



# SOUTHCOM COALITION

FEDERAL AGENDA  
2024





April 2024

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 the SouthCom Coalition's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Federal Agenda. Thanks to the unwavering support we have always received from the Congressional Delegation and your staff, SouthCom Coalition members have and continue to utilize valuable federal resources that have a nexus with our community interests.

Looking ahead to Fiscal Year 2025, the Coalition has developed a focused Federal Agenda that aligns with priorities set forth by Congress and the White House. The FY 2025 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. This agenda also highlights federal legislation of interest to the Coalition that would expand and provide additional funding and resources for the Coalition to utilize and enhance the communities they serve.

The Coalition's FY 2025 Federal Agenda also provides detailed information and updates on the Villages' joint and individual needs and ongoing projects. Similar to previous years, the Villages remain focused on improving its existing transportation and water infrastructure while encouraging economic development to create both safe and vibrant communities. Projects of interest include the construction of roadways and roadway improvements, redevelopment of downtown/town center and former mall areas, installation of water, sanitary sewer, and storm water infrastructure, and replacement of police and firefighter equipment and vehicles. The coalition hopes to match these needs with federal competitive grant announcements, and in addition have submitted Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending requests to the Congressional Delegation that would provide critical public safety and communications equipment and technology needs as well as infrastructure upgrades for each respective Village.

The Villages thank and appreciate all that the Illinois Congressional Delegation has done and continues to do on behalf of our communities. We look forward to working with you and your staff in the coming fiscal year to better the lives of our residents and welcome any feedback you may have on our FY 2025 Federal Agenda.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Woods  
President  
Village of Park Forest

Rick Reinbold  
President  
Village of Richton Park

Sheila Y. Chalmers-Currin  
President  
Village of Matteson

**Table of Contents**

**Community and Economic Development ..... 3**

***Community Development***

        Housing Stock and Redevelopment

*Priorities* ..... 3

        Parks and Recreation

*Priorities* ..... 4

*Programs and Projects* ..... 5

        Community Service

*Priorities* ..... 6

**Economic Development**

*Priorities* ..... 6

*Programs and Projects* ..... 7

**Public Safety ..... 9**

***Police and Policing Needs***

*Priorities* ..... 9

*Programs and Projects* ..... 9

***Firefighter and Firefighting Needs***

*Priorities* ..... 10

*Programs and Projects* ..... 11

***Emergency Dispatch***

*Priorities* ..... 12

*Programs and Projects* ..... 13

**Transportation and Infrastructure Maintenance and Development ..... 13**

***Transportation***

*Priorities* ..... 13

*Programs and Projects* ..... 14

***Infrastructure Maintenance and Development***

*Priorities* ..... 18

*Programs and Projects* ..... 19

## Community and Economic Development

### **Community Development – Housing Stock and Redevelopment**

Priority #1. *Fair and Affordable Housing Legislation.* Endorse and support federal legislation in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress that prioritize fair and affordable housing policies, including funding for construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing units as well as addressing homelessness within communities. The Coalition is supportive of a number of housing and homelessness proposals championed by the Biden Administration. Relevant legislation that have been introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress or were previously introduced in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress include:

- Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act/Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act
  - i. Provisions of the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act expanding the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) were included in the bipartisan, bicameral Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act that passed the House in March 2024.
- Housing is Infrastructure Act (This bill has not been reintroduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.)
- American Housing and Economic Mobility Act (This bill has not been reintroduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.)

The South Suburban Coalition partners remain committed to the development of equitable opportunities within South Chicago Suburbs for residents to live and work. The Coalition supports the passage of the bipartisan tax bill and urges the reintroduction of the remaining bills in the 118th Congress. Together, these bills provide significant investments to affordable housing infrastructure including those listed below that the Coalition partners support. These bills would also expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), establish new programs to help construct new housing units for low-income and middle-class families, and provide down-payment assistance for underserved communities.



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

**FAIR HOUSING IS THE LAW!**

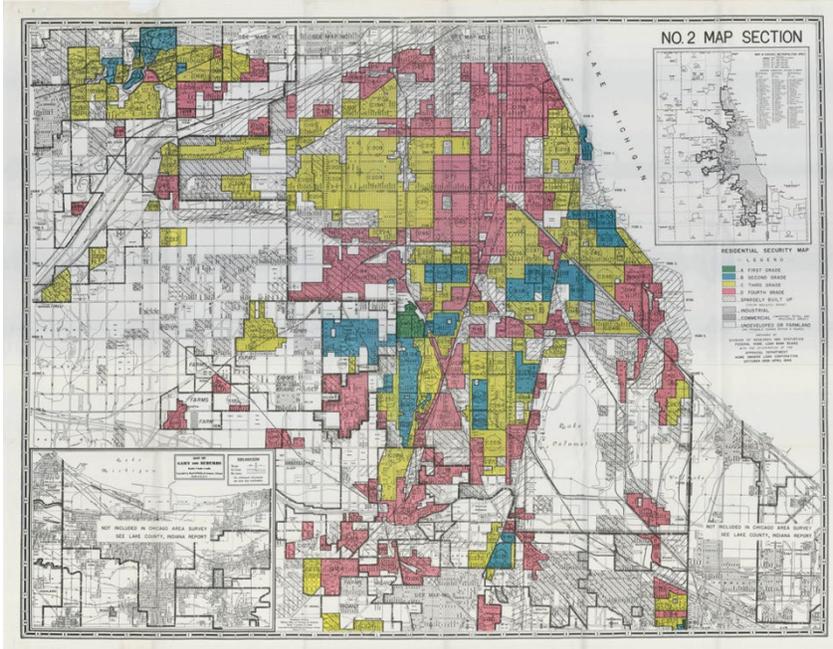
Priority #2. *Federal Housing Program Funding.* Support robust funding for federal affordable housing and other housing-related programs including:

- 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

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 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 ensure the availability of affordable housing stock and provide financial assistance for low-income families.

