2019 was a transformative year for the Village and one that we can be proud of for many years to come. We began purchasing Lake Michigan water from Evanston as part of our long-term cost-efficient water supply agreement and completed $6.25 million of new roadway and water system improvements, all without raising property taxes. We said goodbye to Prairie View shopping center as the old buildings were demolished to make way for Sawmill Station, an exciting new 26-acre lifestyle center which will include a grocery store, restaurants, a movie theater, and other shopping opportunities.

This edition of the Exchange includes details on these two legacy projects as well as many of our other 2019 accomplishments. These achievements did not happen overnight - they took many years of planning and dedicated efforts by the Village Board, staff, our boards and commissions, and our residents. I’m grateful for this successful teamwork.

2020 will be equally exciting as we watch the new Sawmill Station buildings go up and celebrate the grand opening of many stores in the center. We will continue to build on our solid foundation by reviewing and updating our strategic plan and formalizing our efforts to preserve and protect our natural resources and our environment.

Please join me in supporting this year’s Taste of Morton Grove. The event will be held on Thursday, March 12, and will feature samplings from our area’s most popular restaurants, raffles, auctions, and entertainment. I wish all of you a healthy and happy new year and I look forward to meeting with and working with each of you.

Your Mayor, Dan DiMaria

Mayor DiMaria and Village Trustees attended a ground breaking ceremony for the Sawmill Station development
Community Updates

A Positive Economic Outlook for Morton Grove in 2020

Morton Grove’s economic outlook continued to strengthen in 2019 as the Village welcomed Sawmill Station, a mixed-use project representing over $150 million in new investment. The lifestyle center, which will include 240,000 square feet of retail and entertainment space and a six-story multifamily complex, will take the place of the former Prairie View Center at the southeast corner of Dempster Street and Waukegan Road. The Village also expects the project to spur the redevelopment of several nearby opportunity sites along Dempster Street and Waukegan Road.

The Village’s commercial sector produced over $8 million in sales tax revenue in fiscal year 2019, an increase of over 24% since fiscal year 2015. The commercial and industrial real estate market also ended the year on a positive note with a vacancy rate of 7.2%, which is half a point lower than the 2018 rate (7.7%) and significantly lower than the ten-year average vacancy rate of 8.8%. Lower commercial and industrial vacancy rates mean more local businesses, more local jobs, and more local tax revenue to fund public services for the residents of Morton Grove.

2019 Development Highlights

- **Construction of Sawmill Station commenced.** Construction began in 2019, with businesses scheduled to begin opening by fall of 2020.

- **Construction completed on Lexington Walk Townhomes, with all units sold.** Lexington Homes purchased this former Village-owned site at Ferris and Capulina and began construction in 2018, following site remediation.

- **Conversion of former Malko Electric office to multi-family development began.** Creative re-use of the property at 6200 Lincoln Avenue will revitalize a building that has sat vacant for years.

2019 IN REVIEW

| $150 million | $35.75 million | 1,500+ |
| In committed investment at Sawmill Station | 2019 total construction value | building permits issued |
| $35.75 million | | |
| 2019 total construction value | | |

FY 2019 sales tax revenue exceeded $8 million

- $10M
- $8M
- $0
- $10M

$1.7 million in grant funding awarded for the Oakton Street shared multi-use path

23 businesses located, relocated, expanded, or changed ownership in 2019

2019 IN REVIEW

| $8 million | $1.7 million | 23 businesses |
| FY 2019 sales tax revenue exceeded | in grant funding awarded for the Oakton Street shared multi-use path | located, relocated, expanded, or changed ownership in 2019 |

2019 IN REVIEW

| $8 million | $1.7 million | 23 businesses |
| FY 2019 sales tax revenue exceeded | in grant funding awarded for the Oakton Street shared multi-use path | located, relocated, expanded, or changed ownership in 2019 |

SAVE THE DATE

**Taste of Morton Grove**

Thursday, March 12, 2020

White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant
6845 Milwaukee Avenue, Niles
5:30p to 9:00p

Advanced tickets $35 | Door tickets $45

www.mortongrovefoundation.org
Sawmill Station Lifestyle Center Goes Vertical

On October 22, 2019, Mayor DiMaria, Village Trustees, Commission members, and staff attended a ground breaking ceremony hosted by Kensington Development Partners and ICI International Contractors to celebrate the start of construction for the commercial portion of the 26-acre redevelopment project known as Sawmill Station. The developer plans to have businesses begin to open their doors by fall of 2020.

