators in an emergency situation. SouthCom has invested in their system infrastructure to support this new technology on both the computer aided dispatch (CAD) and phone system, and the additional hardware and software requested will complement these investments to improve communications and services between first responders and citizens.

Transportation and Infrastructure Maintenance and Development

Transportation

Priority #9. *Surface Transportation Reauthorization Legislation.* Support and enact comprehensive surface transportation reauthorization legislation in the 117th Congress similar to the Moving Forward Act introduced in the 116th Congress that strengthen federal investment in infrastructure programs to fund local transportation-related projects. The Coalition believes the release of the Biden Administration’s American Jobs Plan infrastructure package could mean strong development for the region if passed into law. The coalition hopes legislation retains and increases formula funding allocations for local governments in the following programs:

- Within the Department of Transportation’s (DOT’s) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) –
 - i. Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program
 - Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program
 - Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
 - Increase suballocation amount for local government under STBG
 - ii. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program

- iii. Federal funding to local governments for street improvement projects including roadway resurfacing and complete street modifications

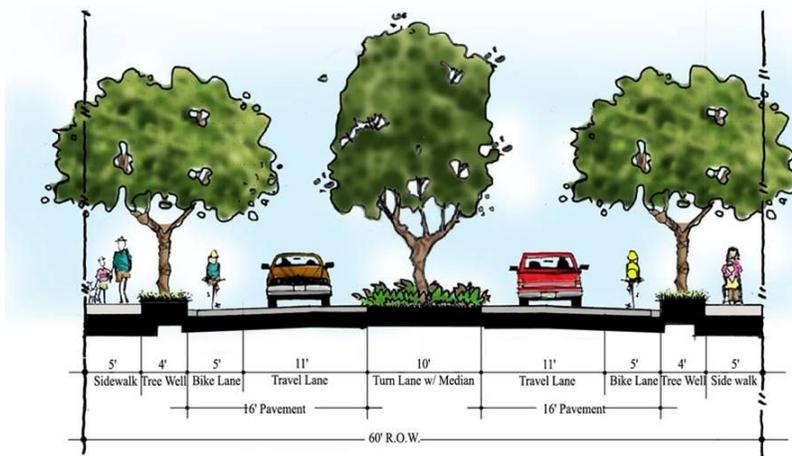
Despite the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act’s expiration at the end of September last year and the promise of the passage of the Moving Forward Act in the House, Congress did not reauthorize comprehensive transportation and infrastructure legislation before the end of the 116th Congress. The Coalition looks forward to the enactment of such legislation in 2021 with a new Administration, as funding for surface transportation programs remains an important priority, and urges the Congressional delegation to ensure that more federal funding is allocated to the local level to help accelerate the City’s transportation and infrastructure projects.

The Villages are pleased to see and support the return of congressionally directed funding now known as Community Funding Projects to help provide funding assistance to projects that may not qualify or be competitive under current federal competitive or formula grant programs. The Coalition partners also urge that any final negotiated infrastructure package ensures that dollars flow expeditiously to local governments and includes full funding for traditional formula funding programs that support the Villages’ projects listed below like STBG, its TA set-aside, and CMAQ to improve regional infrastructure.

Priority #10. *Large-Scale Passenger and Freight Transportation Project Funding.* Support robust funding for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program under the Department of Transportation (DOT).

While the Villages have not received a RAISE grant award, the Coalition nonetheless supports funding for the competitive RAISE grants program, which provides needed funding to municipalities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for transportation projects that have a significant local or regional impact. Since its inception as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grants, the TIGER, then BUILD and now RAISE programs have funded a number of projects in the Greater Chicago Area including grade-separated interchange upgrades and transit station improvements similar to infrastructure projects that have been proposed or completed by the Villages in recent years.