Priority #3. *Undervaluation of Property and Systemic Racism in Home Valuation.* Introduce or support legislation that addresses the undervaluation of property within communities that have been negatively impacted following desegregation.

As a community that chose to intentionally integrate 65 years ago, the Village of Park Forest continues to face issues with lenders, realtors, and speculators undervaluing real estate within the Village. Park Forest is urging for the development of legislation and/or regulation that would peg property assessment values to insurance replacement values as opposed to market rate prices to address systemic racism in home valuation within the community. The Village continues to support report language listed below directing HUD to study the effect systemic racism has on home valuations in minority communities:



*“Undervaluation of Property in Disadvantaged Communities.–* The Coalition is concerned with the ongoing devaluation of homes in African-American and Hispanic- or Latino-American communities, and directs the Secretary to conduct a study analyzing the role historic segregation and systemic racism plays in such disparities in property valuations and developing recommendations based on findings to provide more equitable home valuations for affected communities.”

### **Community Development – Parks and Recreation**

Priority #4. *Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Legislation.* Endorse legislation in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress and support changes to existing agency regulation that would lower the existing ORLP grant eligibility threshold to include communities whose population is less than 30,000.



While the Coalition is encouraged by the enactment of the Great American Outdoors Act in 2020, the subsequent increase in federal funding assistance under the National Park Service’s (NPS’s) Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grants Program, and the expansion of program eligibility in 2022 through the reduction of the population threshold from 50,000 to 30,000, access to this crucial recreation funding remains limited for the Coalition communities, as the Villages’ individual populations are

below 30,000 even though they are located within an urban metropolitan area. Similar to other urban communities, the Villages own and operate numerous park spaces that are in need of renovations due to a lack of funding and federal grant opportunities available. As such, the Coalition partners’ urge the

Congressional delegation to support legislation that would revise current ORLP eligibility criteria to include communities like the Villages which are located near urbanized areas but have a population less than 30,000.

### Parks and Recreation Programs and Projects

*Parks and Recreation Facilities ADA Compliance.* The Villages of Park Forest and Richton Park are seeking \$600,000 and \$475,000 respectively to ensure ADA compliance for parks and recreation facilities within their communities. The Village of Park Forest is looking to retrofit, relocate, and construct access points to the Village’s Recreation Center to comply with public access guidelines to school facilities, as the Recreation Center is currently utilized by Illinois School District (SD) 163 for school and sports programming. Beyond access points to the Recreation Center, the mechanical systems, including water and sewer lines as well as electric service, would be separated from the school facilities, while the Recreation Center’s roof will also be replaced as part of this retrofit project.



The Village of Richton Park owns and operates approximately 58 acres of parks, which include playgrounds, baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, walking paths, and pavilions. Due to lack of funding and available grant opportunities over the years, these recreational spaces are now in

need of renovations to bring the facilities back to ADA compliance to provide activity and recreational space for the community’s youth. The requested funding would be used specifically for upgrades to Pierce and Covington Parks. Improvements to Pierce Park include a “Nature Grounds” ADA compliance Playground that incorporates bringing nature back into everyday spaces while increasing play value, higher levels of physical activity, social interaction, and improved environmental sustainability. The Village also has interest in resurfacing the outdoor tennis courts that serve as a community place of recreational activities for the community and local school districts.

Advancements for Covington Park include the construction of a “Play On” ADA compliance playground that incorporate six key elements of play that promote physical activity that support the national physical education standards and efforts to combat childhood obesity.

*DownTown Multi-Use Facility.* The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$250,000 for the construction of a multi-use facility to be built on available open space in DownTown Park Forest as part of the Village’s plan for the next phase in the revitalization of DownTown. Based on identified needs from Park Forest Youth Providers Summit, the multi-use facility would include multiple basketball half-courts as well as an ice-skating facility available for community use, recreation programming, DownTown events and Outreach activities conducted by the Village’s Police Department.

*Central Park All-Abilities Playground.* The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$450,000 to construct an inclusive playground for children of all abilities within Central Park. The playground, when constructed, would be a first in the Chicago Southland’s southeast section, providing families with an inclusive play environment and better meeting the community’s evolving needs. To ensure that children of all abilities

will be able to utilize the playground, an ADA ramp system, sensory-based play equipment, and turf safety surfacing will be incorporated at this new playground.

*Recreational Aquatic Facility.* The Village of Park Forest continues to expand their parks and recreation capacity and is seeking \$2,000,000 to construct a new aquatics spray/splash pad. This facility would be one of only three splash pads south of Interstate 80 and east of Interstate 57. The facility would provide the Southland with another regional attraction while maintaining its current aquatics profile. The facility would meet all ADA requirements ensuring safety and inclusivity. The facility would also feature various sensory experiences, allowing families of any ability level to enjoy.

### **Community Development – Community Service**

Priority #5. 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)



The Coalition thanks the Congressional delegation for their work in securing a increases for the AmeriCorps State and National Grants Program along with the NCCC subprogram in FY 2023 and FY 2024. 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 Richton Park is applying for a 2024 cohort to assist with the beautification of Richton Park. The cohort will assist with the overgrowth of vegetation and trash along the Village’s Drainage Ditches, rights-of-way, and

public trails must be cleared to ensure enhancement and public safety. These clean-up efforts are in line with the Village’s Capital Improvement and long-term Sustainability Plan.

### **Economic Development**

Priority #6. 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

continue providing robust funding for SBA business loan programs and related agencies, including the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), to ensure that local community business owners have the necessary resources and support to maintain and grow their businesses.

