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(708) 444-5150



February 04, 2020

Dear Governor J.B. Pritzker, Congressmen, State Representatives, State Senators, Cook County Commissioners, Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS), United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA):

As you may be aware, the Illinois Environment Protection Agency (“IEPA”) conducted a multi-media site inspection (“Inspection”) at the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center property (“TPMHC”) located near 183rd Street and Harlem Avenue in the Village of Tinley Park (“Village”). The inspection was requested by representatives in Springfield following their review of a citizen complaint. The Inspection was performed by six (6) IEPA representatives on December 17th & 18th, 2019. Following the Inspection, the IEPA issued an Evaluation Report (“IEPA Report”) which identified various environmental areas of concern including the presence of asbestos throughout the TPMHC. I have included for your review a copy of the IEPA Report.

As detailed in the IEPA Report, the inspectors refrained from entering various structures at the TPMHC without respirators due to the presence of asbestos. In addition, most of the structures at the TPMHC contain friable asbestos and black mold. Accordingly, the Village believes that the results detailed in the IEPA Report create an immediate concern for the health, safety, and welfare of the Village and its residents.

Since 2012, it has been the Village’s mission to remediate the environmental concerns at the TPMHC and revitalize the property into productive use for the Village and its residents. However, the Village’s mission was stymied by the Rauner Administration’s failure to enact appropriate measures to remove any hazardous substances at the TPMHC.

Nevertheless, the Village believes that if remediated, the TPMHC could be an economic catalyst towards the revitalization of the Southland. As such, the Village has continually tracking the progress of various bills introduced to the General Assembly to assist in the remediation of the TPMHC, as follows:

- SB1472, filed on 2/13/2019, amends the Brownfields Redevelopment and Intermodal Promotion Act. Provides that monies in the South Suburban Brownfields Redevelopment Fund may also be used for environmental remediation for State surplus property in Worth, Bloom, Rich, Bremen, Thornton, or Orland Township, if and only if an economic development project has been developed and approved by the municipality and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association. Provides that monies in the South Suburban Brownfields Redevelopment Zone Fund shall be held to fund eligible projects through 2016 (currently, 2021). ***This bill passed third reading in the Senate on 4/10/2019. On 4/10/2019, it was referred to Rules Committee in the House. On 4/24/2019, it was referred to Executive Committee in the House. On 5/10/2019, Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee. It appears that was the last action on SB1472 in the House.***

- SR0074, filed on 2/5/2019, urges Governor J.B. Pritzker and the Director of the Department of Central Management Services to conduct an environmental study at the cost of the State and properly identify any and all environmental issues related to the Tinley Park Mental Health Center property. ***On 2/21/2019 it was placed on the Calendar Order of Secretary's Desk Resolutions March 5, 2019. On 7/3/2019 it's listed as Pursuant to Senate Rule 3-9(b) / Referred to Assignments. It appears that was the last action on SR0074.***
- SR0075, filed on 2/5/2019, urges Governor JB Pritzker and the Director of the Department of Central Management Services to conduct three independent appraisals required by state law in order to further the sale of the Tinley Park Mental Health Center. ***On 2/21/2019 it was placed on the Calendar Order of Secretary's Desk Resolutions March 5, 2019. On 7/3/2019 it's listed as Pursuant to Senate Rule 3-9(b) / Referred to Assignments. It appears that was the last action on SR0075.***

The Village has dealt with this property for over 8 years and now desperately seeks your help remediating the TPMHC. Accordingly, the Village desires to coordinate a meeting with our Village Representatives, Mayor, Environmental Consultant, Village Manager and Village Attorneys to discuss cooperative efforts to clean up the 280 acres of contamination that exist at the TPMHC.

As such, please contact Lisa Valley, at our Village Hall, with a list of dates and times that you are available to meet and discuss. The Village would like to meet between February 24th and March 6th. Lisa can be reached at lvalley@tinleypark.org, and/or 708-444-5000.

Thank you so much for your service to the constituents of Illinois and “WE” look forward to working together with all of you.

Sincerely,

1 - (1)(b)

Michael Glotz
Mayor Pro-Tem
Trustee
mglotz@tinleypark.org

cc: Jacob Vandenberg, Village President
Village Board
David Niemeyer, Village Manager
Patrick Carr, Assistant Village Manager
Brad Bettenhausen, Village Treasurer
Tom Manion, Rory Group
Luci Anderson, Rory Group
Paul O'Grady, Village Attorney
Patrick Connelly, Village Attorney
Douglas Spale, Village Attorney
Jennifer Sackett Pohlenz, Village Environmental Consultant

Redaction Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 8:55:12 AM

Total Number of Redactions: 1

By Exemption:

"Private Information" ((1)(b)): 1 instance

By Page:

Page 2 - "Private Information" ((1)(b)): 1 instance