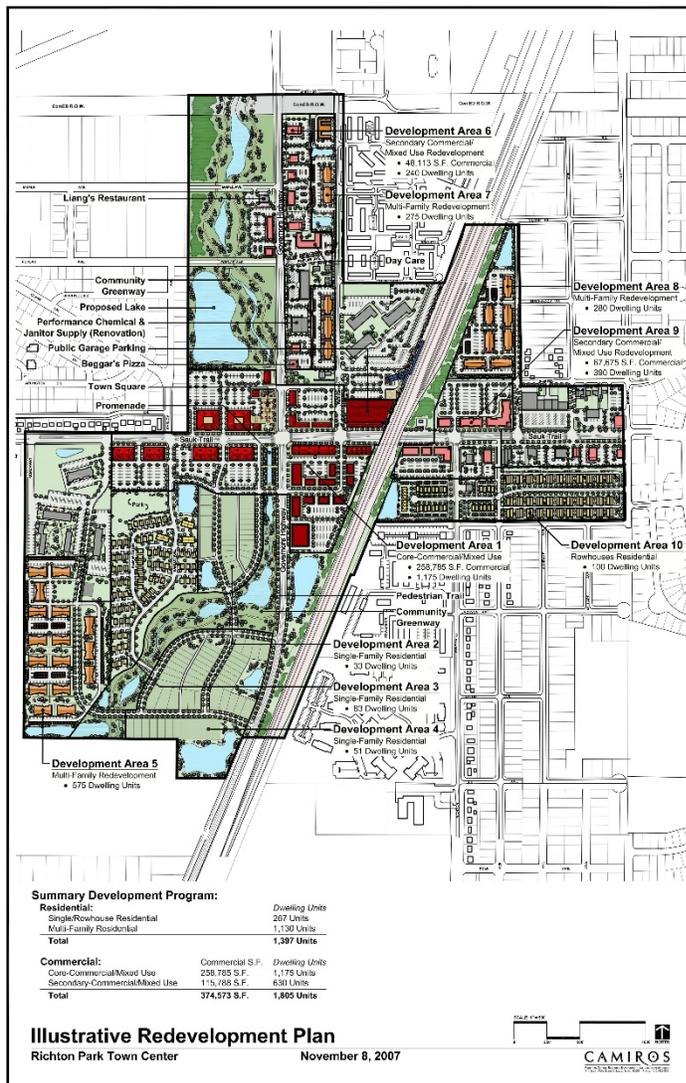
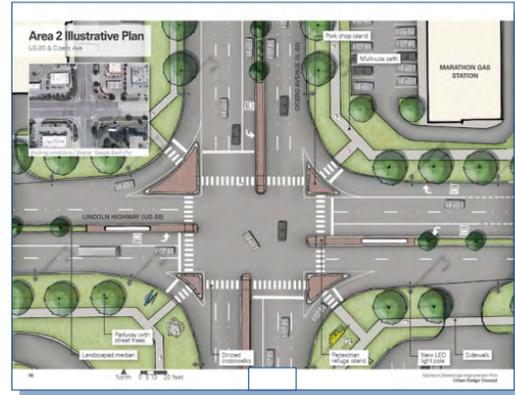
Transportation Programs and Projects



Forest Boulevard Complete Street Reconstruction. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$6,000,000 to complete the final phase of reconstructing Forest Boulevard as a Complete Street that includes vehicle lanes, bicycle lanes, sidewalk improvements, landscaping, and reconstructed roadway based on the recommendation of CMAP. With the Village Hall, Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, and higher density

multi-family residential areas along Forest Boulevard, this project will improve residents' access to the Village's critical services as well as downtown business district. The Village has received 2 Invest in Cook grants in 2018 and 2020 for the completion of Phase I and II engineering, with the final funding requested for construction and construction engineering that incorporates elements from the Village's 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

US 30 Lincoln Highway at IL 50 Cicero Avenue. The Village of Matteson is supportive of the Illinois Department of Transportation submitting a \$4,000,000 Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Community Funding Project request for the local modernization project. The project creates a multi-modal environment that includes roadway safety and modernization for a highly traveled corridor in Matteson. This project includes signal modernization, channelization, and pedestrian accommodation to enhance safety, and is the culmination of long-term planning.



Metra Station Upgrade and Renovation. The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$500,000 to upgrade its aging Metra station located in the proposed Town Center redevelopment area. Built in the late 1970s, the Metra station building, platform, and commuter drop off areas are in need of repairs including exterior façade renovations, roof replacement, drive thru canopy replacement, and platform upgrades to prevent hazards and ensure safety for station users. Without funding from Metra, the sought-after funding for renovations will help accommodate growing use of the station, as more than 1,600 commuters utilize the station daily during the work week. The Metra station will also serve as the focal point for the Village's Town Center transit-oriented development (TOD) area, and the Village has completed design and engineering plans for a tiered parking garage located adjacent to the Metra station to support the Metra station and immediate area.