Priority #7. *Blighted and Abandoned Shopping Center Repurposing and Revitalization Legislation.* Endorse and support H.R. 3178/S. 1533, the Grayfield Redevelopment and Economic Advancement Through Effective Repurposing and (GREATER) Revitalization of Shopping Centers Act, which has been introduced by Congressman Emanuel Cleaver and Senator Cory Booker to provide assistance in addressing blighted and abandoned shopping centers.

With a growing number of abandoned indoor malls across the country, there is currently little to no federal funding opportunities available to help redevelop these large, multi-acre properties that are often situated in prime locations within communities. The GREATER Revitalization of Shopping Centers Act would establish a grant subsidy program under the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 108 loan guarantee program to help foster public and private sector partnerships to redevelop blighted and abandoned shopping centers.

Priority #8. *Transit Oriented Development.* There are several federal programs geared towards transit-oriented development (TOD) that support the planning, financing, and implementation of projects that integrate transportation and land use around transit hubs. TOD funding facilitates the integration of different modes of transportation like buses, trains, and pedestrian pathways increasing mobility and accessibility for residents. These projects attract investment, stimulate economic activity, encouraging mixed-use development, including residential, commercial, and retail spaces, which can revitalize neighborhoods and increase property values. While these funding opportunities are traditionally eligible for transportation entities and states, the Villages are supportive of any federal investment that will aid in their pursuit of economic revitalization and individual development efforts.

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - i. Smart Growth Technical Assistance Programs
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - i. Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - i. Transit Oriented Development Planning and Project Development Grants
  - ii. Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program

#### Economic Development Programs and Projects

*Acquired Property Demolition.* The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$1,500,000 for the demolition of two obsolete properties: Blackhawk Tower Shopping Center and 3250 Lincoln Highway. \$500,000 would be

utilized for the demolition of Blackhawk Tower Shopping Center, which Park Forest acquired through court order during the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year as a result of the previous owner's poor record of maintenance. The shopping center is situated on a 2.84-acre plot and includes approximately 15,352 square feet of vacant, blighted, and obsolete retail space across 3 buildings. The buildings, however, are not salvageable and the property's location as well as layout are not conducive to modern retail, service, and/or recreational uses. The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$1,000,000 for the demolition of a 50,000 square foot commercial building at 3250 Lincoln Highway, which the Village acquired through court order during the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year. As the building's parcel is located between two Village-owned parcels, demolition of this building will enable the Village to pursue Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) that aligns with the Village's previously-approved TOD goals.

*Wayfinding Plan Implementation.* The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$1,000,000 for the implementation of a pending Village Wayfinding Plan for new and updated signs throughout the Village. As noted in the Village's recently adopted 2023 DownTown Master Plan, there is a major disconnect in the age, design, coordination, and direction of signage throughout the Village. This outdated and uncoordinated wayfinding system directly burdens the DownTown, which is an economic engine of the community. The wayfinding plan implementation will improve navigation and accessibility, enhance public spaces and community identity, help support the local economy, promote active transportation, and support quality safety and emergency management. Funds to implement this system are needed now to augment work in parallel with local funds being utilized in Park Forest.



*Richton Park Town Center Plan.* The Town Center project is poised to become the vibrant epicenter of the Richton Park Community. When complete, the Town Center will be a central hub where residents and visitors can participate in community activities, outdoor recreation, and indulge in a variety of shopping and dining experiences. The development of pedestrian and bike-friendly streets will feature safe intersections, connected sidewalks and trails, decorative lighting and landscaping, and a user-friendly wayfinding system. A new bike trail network will weave through our Town Center, connecting the Metra Station, open spaces, and other destinations in our Village. Additionally, Butterfield Creek will be transformed into a "greenway," offering residents and visitors an immersive experience with connected nature trails, recreational areas, and creek restoration zones.

*For the FY 2025 appropriations cycle, the Village of Richton Park has submitted a \$2,500,000 request to the delegation for its catalyst Town Center project, the Village Green. The Village Green will be a 0.8 acre plaza that will encompass a recreational and gathering space located adjacent to the Village's Metra Electric commuter rail station. The Village Green is expected to become the hub of a community that currently lacks one and would benefit Richton Park by setting the foundation for expanded commercial and residential development options that will meet the needs of current and future residents. Funding will be used for design and construction costs of the plaza.*

For the FY 2025 appropriations cycle, the Village of Matteson has submitted a Community Project/Congressionally Directed Spending requests of \$2,000,000 to the Congressional delegation for funding to rehabilitate and improve the quality of the Historic Old Matteson Station. The rehabilitation includes improvements associated with service and safety while furthering economic development with the Village by revitalizing the area adjacent to the Metra train station. These enhancements will make the area more appealing for future development.

## **Public Safety**

### ***Police and Policing Needs***

Priority #8. *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. Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Programs

The Coalition partners strongly support full funding of DOJ grants to state and local governments that 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.



*The Coalition is appreciative of the FY2024 appropriation from Senator Durbin for their \$1,000,000 Public Safety Enhancement project. These funds will be used for the procurement of public safety and communications equipment and technology upgrades for SouthCom Combined Dispatch Center as well as the Village's police departments. These include upgrades to in-car and body worn cameras, improvements to squad vehicles, purchase of protective equipment, and enhanced training for public safety officers, among*

*others. A number of the equipment, technology, and training needs are highlighted in the following sections.*

### **Police and Policing Needs Programs and Projects**

*Policing Equipment Purchases and Replacements.* The Villages of Richton Park and Park Forest are seeking \$35,990 and \$25,000 respectively for the purchase of new police radios. Park Forest's Police Department is looking to replace existing police radios with new radios recommended by Cook County, as the County and the radios' original manufacturer will no longer provide service or parts for these radios. The Village of Matteson seeks \$250,000 for new police dash cameras for their current fleet of police vehicles.

