

12 S. Center St.
Bensenville, IL 60106

Office: 630.766.8200

Fax: 630.594.1105

www.bensenville.il.us

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 21, 2025

VILLAGE BOARD

President
Frank DeSimone

Board of Trustees
Rosa Carmona
Ann Franz

Marie T. Frey
McLane Lomax
Nicholas Panicola Jr.
Armando Perez

Village Clerk
Nancy Quinn

Village Manager
Daniel Schulze

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Amanda Segreti, Public Works Management Analyst
Village of Bensenville Public Works
Phone: 630-350-3435
asegreti@bensenville.il.us
www.bensenville.il.us

BENSENVILLE AWARDED GRANT TO BOOST COMMUNITY TREE CANOPY

Bensenville, IL – The Village of Bensenville has been awarded a \$64,000 subgrant by The Morton Arboretum's Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI) to improve the community tree canopy.

The competitive subgrant is among nearly 40 provided to nonprofits, government entities and other eligible groups through Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, administered by CRTI.

The four-year grants, which do not require matching funds, are available for projects in communities that meet the federal requirements as disadvantaged. The funding can be used for projects that increase tree canopy, improve forest health, and create or enhance community forestry programs.

Through this subgrant, Bensenville Public Works will plant 250 trees in the Northern Industrial District by May 1, 2028.

"This \$64,000 subgrant is a tremendous investment in Bensenville's future, enabling us to plant 250 trees in the Northern Industrial District. Strengthening our tree canopy not only improves the environment but enhances the quality of life for residents and businesses," said Village President Frank DeSimone.

Various projects funded through the CRTI sub-grants include tree planting and the formation of tree inventory and management plans, in both urban and rural areas, to help increase efficiency and proactiveness in community forestry, as well as support local economies and businesses through improved infrastructure and workforce development.

"Improving the distribution of trees and green spaces directly impacts the health and economic outcomes for communities," said CRTI Director Zach Wirtz. "Projects like this improve quality of life and boost the urban tree canopy's resilience to threats posed by environmental conditions, pests and diseases."

Funding for this project provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with The Morton Arboretum's Chicago Region Trees Initiative. USDA, The Morton Arboretum, and Village of Bensenville are equal opportunity providers.

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About Bensenville: Located just 20 miles west of downtown Chicago in DuPage County, Bensenville is adjacent to O'Hare International Airport, accessible via major expressways, and served by a Metra commuter station. Offering new schools, excellent parks, and year-round events. Visit us at www.bensenville.il.us.