



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Carrie Dellamano
Director of Recreation and Communication
Lemont Park District
16028 127th Street
Lemont, IL 60439
630-327-2496
cdellamano@lemontparks.org

LEMONT PARK DISTRICT RECEIVES OSLAD GRANT FOR ATHENS PARK DOWNTOWN LEMONT

Lemont, IL – July 9, 2022 – The Lemont Park District is pleased to announce that the agency was selected as a grant recipient for the 2022 Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) award program on Friday, July 8, 2022. The \$400,000 grant award, in which the District applied for last summer, is designated to assist in funding the new Athens Park Downtown Lemont development project.

“The Lemont Park District is eager to continue to supply results to community requests such as the desire for a downtown park presence. As Fiscal Responsibility is a Value the Lemont Park District holds in the highest regard, conservative measures, such as taking advantage of this incredible grant opportunity, will be taken during all planning,” said Park District Board President Bill McAdam. “The Lemont Park District Board of Commissioners continually grateful for the support of the community and thanks to the residents that take the time to provide us with vital feedback and suggestions. Your dedication and passion for your park district is invaluable to the Lemont Park District Board and Staff,” he added.

The collaborative vision between the Lemont Park District and the Village of Lemont to redevelop the former location of the steel swing bridge and Tri-Central Marine Terminal into beautiful park space. “For over 55 years, the Lemont Park District has done a phenomenal job in providing area residents with exceptional recreation, fitness, educational and premiere event opportunities. This grant will significantly assist with the revitalization of the long-abandoned land at the north end of Stephen Street in Lemont,” stated Lemont Mayor, John Egofske. “Our collaborative vision is to redevelop this area into a beautiful open park space with recreational and natural amenities as well as trail linkages. Linking this premier recreation destination to other area communities will surely improve local economy. But beyond I & M and Cal Sag Trail linkage opportunities, this new park will enhance quality of life for so many, especially when outdoor recreation facilities are truly in great demand,” Mayor Egofske added. This parcel, which both the Lemont Park District and Village of Lemont are now in partnership with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) for the use of this land, has been vacant and neglected for many years. The park district stated that updates on this development project will be made over the next few years.

###