From 2022 to 2023 there were 744 traffic accidents in the Village of Park Forest resulting in 258 injuries, including six fatalities. The Park Forest Police Department seeks to purchase six (6) solar-powered radar speed signs in an ongoing effort to reduce traffic crashes and related injuries/fatalities on area roadways that are identified as having high levels of excessive speed and/or higher rates of vehicle crashes. Given the solar-powered (and thus more portable) nature of the devices, the units can be moved as different in-need locations are identified. Keeping in line with existing sustainability efforts, the Park Forest Police Department intends on developing a solar facility at its Police Station to decrease the facility's dependence on the power grid and improve power reliability for especially vulnerable blackout periods. The Village requests \$1,000,000 to develop carport solar and roof mounted solar to allow the Village to meet its Climate Action goals and enhance its Public Safety disposition.

The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$20,000 to purchase a Mobile Automated License Plate Reader (APLR) System that would aid in the recovery of stolen motor vehicles and arrest of wanted suspects. The Village of Matteson is seeking \$45,000 for tasers as the current model in use by the Village's Police Department will no longer be supported by its manufacturer. Tasers are a vital tool for police offices to safely de-escalate combative situations, and the purchase of a newer model will include increased safety, reliability, and performance features.

*Police Security System Enhancements.* The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$452,000 for the purchase of new security equipment including cameras and servers to enhance security at the Village's public infrastructure and facilities locations that totals \$932,130. Richton Park's Police Department applied for and was successful in obtaining \$480,000 through the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant, which would enable the Village to increase security at 3 water treatment facilities within Richton Park, install security cameras at 2 major public parks within the Village and upgrade current cameras and servers at Richton Park's METRA station ticket lobby and parking area. The Village of Richton Park is also seeking \$25,000 to purchase a new access control system for the Village's Police Department, put in place in 1976, which is currently utilizing a system and software that are no longer supported.

Several areas have been identified as having a higher occurrence rate of violence and property crimes in Park Forest. The Village of Park Forest and Park Forest Police Department are seeking \$200,000 to install and maintain remote video cameras in strategic locations to provide surveillance and video recording in both the Central Park (420 Lakewood Boulevard) and the Downtown Park Forest business district areas. Video surveillance systems have proven to be an effective deterrent to criminal activity in areas that are not continuously patrolled, and the surveillance recorded from these systems can be invaluable evidence used in the investigation of any crimes that do occur.



*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.

For FY 2025 Appropriations, the Village of Matteson is seeking \$1,667,960 to create a community room within the Matteson Police Department that will serve as a multi-purpose space for the community, members of the Village of Matteson, and the staff of the Matteson Police Department.

### **Firefighter and Firefighting Needs**

Priority #9. *Federal Firefighter and Firefighting Needs Funding.* Support increased 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
  - iii. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)



The Coalition partners request that the Congressional delegation increase the level of funding for the two FEMA programs in FY 2024. The FEMA firefighter grant programs have provided critical funds for the Villages, but are significantly oversubscribed with little increase in recent appropriations cycles. AFG enables firefighters and first responders to obtain needed equipment including protective gear and emergency vehicles as well as

provide training and other resources, while SAFER grants assist local government like the Villages to both hire and retain firefighting staff.

### Firefighter and Firefighting Needs Programs and Projects

*Firefighting Vehicles Purchase and Replacement.* The Park Forest Fire Department houses all Special Team trailers for MABAS 27 & MABAS 24. The Department is seeking \$200,000 to fund a vehicle to tow the equipment when called to respond. The current tow vehicle is over twenty years old and is under sized to pull the required weight safely. This vehicle will also function as a rehab vehicle for incidents.

The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$1,500,000 to replace its aging 25-year-old ladder truck that by National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standards should've been in reserve status at (15) years and should be de-commissioned at twenty-five (25) years of service. Maintenance to emergency vehicles is a top priority of the department, however with the rising cost of parts and labor, as well as the time taken to repair our current engine often leaves the department with the inability to maintain our mutual and auto aid agreement and protect our residents. With the rising cost of materials and budgetary limitations the Richton Park Fire Department is seeking Federal Emergency Management Agency AFG grant funding to provide a more reliable fire apparatus. This fire engine will provide the ability to provide a more dependable and safer service not only to our residents but also to surrounding communities.



Richton Park is also seeking \$50,000 to purchase an all-terrain vehicle. The Village has areas of undeveloped land that larger vehicles are not able to respond to due to weight of the vehicles and inability to gain access. This vehicle will also enhance safety protocols when large scale events are planned inside the Village. When purchased, the vehicle will be accessible to neighboring communities for similar uses.



The Village of Matteson is seeking \$600,000 to purchase a heavy rescue squad for the Village's Fire Department. 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.

*Firefighter Equipment Needs.* The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson Fire Departments are jointly seeking funding to upgrade current base and mobile radios to 800 MHz from existing Very High Frequency (VHF) equipment. As the Villages are located in both Cook and Will Counties and with dispatch from these communities moving entirely to the 800 MHz system, remaining on the VHF system will create a communication issue for dispatch.

The Park Forest Fire Department is the host department for multiple special team trailers and equipment for MABAS 27 fire departments. Currently, the department uses a small storage facility that was part of a decommissioned strip mall. The property the current storage building sits on will eventually be sold as part of the re-development plan of the site. The current building is also too small to allow for easy deployment of the special team trailers. Because of the size of the building and the amount of equipment stored, the Department is seeking \$150,000 for a new storage facility.