SouthCom Coalition Roadway Improvement Project. The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park and Matteson are seeking \$8,000,000 out of either the



House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure’s Member Designated Projects request process or the House Committee on Appropriations’ FY 2022 Transportation-Housing & Urban Development (THUD) Community Project Funding request process for roadway improvements in each community. The project will consist of engineering and construction on 10 miles of existing local roads serving the 3 communities. Work will consist of, but not be limited to, milling and resurfacing, pavement patching, possible minor road reconstruction and widening, curb and gutter replacement, ADA sidewalk improvements at intersections, new driveway aprons, sidewalk improvement across driveway sections, sewer structure adjustments, reconstructions, or replacements, pavement markings, traffic control, storm sewer improvements, roadside ditch regrading, and lawn restoration. The project is important to the villages because local governments are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the public roadway system and these roads have been determined by each community to be in need of drastic improvement.

Lincoln Highway/Cicero Avenue Streetscape Project. The Villages of Matteson, Richton Park and Park Forest are seeking \$2,628,000 out of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Community Funding Project request to complete a streetscape improvement plan from the Village of Matteson for Cicero Avenue in line with CMAP’s GO TO 2040 which recognizes the need for a modern, efficient transportation system to support growth, diversity, and prosperity of the South Chicago suburbs. Having received a grant from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency through their Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, the comprehensive streetscape improvement plan will beautify the appearance and image along Cicero Avenue, improve motor and pedestrian circulation, and foster economic development and capital improvements that will have a positive impact on shoppers, businesses, residents, and travelers.

Central Avenue Roadway Widening. The Village of Matteson is seeking \$5,600,000 for the engineering and construction of Central Avenue that would increase vehicle capacity and widen the roadway to include 4 transportation lanes and 2 bicycle lanes. In anticipation for increased traffic within the area, this development will accommodate greater vehicular usage and additional modes of transportation as well as connect surrounding neighborhoods with the Village center.

Market Square Crossing Infrastructure Development. The Village of Matteson is seeking funding for the redevelopment of the former Lincoln Mall as Market Square Crossing, which is expected to have a total capital expenditure for infrastructure in excess of \$10,000,000. Located on 110 acres of the former Lincoln Mall that was demolished in 2017, the redeveloped Market Square Crossing will include a mix of residential, retail, and entertainment mixed-use developments across 16 lots oriented in a pedestrian-



friendly “Main Street” type development. While Lincoln Mall Drive currently functions as an internal access loop onsite, the inclusion of additional roadways will provide more efficient access and routes on the redeveloped site, increasing opportunity for redevelopment. These new roadways would be retail-



and entertainment-oriented streets that are pedestrian-friendly and encourage patrons to visit destinations on foot, including amenities such as trees, planters, pedestrian lighting, and others.

Old Plank Road Bridge Repair at Governors Highway. The Village of Matteson is seeking \$525,000 to repair the Old Plank Road Bridge, which was constructed in 1931 and requires a significant amount of work to be completed compared to other local projects. Repairs include work on the main girder due to impact damage and corrosion, repainting the steel bridge to address rust and remove lead paint, and correcting roadway drainage below the bridge due to the presence of flood gates and corrosion on columns. Funding for rehabilitation will enable repairs for collision-damaged areas of structural steel riveted plate girder, strengthening steel columns, cleaning and painting, and repairing fence and curbs on and near the bridge as well as the wing walls.

Infrastructure Maintenance and Development

- Priority #11. *Public Works and Utilities Development Programs.* Support robust funding for federal infrastructure maintenance and development programs including:
- Within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) –
 - i. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program
 - ii. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program
 - Within the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) –
 - i. Environmental Infrastructure Assistance Program (Section 219)

The EPA’s CWSRF and DWSRF programs help local communities ensure that residents have access to safe drinking water while maintaining clean and reliable wastewater, stormwater runoff, and watershed systems. The Coalition strongly supports these 2 programs as they provide important financial assistance to local water management efforts within the Villages. The Villages also urge the Congressional delegation to fully fund Section 219 that enables the USACE to provide environmental infrastructure assistance to local communities. The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson have and continue to benefit from USACE assistance through this funding to improve the water main, flood mitigation as well as sanitary sewer infrastructure systems within their communities.

