



PRESS RELEASE

From the desk of
State Representative Sandy Cole
62nd District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gurnee Area Receives State Funding for Public Safety

GRAYSLAKE – State Representative Sandy Cole (R-Grayslake) announced today that \$105,000.00 in state grants have been released in the Gurnee area for public safety and handicapped accessibility projects.

The Gurnee Police Department received a \$15,000.00 grant for the purchase of a Gator/Polaris All Terrain Vehicle (ATV), and an additional \$5,000.00 grant for costs associated with retrofitting current police radio equipment.

“We are very grateful for Representative Cole’s assistance in obtaining the state funding for these important additions to our emergency operations,” said Gurnee Police Chief, Robert Jones. “The ATV will allow our officers to respond to emergencies along the network of bicycle paths within the Village, including the Des Plaines River Trail. This vehicle will provide us with the means to transport personnel and equipment to remote locations or flooded areas not accessible by traditional emergency vehicles.”

“The radio upgrades have provided our agency with the ability to handle communications for special situations or operations and maintain standard radio communications on a separate channel,” continued Chief Jones. “It will also provide us an avenue for radio interoperability with other emergency services or agencies during a critical incident.”

The Grandwood Park Park District received an \$85,000.00 state grant that will assist the park district with essential handicapped accessibility improvements to its community center located at 36630 Hutchins Road in unincorporated Gurnee.

“The Grandwood Park Park District is very pleased to receive state funding for the installation of ADA-approved bathrooms at our Community Center,” stated John Badtke, president of the park district. “When it was built over thirty years ago, the center had a total annual operating budget of under \$50,000 that had to pay for everything from grass cutting to insurance! Our residents did most of the work on the center themselves, and for many years we have tried to update it to be ADA approved, but our budget would not allow it.”

“We are grateful to Representative Cole and the State of Illinois for helping our small park district to modernize its community center and make it accessible to more of our residents,” Badtke said.

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