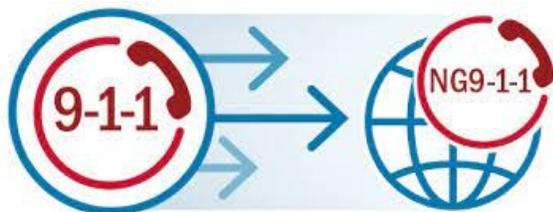
The Village of Park Forest is also interested in pursuing a \$800,000 SAFER grant to increase personnel that can assist the fire department with staffing recommendations set forth by NFPA 1710. Lastly, the Village of Park Forest is also seeking \$60,000 to utilize virtual reality (VR) technology to provide safe training for firefighter response during mass shooting, technical rescue, and dangerous roadway scenarios, among others.

*Hazard Mitigation.* The Village of Richton Park is pursuing \$800,000 through the FEMA HMGP for a one-acre Solar power farm adjacent to the water treatment facility will offset the power consumption in lieu of back up generation. This will apply mitigation and adaptation to climate change while providing constant power to a critical facility.

### ***Emergency Dispatch***

Priority #10. *Next Generation 9-1-1 Legislation.* Endorse and support H.R. 1784, S. 2712, the Next Generation 9-1-1 Act, which has been introduced by Congressman Richard Hudson and

Senator Amy Klobuchar to encourage 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

*South Suburban Emergency Operations and Communication Center.* In coordination with the E-COM Dispatch Center (which covers the City of Country Club Hills, Villages of East Hazel Crest, Flossmoor, Glenwood, Hazel Crest, Homewood, Riverdale, South Holland, and Thornton), the SouthCom Combined Dispatch Center member communities (Villages of Matteson, Olympia Fields, Park Forest, and Richton Park) have passed ordinances agreeing to form a new Joint Emergency Telecommunications Services Board that combines the resources of E-COM and SouthCom to serve approximately 200,000 constituents. The establishment of a new emergency communication center provides a centralized location for coordinating response recovery activities among the 13 villages for complex incidents and disasters. The total cost of the project including remodel construction and 9-1-1 equipment is \$10,500,000.

*The Dispatch Centers have submitted a \$3,893,600 FY 2025 CPF/CDS request to the delegation to fund equipment for the new operation and communication center under the FEMA Emergency Operations Center program.*

### Transportation and Infrastructure Maintenance and Development

#### **Transportation**

Priority #11. *Surface Transportation Program Funding.* The coalition requests that future surface transportation authorization and appropriations legislation retain and increase 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 sub-allocation amount for local governments under STBG.
  - ii. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program
  - iii. Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program

The Coalition thanks the Congressional delegation for their efforts in securing increased funding through the annual appropriations process as well as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which provides

critical surface transportation program authorizations through Fiscal Year 2026. As funding for surface transportation programs remains an important priority, the Villages urge the Congressional delegation to ensure that robust funding is allocated at the local level to help accelerate the Village's transportation and infrastructure projects. The Coalition is also pleased to see and support the continuation of Community Funding Projects and Community Directed Spending requests to provide funding assistance to projects that may not qualify or be competitive under current federal competitive or formula grant programs.

*CMAP Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Implementation.* The Villages of Park Forest and Richton Park are requesting \$700,000 and \$800,000 respectively to improve pedestrian and multi-use paths within their communities.



The FHWA, FTA, HUD, IDOT and the Chicago Community Trust all funded the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, which was used to create the Village's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that was adopted in 2014. The purpose of the plan is to "continue to move the village forward in its sustainability goals to improve

and enhance active transportation networks, create safe and enjoyable bicycle and pedestrian routes, and foster a healthier, more environmentally friendly community" that will serve the needs of all Park Forest residents.

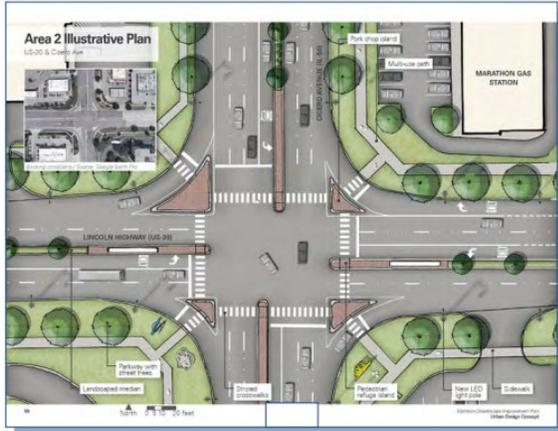
Park Forest's request consists of funding for Engineering and Construction to replace and upgrade the entire network of pedestrian mid-block walkways and cut-throughs. The entire network was planned, designed, and installed since the 1950's and during the developmental years of Park Forest. The existing walkways consist of a 5-foot-wide sidewalk within a 15-foot Right of Way or Easement. The walkways are now overgrown with brush and naturally grown trees and the sidewalk has deteriorated over time. The intent of this pedestrian network was to provide for greater pedestrian mobility throughout the neighborhoods and to provide a more direct route and access to, parallel streets, parks, wetlands, schools, and other village amenities. The improvement plan is to remove the sidewalk, brush, and trees and replace and upgrade with a 10-foot wide multi use path, provide bicycle/pedestrian/ADA accessibility and safety improvements, provide nighttime pedestrian lighting and landscape improvements. The village's goal is to provide the improved infrastructure and continue to promote alternative modes for transportation.

Richton Park would also use funding for design, engineering, and construction of pedestrian and cycling pathways identified in the Village's Active Transportation Plan. This plan was completed with the assistance of the Active Transportation Alliance and outlines recommendations for new bikeways including bike lanes, shared lanes and bike routes and multi-use trails along Cicero Avenue, Governors Highway, Steger Road, ComEd ROW and other strategic locations within the community.

