



**For Immediate Release**  
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**TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT ANNOUNCES NEXT STEPS IN CLEANUP OF  
VACANT LAND**

***Bid Process Opens for Next Phases of Environmental Remediation & Demolition of Former  
Tinley Park Mental Health Center***

**TINLEY PARK, Ill.** – The Park District of Tinley Park today announced it began the bidding process for the next phases of the state-funded clean up and demolition at the site of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center.

The Park District's [bid](#) includes removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials inside buildings on the property followed by demolition of all buildings on the site. The bidding process will be open for 30 days, and the Park District anticipates the work to begin sometime this summer.

Once the bid is awarded and in place, the Park District will provide updates to residents on all aspects of these next phases of cleanup, including more detailed timing of the work and the precautions that will be in place to ensure the safety of the surrounding community during these efforts.

The extensive cleanup project of all 280 acres of vacant land is being funded through \$15 million in state funding awarded to the Park District as the new owners of the site.

“We are moving diligently through this cleanup process to ensure this vacant eyesore is improved for our community,” said Lisa O’Donovan, Park District Board Commissioner and Chair of the Remediate 280 Committee, which is overseeing clean-up of the site.

The Park District began cleanup efforts last fall by engaging in an updated environmental study, conducted by Tetra Tech, to determine the extent of remediation needed. Find Tetra Tech’s report on the Park District’s [website](#). Over the winter, vegetation and overgrowth on the property was cut back to provide access to roads and buildings on the site and complete the clean-up process. In addition, in February, crews safely removed three underground storage tanks that remained on the property.

“With every step of this process, we will continue to update the community on our progress cleaning up all 280 acres of the vacant land,” said Ashley Rubino, Park District Board Commissioner and Co-Chair of the Remediate 280 Committee.

The Park District tendered \$1 to obtain the site in February, saving Tinley Park taxpayers over \$4.5 million to purchase the site, which was what the Village of Tinley Park previously offered for the land.



The clean-up process is being led by the Park District's expert team of former Illinois EPA Director Renee Cipriano and leading environmental attorney Elizabeth S. Harvey, with the oversight of the IEPA. The experts are helping ensure the safety of environmental work done at the site as well as receive the IEPA's stamp of approval to redevelop the site once the clean-up work is done.

The Park District has also hired Michael Maloney as project manager to lead all clean-up work on site. Maloney is a Tinley Park resident and former President of Local Union 597, the largest pipefitters union in Illinois, who worked for decades as a construction superintendent, managing large workforces on a variety of multimillion-dollar projects involving highly radioactive components in nuclear power stations across northern Illinois.

More information and updates can be found on the Park District's [website](#).