Site work and construction of underground stormwater facilities, utilities, and foundations has been underway for the commercial buildings. Vertical construction started in December of 2019, beginning with the future grocery store located at the west side of the site. Due to a non-disclosure agreement, the grocery tenant will be announced at a later date. Drone video of the construction site can be viewed at bit.ly/mg-sawmill.

Final design is also underway on the multi-family apartment complex, which is approved for up to 250 units. Plans for construction are expected to be submitted in spring of 2020. The complex is planned to feature a swimming pool and exercise room, and will incorporate a new public connection to the forest preserve trail.

Morton Grove is Committed to a Sustainable Future

The Village of Morton Grove is committed to effective and innovative practices that reduce the environmental impact of how we live, work, commute, and play. The Village integrates sustainability in all aspects of public services and is working with the community to prepare for a resilient future.

Recycling reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills, conserves natural resources, and prevents pollution. In addition to the residential recycling services provided by Groot, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) offers recycling for end-of-life computers and electronics. For more information, visit bit.ly/MGwaste

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) awarded Morton Grove, Niles, and Skokie $1.7 million to construct a shared multi-use path along Oakton Street (Caldwell Avenue to Gross Point Road) to promote active transportation.

In order to reduce energy consumption, the Village is committed to replacing traditional incandescent bulbs with LED and other energy efficient lighting sources. In 2019, the Village replaced the vast majority of bulbs at Village Hall, the Police Department, and Public Works with energy efficient bulbs. Street lights along Lincoln and Ferris Avenues were also updated to energy efficient lighting in 2019.

Morton Grove’s public transit systems, including Pace and Metra, reduce overall vehicle emissions, improve air quality, and alleviate congestion. Pace is currently developing its second Pulse rapid transit line along Dempster Street between Evanston and O’Hare International Airport, which will connect to other Pace, Metra, and CTA transit routes. Service is anticipated to begin in 2020.

Stormwater runoff pollutes water bodies, overwhelms sewers, and threatens natural habitats. The Village and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) require construction exceeding a certain size to provide stormwater detention to reduce stormwater’s negative impacts. This year, stormwater detention was constructed for 26 acres of new development on the Sawmill Station site, reducing the impact of runoff on the neighboring Cook County Forest Preserve property.
February

3 Appearance Commission ............ 7:00PM
3 Foreign Fire Ins. Tax Board ........ 5:15PM
6 Traffic Safety Commission ........ 7:00PM
10 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
11 Advisory Commission on Aging .................. 1:00PM
11 Community Relations Commission ........................ 6:30PM
17 Zoning Board of Appeals & Plan Commission ........ 7:00PM
20 Neighborhood Outreach Meeting ... 6:00PM
24 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
25 Fire & Police Commission ........ 1:00PM
26 Condo Association Meeting ........ 1:00PM

March

2 Appearance Commission ............ 7:00PM
5 Traffic Safety Commission ........ 7:00PM
9 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
10 Advisory Commission on Aging .................. 1:00PM
10 Community Relations Commission ........................ 6:30PM
16 Zoning Board of Appeals & Plan Commission ........ 7:00PM
17 Special Events Commission ........ 6:30PM
23 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
24 Fire & Police Commission ........ 1:00PM

April

2 Traffic Safety Commission ........ 7:00PM
6 Appearance Commission ............ 7:00PM
13 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
14 Advisory Commission on Aging .................. 1:00PM
14 Community Relations Commission ........................ 6:30PM
20 Zoning Board of Appeals & Plan Commission ........ 7:00PM
27 Village Board Meeting ............. 7:00PM
28 Fire & Police Commission ........ 1:00PM

New Water Supply System Operational

Building for Today & The Future

The new water supply system is operational and the project is being completed within budget. Final live testing and calibration of the automated control systems will be complete in early February. This is the final step in allowing full transition to the City of Evanston as the Village's supplier of Lake Michigan water.