### Transportation Programs and Projects

*SouthCom Coalition Roadway Improvement Project.* The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park and Matteson are seeking \$8,000,000 for roadway improvements in each community, which will consist of engineering and construction on 10 miles of existing local roads serving the 3 communities after extensive

evaluation. 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. This project is important to the Villages because local governments are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the public roadway system, and the roads identified by each community reveal a great need for improvement. While

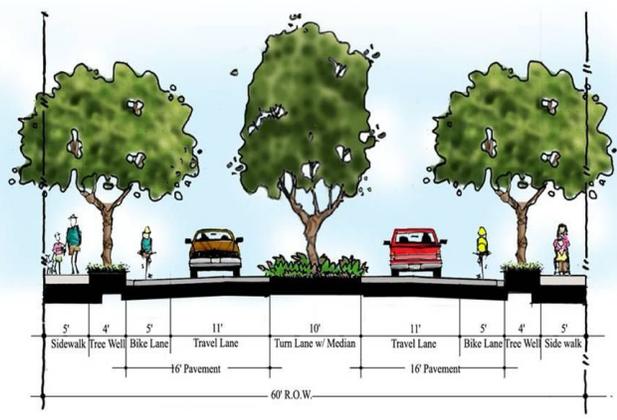


the Villages have committed funding to roadway improvement and have been proactive in resurfacing and reconstructing local roads regularly, the total number of miles of roadway under each Village’s purview far exceeds annual funding available, with limited financial assistance available from State or Federal sources to address the need for local roadway improvement funding.

*Lincoln Highway/Cicero Avenue Streetscape Project.* The Villages of Matteson and Richton Park are seeking \$2,000,000 to complete a streetscape improvement plan for U.S. 30/Lincoln Highway and IL Route 50/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, minimize maintenance, and foster economic development and capital improvements that will have a positive impact on shoppers, businesses, residents, and travelers.

*Forest Boulevard Complete Street Road Improvement.* The Village of Park Forest is seeking \$3,500,000 for Complete Street Road Improvements to Forest Boulevard. This request consists of funding for Construction and Construction Engineering for a 0.8-mile local road improvement project that will incorporate Complete Street design elements. The Village was awarded \$245,000 from the 2018 Cook County Invest in Cook grant program to complete Phase I - Preliminary Engineering. The Project Development Report is complete and awaiting approval from IDOT. The Village was then awarded \$480,000 from the 2020 Cook County Invest in Cook grant program to complete Phase II - Design Engineering. Design work is 100% complete and this project is now a “shovel ready” project. In 2023, the Village was awarded \$3,000,000 dollars from the ITEP (Illinois



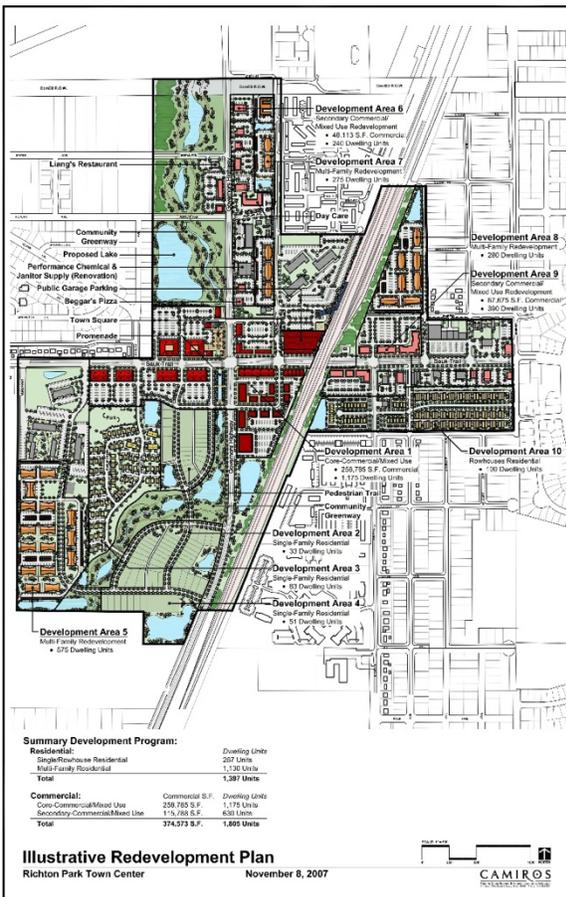
Transportation Enhancement Program) to construct the 10-foot-wide off-road multi-use trail, make pedestrian and road intersection improvements, and to remove one-half of a boulevard section of roadway (Road Diet) to restore green space to the village Right of Way (ROW) to build a future linear park. These ITEP funds need to be obligated by 2026 but more funds are needed to complete this project. This

funding request is for the reconstruction of the road portion of this project. If awarded, this will give the Village all the funding needed to complete this entire project all at one time.

The Village believes this project has local importance by providing improved and alternative means getting to and from Downtown and residential areas. This project also has potential regional importance by providing a link to a regional bike trail system. Public transportation improvements will be made along this PACE bus route and the future linear park will provide a recreation amenity and space for local summer and winter markets.