Infrastructure Maintenance and Development Programs and Projects

Downtown Solar/Wind Power Installation. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$1,000,000 to install solar panels and/or wind turbines to buildings within Downtown Park Forest to provide electricity sustainably and offset greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). This proposed installation will benefit 6 buildings in Downtown including the 28,000 square foot Village Hall, which together used 631,030 kWh of energy in 2018 – equivalent to 336 metric tons of CO2 emissions. With these new clean energy installations, the Village will be able to accomplish its goal of 26% GHG emissions reduction over the 2010 baseline and provide significant financial savings to the Village and downtown building tenants.





Sanitary Sewer Replacements and Improvements. The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson are seeking \$800,000, \$2,800,000, and \$450,000 respectively for sanitary sewer replacement and improvement projects within their communities. As Park Forest’s current sewer collection system reaches its original 60-year design life, televised inspections as well as unreinforced concrete pipes will need to undergo replacement or rehabilitation to extend the system’s service life by another 50 years. While the Village has been proactive in replacing and rehabilitating its sanitary sewers, the requested funding would help further the Village’s infrastructure improvement goals.

Similarly, much of Richton Park’s sanitary sewers require inspection, condition, documentation, and repair in order to comply with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago’s (MWRD’s) Watershed Management Ordinance. Richton Park’s funding request will help identify system deficiencies and rehabilitate existing sewer infrastructure.



Funding for the Village of Matteson would support the engineering and construction of a replacement or rehabilitation of the Village’s sanitary sewer mains on Yale Lane. Consisting of original clay pipe, televised inspection revealed that sections of the sewer main require replacement while others are in need of rehabilitation to prolong their useful life as well as improvements to prevent sewer backup and overflow.

Water Main Replacements. The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson are seeking \$4,000,000, \$9,000,000, and \$6,675,000 respectively for engineering and construction for the replacement of water mains and water main valves within their communities. The Village of Park Forest is looking to replace approximately 4 miles of water mains as the water distribution system has been in service for 60 years and is reaching the end of its original design life. Recent record main breaks averaging more than 150 per year and fire flow studies have also shown that many areas within the Village do not meet current Insurance Service Office (ISO) fire flow rates. Though the Village has been proactive in replacing water mains, the requested funding will help the Village accelerate its efforts and achieve its replacement goals.

With the majority of Richton Park’s 42 miles of water distribution piping over 50 years old, the Village seeks to replace approximately 20,000 linear feet of various size water mains throughout Richton Park including 462 water services, 66 valves, and 58 fire hydrants. Much of the existing water distribution system was originally installed in the early to mid-1900s, causing the number of water main breaks to increase annually as the system continues to age and deteriorate in condition. As engineering for the proposed water main replacement projects have already been completed, the Village will be shovel ready once the requested funding is obtained.

The Village of Matteson is requesting funding to cover the costs of engineering and construction for the replacement of water main sections and water main valves within its water distribution structure. Funding will allow the Village to change out all existing lead water service lines with copper in Historic Old Matteson and enable Matteson to replace 15 water valves across the community.



Storm Water Infrastructure Improvement Projects. The Villages of Richton Park and Matteson are seeking \$6,000,000 and \$1,000,000 respectively to fund storm water infrastructure improvement projects within their communities. Due to the Interstate-57 interchange and Sauk Trail Road, the areas west of the Interstate in Richton Park are prime locations for economic development activity. However, the development corridor contains narrow and topographically low areas that are difficult to develop. The Village thus proposes to utilize these less desirable land parcels as regional stormwater detention areas to shrink the potential floodplain footprint while minimizing development impact on other land parcels in the surrounding area. To support the proposed development for this area, the Village has established a master plan for this Western Development Corridor in conjunction with CMAP and has created a concept level stormwater green infrastructure plan that meets and exceeds MWRD Watershed Management Ordinance standard. The Village of Matteson is looking to replace several deteriorating storm structures that have eroded due to years of use resulting in the collapsing of structures and surrounding roadway. Additionally, the funding requested would also help replace 3 culverts within the community.

