

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Resident Reminders p. 2
- Programs p. 3
- Community News p. 4
- Upcoming Events p. 5



Community FOCUS

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Regional Water Commission Announces Name, Vision for Future of Area Water

On August 18, 2022, elected officials gathered to reveal the name and branding for the new regional water commission, the Grand Prairie Water Commission. The six member municipalities of the commission are Channahon, Crest Hill, Joliet, Minooka, Romeoville, and Shorewood. The municipalities have teamed up to establish a joint solution to a regional water supply problem.

For the past several years, communities in the region have been evaluating alternative water sources due to water quantity and quality challenges. Lake Michigan water purchased from the City of Chicago was selected as the most sustainable and reliable water source to meet water needs and support future growth in the region.

"It's not often you see local governments come together like this," Congressman Bill Foster noted, "but when they do it is very important. I'm grateful that the federal and state governments have rewarded that collaboration. I'm proud to be advocating for over \$3 million in funding to support the regional water



commission's project to tap into Lake Michigan as its primary source of drinking water, which will help ensure clean, reliable, and sustainable drinking water for this region for decades to come."

The vision of the commission's founding municipalities is for the commission to be recognized as a leader in providing sustainable, reliable, and high-quality water in an innovative, collaborative, fiscally

responsible and efficient manner for their communities.

"Lake Michigan water will start flowing to Romeoville and other partner communities around 2030, but the formation of the commission and advocating for additional funding begins now. These are fundamental steps in the process of bringing a new water source to the region," said Mayor Noak.

A website has been established to provide information about the commission. To learn more, visit GPWC-IL.org.