Forest Boulevard is currently made up of two distinct cross sections. One section is a two-lane roadway with on-street parking on one side through a dense multi-family residential area and the other is a boulevard style with no on-street parking which fronts the Village Downtown commercial area. During Phase I process, the final design scope and concepts were determined and will consist of the following. Reducing the boulevard section down to a two lane, two-way roadway. This 'Road Diet' will provide a significant amount of green space back to the Downtown public right of way where a Linear Park is designed with water features, public gathering spaces, local market spaces, and sculpture garden. An off-street, 10-foot-wide multi-use path for pedestrians and bicyclists will be built along the entire project

corridor providing alternative ways to travel from multi-family residential areas and DownTown. On-street parking will be provided along the dense multi-family residential section on both sides of the street. Curb bump outs will be provided at the street intersections that will help control vehicle speeds, decrease pedestrian crosswalk distances, and provide improved motorist/pedestrian visibility. Road geometric improvements will be made at 2 wye intersections for safer traffic flow, bio-swales will be constructed for added storm water management, and improvements to PACE public transit facilities will be made along the entire project. These improvements are consistent with the Village's adopted 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and adopted 2015 Complete Streets Plan.



*Metra Station Upgrade and Renovation.* The Village of Richton Park is seeking \$1,500,000 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.

The Village of Richton Park seeks to replace existing pedestrian and multi-use paths throughout the Village by upgrading pathways from 8-foot to 10-foot and adding ADA, lighting, and other safety improvements to these paths that connect residential neighborhoods to mass transit.

*Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Facilities.* The Village of Park Forest seeks funding to expand the number of charging stations within the Village to support Village residents, staff, and visitors coming to Park Forest's Village Hall and DownTown businesses. The State of Illinois has passed several pieces of legislation recently that would accelerate the adoption of EVs, including Illinois's goal of 1 million registered EVs within the state by 2030, prompting the need for more EV charging infrastructure in the Village.

*Market Square Crossing Infrastructure Development.* The Village of Matteson is seeking \$20,000,000 to \$40,000,000 in funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for redevelopment of the former Lincoln Mall as Market Square Crossing. 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.

*Central Avenue Roadway Widening.* The Village of Matteson is seeking \$15,600,000 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.

*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,

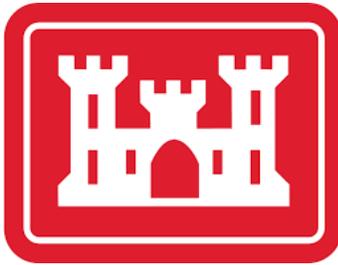
strengthening steel columns, cleaning and painting, and repairing fence and curbs on and near the bridge as well as the wing walls.

### ***Infrastructure Maintenance and Development***

Priority #12. *Public Works and Utilities Development Programs.* Support robust funding for federal infrastructure maintenance and development programs and passage of the Water Resources and Development Act of 2024. These programs include:

- Within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) –
  - i. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program
  - ii. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program
- Within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) –
  - i. Environmental Infrastructure Assistance Program (Section 219)

*Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).* 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 increased funding for these 2 programs as they provide important financial assistance to local water management efforts.



*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).* The Coalition urges the Congressional delegation to provide discretionary Environmental infrastructure funding in the FY 2025 Energy and Water Development Appropriations legislation that enables the USACE to provide environmental infrastructure assistance to local communities, as this funding has been significantly reduced since FY 2022. 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. As such, the Coalition is requesting \$50,000,000 in Environmental infrastructure funding for FY 2025 and has submitted the report language request below to the congressional delegation:

*“Environmental Infrastructure.–* The Committee recognizes the importance of general Environmental Infrastructure funding the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers utilizes to prioritize assistance to authorized jurisdictions and their projects the agency has identified on its annual work plans, and provides \$50,000,000 in addition to funding provided for Community Project Funding and Congressionally Directed Spending requests included in the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2025.”



*Water Resources and Development Act 2024 – Butterfield Creek.* As Congress considers the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024, the Villages are supportive of the inclusion of a feasibility



study for Butterfield Creek. Butterfield Creek is a 15.2-mile-long tributary of Thorn Creek near Chicago, Illinois which flows out to Lake Michigan. The Villages, as well as neighboring communities south of Matteson, have experienced difficulties utilizing several roads, specifically Governor’s Highway, when flooding occurs, delaying and limiting access for emergency response. The rising water has caused one fatality in 2009 and disabled several vehicles, trapping occupants inside. Governor’s Highway is a direct route to Franciscan Health Olympia Fields (hospital) for not only Matteson and Richton Park but for the region including nearby Villages (Monee, Crete, Sauk, etc.). During heavy storms, emergency personnel must reroute when Governor’s Highway is flooded, delaying response times and provisions of life saving measures.

Richton Park has utilized 219 funding for a portion of their Town Center Stormwater Improvement project, which will expand the size and capacity of a regional detention basin located upstream of Richton Park’s Town Center and adjoining the Butterfield Creek East Branch Tributary. The basin would include a diversion structure to help control flood flows downstream, reducing the threat of flooding to development in the Town Center area and neighboring roadways. The Village is also concerned with the protection of wetlands and wetland environment located near the proposed detention basin.

Considering these impacts (and others not listed), the Villages are requesting a General Investigation (GI) study or Section 205 or 206 Continuing Authority program authorization in the Water Resources and Development Act of WRDA 2024 to study the flooding issue caused by Butterfield Creek and develop a course of action to mitigate its effects.