Using the City of Evanston as the Village's water supplier will result in stabilized rates and cost savings for Morton Grove. The project resulted in $6.25 million in Morton Grove capital improvements, including newly reconstructed streets, curbs, gutters and sidewalks during development.

The Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission's (MGNWC) joint effort with the Village of Niles continues to meet project objectives. The project has received notable recognition from the American Public Works Association (APWA) Chicago Metro Chapter, as Public Works Project of the Year in the Environmental Category. This award was preceded by the 2019 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award from the Illinois Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ACSE).

SYSTEM COMPONENTS

- 2 pump stations
- 7 million-gallon standpipe
- 9.5 miles of new ductile iron pipe

A SAFE, RELIABLE & COST-EFFECTIVE LEGACY PROJECT

MGNWC Intermediate Pump Station
(Church St. & McDaniel Ave., Evanston)

Be Smart About Carbon Monoxide

Illinois Fire Departments responded to nearly 9,000 carbon monoxide incidents in 2018. Stay safe by keeping interior and exterior air vents clear of blockages and obstructions. Also, test smoke and CO alarms at least once a month and be familiar with the sounds they make. Read more at bit.ly/mg-carbon.

MARCH, 2020
Public response begins! You will have the opportunity to respond online, by phone, or by mail. Look for your invitation in the mail.

APRIL 1, 2020
Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.

MAY, 2020
The Census Bureau begins visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted.
$1.76 Million Awarded to Construct Oakton Street Shared Multi-Use Path

Morton Grove has partnered with Niles and Skokie to build a shared multi-use path along the south side of Oakton Street from Caldwell Avenue to Gross Point Road, and along Caldwell Avenue in Niles. $1.76 million in federal funding has been awarded to the project for engineering and construction from the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program, which is administered locally by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). The project earned high scores in CMAP’s evaluation of the project’s potential to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality in the region.

The project is intended to provide a safe, off-street facility for walkers, runners, and cyclists. People are currently walking and cycling on Oakton Street or on non-paved surfaces along Oakton Street in all types of weather to access bus stops, schools, and places of employment. The project is currently in the study phase, with design engineering expected to begin in 2020. Construction of the Morton Grove shared multi-use path is targeted for 2020 and 2021.

If you are planning to make building renovations to your home or business in 2020, the Building and Public Works Departments suggest that you contact the Village early in the process. Village staff can help you understand whether the improvements you want to make are allowed and which requirements will apply. The Village cannot design a project for you, but staff can provide basic direction before you begin talking to architects, engineers, and contractors. Preliminary review is likely to save you money by avoiding redesign work or unexpected construction costs. Understanding what your project entails will allow you to establish a more realistic overall budget.

When planning a construction project, it is especially easy to overlook the condition of underground infrastructure serving a home or business. Water and sewer line replacements are becoming more common with improvements of all sizes due to the condition of existing service infrastructure. This work can add thousands of dollars to the cost of a project. Determining if you need to replace water and sewer lines will help you make well-informed decisions as you develop your project.

Your Utility Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UTILITY</th>
<th>PROVIDER</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cable TV</td>
<td>Comcast/Xfinity</td>
<td>800-934-6489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>ComEd</td>
<td>800-334-7661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>NICOR</td>
<td>888-642-6748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbage</td>
<td>Groot</td>
<td>800-244-1977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources will always be available for emergency response. However, if you experience interruptions in these services, alerting the provider directly may result in the quickest resolution. Residents are reminded that if any condition threatens safety, dial 911 immediately.

