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STATE LEGISLATORS PEN LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT'S PLANS FOR VACANT STATE LAND

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House & Senate Members Representing South Suburban Communities Support Park
District's Bid for Vacant State Land

TINLEY PARK, Ill. – The Park District of Tinley Park today announced it has received support from 14 additional members of the Illinois House and Senate for its proposed plan for the site of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center and Howe Development Center to transform the long-vacant property into a hub of athletic fields, track and field facilities, a domed sports complex and open recreational space.

This week, the 14 legislators, who represent communities surrounding the Tinley Park area, sent a letter of support, including: Reps. Dagmara Avelar, Kelly Burke, Will Davis, Anthony DeLuca, Marcus Evans, Fran Hurley, Thaddeus Jones, Natalie Manley, Nick Smith, Larry Walsh, and Sens. Napoleon Harris, Patrick Joyce, Elgie Sims, and Rachel Ventura.

The Park District has also <u>previously received the support of three legislators</u> who represent Tinley Park: Reps. Debbie Meyers-Martin, Bob Rita, and Justin Slaughter.

Last November, the Park District formally bid on the property located at 7400-7600 W. 183rd St. and laid out its vision to meet the needs of the Tinley Park residents and expand opportunities for neighboring communities.

The Park District's Phase 1 of development for the property includes playground and sports facilities fully accessible for people living with special needs, multipurpose athletic fields, a domed sports complex with a full-size soccer field, a stadium with a track, a splash pad, concession stands, spectator stands, lighting, ample parking, as well as a pond, picnic areas and open green space.

In their letter this week to the Park District, the group of 14 legislators said the Park District's Phase 1 plans would create an opportunity for people across the Midwest to attend tournaments, games and events at the site.

"Additionally, transforming this site into a place for all to enjoy addresses a critical need for many of our communities that could benefit greatly from access to more recreation opportunities," the legislators wrote.

More information about the Park District's proposal can be found on its website.