

LEADERS *Unite* TO CELEBRATE PROGRESS



On June 2nd, leaders came together in Chicago to celebrate the start of construction for the Grand Prairie Water Commission system to bring Lake Michigan water to Channahon, Crest Hill, Joliet, Minooka, Romeoville, and Shorewood. This event highlighted the significant collaboration occurring between the Commission members, the City of Chicago, and other key stakeholders, and the support for the program from local, state, and federal officials.

Commissioners from the Grand Prairie Water Commission joined Congresswoman Lauren Underwood (IL-14), Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson, and representatives from the Chicago Department of Water Management, Chicago Park District, Chicago Alderman Derrick Curtis' office, and Durkin Park Elementary School to recognize this important milestone and show their support for the Program. Representative Underwood noted the importance of the Commission's efforts remarking, "Clean water is the foundation to healthy communities, and this collaboration is critical to address the urgent water shortage that threatens our entire region."

Standing in front of vehicles from the City of Chicago and the six GPWC member communities, the Commissioners emphasized the regional benefits of the Program and the work that the members have undertaken to get to this point. Joliet Mayor Terry D'Arcy stated, "Together we are taking meaningful steps to ensure a sustainable and reliable water supply for generations to come" while Romeoville Mayor John Noak noted, "This project is a testament to what local governments can do when they work collaboratively." Shorewood Mayor and GPWC Board Chairman Clarence "CC" DeBold added, "This did not happen overnight, it took many years...This type of collaboration between multiple organizations working together is proof that communication, hard work and teamwork can build success for the region and our many residents."

The initial work in Chicago will involve the construction of just over 500 feet of new 10-foot diameter tunnel about 100 feet below ground level. The tunnel extension will serve as a key link between the Chicago and GPWC water systems. Other facilities to be constructed at the Chicago site will include a 4 million gallon water storage facility and two new water pumping stations.

The event closed with a celebratory toast with Lake Michigan water. Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson toasted, "Here's to this incredible project, the partnership, the City of Chicago with the Grand Prairie Water Commission, let's raise our cups in celebration of this project."



“Clean water is the foundation of healthy communities.”
— Lauren Underwood



SUMMER VIBES

community events

Stop by these events to **LEARN MORE** about the GPWC.



JULY

19th Touch a Truck • Crest Hill

AUGUST

2nd Kidz Fest • Joliet
 5th Police National Night • Romeoville
 26th Slammers Game –
 Water Conservation Day • Joliet

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Channahon

Channahon has awarded the first two of four water main contracts of its multi-million dollar improvement plan in anticipation of receiving water from the GPWC. The new water main will improve the Village's ability to distribute water from its two GPWC receiving stations.

This year, Channahon was notified by the IEPA that its current water supply exceeded the maximum contaminant level for two per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, PFOA and PFOS. Within days the Village addressed the situation and discontinued use of the wells that caused the violation. While the current water supply is adequate and safe, the delivery of Lake Michigan water through the GPWC will meet the Village's long-term water supply needs.

The multiple water projects occurring in Channahon have not impacted other infrastructure projects. The Village will complete three million dollars of road maintenance projects and the final stage of its Bridge Street Multi Use Path.



JULY IS SMART IRRIGATION MONTH – a time to think about how and when you water your lawn and garden. If you have an irrigation system, it can be set to run during the night to limit evaporation. If you don't have a system at your home, there are smart sprinklers you can purchase that can help you manage your irrigation. You can go for something simple that has a manual timer for your sprinklers or you can go high tech and purchase a device you can operate through an app. No matter how you keep your lawn and garden hydrated, be smart about your actions to conserve water and save money.