

THERE'S MORE TO **LOVE** AT TINLEY PARK - PARK DISTRICT



July 2025

Phase 2 of our cleanup begins soon – read up on the latest below!

From our Board of Commissioners:

**Lisa O'Donovan, Bernie O' Boyle, Marie Ryan, Ashley Rubino,
and Lisa Butler**



Phase 2 Begins

We recently shared big news with you that the state of Illinois granted **\$18 million**

more in state funding to complete the full environmental cleanup of the site. The additional \$18 million in state funding was necessary to ensure the full 280 acres of land is cleaned up with what our environmental laws require.

With the new state grant, the Park District is entering Phase 2 of the cleanup and will undergo a new bidding process for the remaining abatement and demolition work covered by the \$18 million in state funding. That new bidding process will begin in the next few weeks, with the goal of finalizing the new bid in the early fall. While that process is underway, environmental work and stormwater management at the site will continue. Once the abatement and demolition work are complete, the additional funding allows us to enter the site into the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Site Remediation Program so we can complete the site cleanup with EPA's oversight and letter of approval.

Several factors contributed to the need for increased funding to complete the cleanup, including that cost estimates were prepared during the 2013-2014 timeframe.

In addition, once the cleanup project began last year, our experts were finally able to access all areas of the site, including many areas that have not been accessed for years due to overgrown vegetation and unsafe building conditions. The team was able to better assess the work needed and found the cleanup to be more extensive than initial estimates, in order to complete the abatement and demolition work consistent with environmental laws.

Other factors included inflation and rising construction costs, the continued degradation of the abandoned buildings on site, as well as the need for extensive abatement and additional work to address storm water build up in basements, tunnels and throughout the site.

We're proud to be finally cleaning up this eyesore for our community, and we have pledged to clean it up without asking our residents to foot the bill!



Demolition Work

This month, demolition work at the site continued as Phase 1 of cleanup wrapped up. The many buildings that once made up the Howe Center on site were fully razed and demolition was completed on two other buildings, while abatement work continued inside many buildings throughout the site. See photos and video of the recent demolition [here!](#)



Stay in the Know

In addition to our newsletter, you can learn more about the cleanup through our community-driven Remediate 280 Committee that convenes monthly to discuss the state-funded cleanup in more detail. Find the schedule on our [website](#).

You can also find a helpful guide of frequently asked questions about the clean-up work on [our website](#).



Stay Informed

Learn more about the cleanup's progress on [our website](#) and through our social media channels: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

[Remediation Meeting Schedule](#)

TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT

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Tinley Park-Park District | 8125 W. 171st Street | Tinley Park, IL 60477 US

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