



CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Greetings Neighbors,

I want to give you a brief update on current events around the lake and in our ward.

First, I am very pleased to announce that one of the most important things we have done as a City Council was to return CWLP's Electric Fund to a stable situation. After years of poor and unstable times, where the utility was not on solid ground, changes were made to keep our rates and the Electric Fund stable for the next several years. During this time, in order to save money, the city has renegotiated the coal contract and refunded the bonds.

Next, the Mayor passed an annexation plan which brought all leased properties into the city around the lake. With this annexation, the city's Department of Public Works will soon assume the general maintenance of all the roads around the lake. There is a plan in the works to upgrade all the lake roads in the near future. Lake Services will still work with Public Works to make sure we continue to have a good maintenance program for our lake roads. Snow removal will remain under Lake Services, which is good, because they have done a pretty good job with that service.

One of the positive effects of this transition, with the addition of Public Works, it will free up Lake Services to work more directly on the lake issues such as trees and common areas. There also is a new Superintendent of Property Services, Larry Rockford. Mr. Rockford and I have met, and I feel confident that he will help improve services at the lake.

Increased beautification programs to make the area look better are underway. I have requested that the bridge on West Lake Drive at Hazel Dell be improved by repairing and or replacing the fencing and to add riprap to both sides of the bridge. We continue to riprap shorelines in areas around the lake that have been neglected in the past.

I have requested that a new sidewalk from the Franklin Park Subdivision to Hazel Dell School be installed so that the children walking to school will not have to walk in the street. That program should be started this summer. I continue to work with CWLP and Public Works daily to improve the lake area and welcome any and all suggestions from the homeowners.

If you have any requests for services around the lake, you can contact CWLP Lake Services at 217-757-8660 ext. 1030. As always, you may call me at my home at 217-670-2309 or the best way is to call my office and speak with my staff at 217-789-2151.

Sincerely,

Chuck Redpath
Alderman – Ward 1