#### Infrastructure Maintenance and Development Programs and Projects

*Water Main Infrastructure Replacements.* The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson are seeking \$5,000,000, \$29,000,000, and \$7,675,000 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 its 73-mile system of water mains as the water distribution system has been in service for over 74 years and has exceeded its original design life. The water mains are pitting on the exterior (resulting in localized weak points), have significant corrosion on the interior (resulting in decreased cross sectional area and reduced fire flow capacity), and in some cases were constructed with leaded in joints. In 2012, the Village recorded a record 200 water main breaks, recent fire flow study data indicate that numerous areas of the Village do not meet current Insurance Service Office (ISO) fire flow rates, and new legislation regarding Lead and Copper levels in drinking water require that the Village be proactive in minimize/eliminating risk potential. Though the Village has been proactive in budgeting \$400,000 each year to replace water mains, this requested funding will help the Village accelerate its efforts and achieve its goals. The Village has also benefitted from additional funding through IEPA Revolving Loan Fund and USACE Section 219 Fund in recent years. Since 1987, approximately 20.4 miles out of a 73-mile system have been replaced. The Village does have a 5-year rate increase structure in place and will continue to monitor funding needs. The current water rate of \$19.91 per 1000 gallons is significantly high compared to surrounding communities, but Park Forest also has a Water Treatment Plant in addition to a distribution system that needs ongoing funding for operations and maintenance. Additional funding opportunities for water main replacement would further the Village’s water main replacement effort. Project locations will be selected from a 2022 Water System Master Plan Report that was completed by a consultant firm.

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 ready for construction once the requested funding is obtained.

Additionally, Richton Park is seeking to replace 3 aging water treatment facilities built in the 1960s in need of physical and electronic/technological upgrades to provide better treatment of water to the Village's residents and ensure that the facilities are in compliance with new and evolving drinking water requirements.

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 throughout Matteson. 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.

#### *Richton Park / Park Forest Drinking Water Interconnect Upgrade*

Built in the 1980s, a 12-inch water main connects Richton Park and Park Forest. This pipeline, with valves and a water meter, is designed to share clean drinking water (potable water) during emergencies like low water pressure or high demand. While unused so far, both villages consider it a vital part of their water infrastructure. To date, this interconnection has never been needed but our two communities feel that it is an important part of our water service obligation and infrastructure that needs to be replaced and/or upgraded to current design and service standards. It currently has design flaws that hinder flushing and other maintenance and is presumed to be non-functional due to its age and lack of use.



A comprehensive evaluation of the interconnect is needed to determine the extent of its operational functionality and the most suitable course of action for either upgrading or full replacement. Current valves are assumed to not open/close properly, the pipeline is likely to have significant corrosion and undersized, and the water meter is more than likely obsolete and not functioning. Both communities together are requesting \$300,000 for evaluation, design engineering, construction engineering and construction. Both communities have their own wells and are independently operated.

*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. Park Forest's current sewer collection system has been in service for more than 74 years, far exceeding its original design life and in need of rehabilitation or replacement. The current system consists of unreinforced concrete pipe and yearly television inspections continue to show that sewer conditions are beyond lining (rehab) and in need of full replacement. The Village's goal is to consider rehabbing the sewers first, otherwise full replacement is the only option. Lining

(rehab) or replacement is expected to renew/extend the sewer service life another 50+ years, reducing infiltration of storm and groundwater into the sanitary sewer system. While the Village has been proactive in replacing and rehabilitating its sanitary sewers by budgeting \$300,000 each year towards this effort, the requested funding would help further the Village's infrastructure improvement goals.

Similarly, much of Richton Park's sanitary sewer system require extensive inspection, condition, documentation, and repair in order to comply with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (MWRD's) Watershed Management Ordinance, as 22.5 miles of sanitary sewers are more than 50 years old while another 10.3 miles are more than 25 years old. Richton Park's funding request will help identify system deficiencies and reline existing sewer infrastructure.

Funding for the Village of Matteson would support the engineering and construction of replacement or rehabilitation of the Matteson's sanitary sewer mains on Yale Lane. Consisting of original clay pipe, televised inspection has revealed that sections of this sewer main would require replacement while other sections are in need of rehabilitation to prolong their useful life as well as improvements to both reduce infiltration of storm and ground water and prevent sewer backup and overflow.

*Storm Water Infrastructure Improvement Projects.* The Villages of Park Forest, Richton Park, and Matteson are seeking \$800,000, \$6,000,000 and \$700,000 respectively to fund storm water infrastructure improvement projects within their communities.



Funding requested by Park Forest would include a complete topographic survey of ditch lines and collection areas, analysis of appropriate grades and ditch shape, and clearing of debris accumulated in ditch lines and subsequent regrading to ensure proper movement of storm water during heavy storm events. These storm water conveyance lines have not been cleared for over 74 years and have accumulated debris and/or have filled in over time, minimizing and/or obstructing proper flow and

conveyance, resulting in ponding water, localized flooding, and creating an environment for growth of invasive plants which further obstruct or limit storm water conveyance. The Village is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit holder, and this project is in line with permit practices relevant to inspection and maintenance, municipal operations, and open space and ecosystem goals. According to Section 39 – Open Space and Ecosystems, of the Village's Sustainability Plan, some of these ditch lines convey storm water to Central Park Wetland which is 90 acres of wetlands in the center of the community that helps absorb millions of gallons of storm water annually. This area provides a vital habitat for native plants and animals.

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 Richton Park is also requesting funding to support the Village’s Town Center Stormwater Improvement project, which will expand the size and capacity of a regional detention basin located upstream of Richton Park’s Town Center and adjoining the Butterfield Creek East Branch Tributary. The basin would include a diversion structure to help control flood flows downstream, reducing the threat of flooding to development in the Town Center area and neighboring roadways. This project has received assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through the Cook County Environmental Infrastructure program in its previous phases of development and received a 3rd round of funding most recently in 2021.

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.

*For the FY 2025 appropriations cycle, the Village of Park Forest has submitted a Community Project/Congressionally Directed Spending requests of \$2,570,400 to the Congressional delegation for the following water main replacements:*

- i. South Orchard Drive: Sauk Trail to Blackhawk Drive (0.40 miles)*
- ii. Monee Road: Blackhawk Drive to Indianwood Blvd (0.55 miles)*
- iii. Monee Road: 243 Monee to Stuenkel Road (0.25 miles)*
- iv. 111 Hay: Side yard replacement*