2019 IN REVIEW

- 2,358 trees trimmed in the public parkway
- 70 water main breaks repaired by the Water Division
- 7,030 fleet miles of street cleaning in 2019
- 50 inches of snow removed in winter 2018-2019
- 1,393 tons of leaves removed from Village streets
- 650 tons of hot mix asphalt used to restore street pavement
- 333 signs repaired and replaced
- 24,306 fleet miles plowed during snow events
Public Safety

2019 IN REVIEW

24,705 calls for Police Department service

1st place in the 2018-2019 Traffic Safety Challenge within the Police Department size division

476 kids in the 2019 L.E.A.D the Way Program

1,200 attendees at the 2019 National Night Out

3 minutes, 53 seconds average time for an Advanced Life Support Ambulance to arrive at a requested location in 2019

6,934 fire, EMS, & rescue alarms responded to in 2019

Youth Take Part in the Morton Grove Police Explorer Program

The Morton Grove Police Explorer Program is a career education program for youth and young adults between the ages of 13 and 20 who are interested in a career in law enforcement. The program is ongoing and meets every other Tuesday.

The program includes a comprehensive curriculum of training, competition, service and practical skills. Members will develop an awareness of the purpose and mission of American Law Enforcement, and will receive training in police related topics which include: First Aid and CPR; arrest, search and seizure procedures; building searches; evidence work; traffic enforcement procedures; traffic and crowd control; crime prevention techniques; defensive tactics; and other police related operations. MGPD Explorers also attend various community events and help with tasks such as traffic direction, pedestrian and parking control, and crime prevention assistance.

Please join us at one of our next meetings on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, or Tuesday, February 18, 2020, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The meeting will be located in the Morton Grove Council Chambers (6101 Capulina Ave.). Any questions can be directed to Detective Johnson at 847-663-3826 or djohnson@mortongroveil.org.

Youth Take Part in the Morton Grove Police Explorer Program

2019 Fire Department Holiday Food Drive a Success

The Morton Grove Firefighters Association recently completed their 34th Annual Holiday Food Drive. Firefighter/Paramedic Curt Lipa led the efforts of the department in cooperation with local churches and charities. Residents, businesses, schools and organizations donated non-perishable food items during late November and early December. Approximately $5,000 in donations were also received. Toys and gifts were generously donated by the Morton Grove Days Commission and the Morton Grove Dollar Tree store.

On-duty and off-duty firefighters purchased fresh turkeys and hams to be included in each gift package. Donated funds were also used to purchase age-appropriate gifts for the list of children received from participating charitable organizations.

In summary, over 60 local families from Morton Grove and the surrounding area each received a full course meal including entree, vegetables, stuffing, potatoes, milk, and dessert. In addition, each family received two or three boxes of food items collected during the effort. Lastly, 149 local children received a gift-wrapped item or toy to help celebrate the season.

15 Boxes of Toys Donated in 2019 Toys for Tots Drive

The Morton Grove Police Department celebrated another successful Toy for Tots drive this holiday season. This is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy gifts for Christmas. Between November and December, hundreds of toys were dropped off to various locations throughout Morton Grove. As a result of everyone’s generosity, the Morton Grove Police Department donated 15 boxes of toys this year!
Interested in Helping?

A friendly listening ear and an encouraging word can make all the difference. The Morton Grove Advisory Commission on Aging is interested in identifying people willing to volunteer their time to help older adults stay connected to their community. The feasibility of a volunteer-based Telephone Outreach program is currently being evaluated. If you are interested in helping us bring this program to life, email reachingout@mortongroveil.org or call 847-663-3037.
TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER
MORTON GROVE, IL 60053

Fall 2019 Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Village’s Fall 2019 Photo Contest! The theme of the contest was “Faces of Morton Grove.”

Mike Janssen
Zainab Ahmed
Anonymous

Our Winter 2020 contest runs from January 1 through March 31, 2020. We do not have a specific theme for this contest and all Morton Grove residents are encouraged to submit up to 5 entries. Photos can be emailed between now and March 31 to CRC@mortongroveil.org or dropped off or mailed to Village Hall. The winning photos will be announced at the April 13, 2020, Village Board meeting and will be enlarged, framed, and displayed at Village Hall.

Incredibly Close Amazingly Open

In keeping with our tagline, the Village provides several ways to submit advice, suggestions, questions, and opinions to your elected officials and administration. For general inquiries, you can send an email to vmg@mortongroveil.org, visit the “contact us” section on our website in “Quick Links” at www.mortongroveil.org, call 847-470-5220, or fill out this form and return it to Village Hall at 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Include your name and mailing or email address to receive a response.

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Comment: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________