

To Our Norridge Community,

As we continue to be in the midst of an economic downturn which some have said is the worst in the State of Illinois' history, we as your local Village government are challenged to find ways to continue the quality services you have come to expect. The ongoing challenge is to find the most cost effective and efficient way to do so. As I said in my last message, the Village Board has made every effort to maintain these high quality services, while limiting "your costs" for the services.

The current administration has aggressively pursued and is pleased to announce that we have procured various grants totaling approximately \$4 million. Our village will share in a large portion of the Economic Stimulus Recovery package and several Capital Development Block Grants have also been secured, to name a few.

The first grant project, which is a fully funded \$368,200 Stimulus grant at no cost to Norridge, is the re-paving of Montrose Avenue from Cumberland to Canfield. This project is to be let in September of this year by the State. It is hoped that the additional funds for the other grants will be received in time for the projects to be completed during next year's (2010) construction season.

The Village of Norridge would like to thank State Senator James DeLeo (District 10), Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri (9th District), State Senator Dan Kotowski (District 33 - serving the western portion of Norridge), and State Representative Michael McAuliffe (District 20) for their assistance in procuring these grants.

It must be stressed that about 75% of all operating revenue for the Village, which is used in part to provide services, is funded by sales tax revenue received from the State of Illinois based on retail sales / purchases at the businesses in Norridge.

As we have at the Village government level, I know everyone has cutback on their spending, but obviously it is imperative that when you do spend you make every effort to keep your hard earned purchase dollars in our community by patronizing our business establishments.

Keep in mind that although the Village of Norridge levied a real estate tax for many years, which was used to fund services and infrastructure improvements, the Village has not had a real estate tax levy for several years, a rarity in today's challenging economic environment. Also, many services such as emergency 911 telephone service and garbage pick-up at our residences are free, and although the City of Chicago continues to increase the water rate its charges the Village, our residents and businesses still pay at one of the lowest water rate levels in Cook County.

In closing, I'm sure better times lie ahead for all of us.

Humbly and appreciatively yours,

(MY SIGNATURE HERE)

Ronald A. Oppedisano - Village President

To contact Village President Oppedisano: Phone: 708-453-0800

Click here to email (www.villageofnorridge.com)