

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

ADMINISTRATION

We are back at the Community Center for the October 15, 2026, Board Meeting. The November 19, 2026, Board Meeting will be held at Square Links Golf Course and Practice Center and will include annual department reports and contributions to Wildcats Football and Cheerleading, Frankfort Square Baseball League, and Scouts generated by this year's beverage sales at the golf course.

The annual abatement and mini bond ordinances that were approved at the September 17, 2026, Board Meeting will be filed with Will and Cook Counties by Chapman and Cutler, Bond Counsel. The Park District will close on the 2026 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, on October 15, 2026. The 2025 Bond is also scheduled to be paid on October 15, 2026.

The Illinois Association of Park Districts, the Park District Risk Management Agency, and FSPD Park Counsel provided information to help park districts prepare for the new Illinois laws taking effect January 1, 2027, regarding the use of e-devices and vehicles. Staff are currently reviewing the information including vehicle classifications and user requirements, a draft ordinance for future Board consideration, as well as signage and educational materials to help inform the community on proper usage and expectations.

LEGAL

The October agenda includes the required Truth in Taxation Resolution in accordance with the Truth in Taxation law. We are putting forth this "balloon levy" to capture new growth, especially the proposed commercial development in Tinley Park. Without inflating the levy in this manner, we could lose the tax dollars provided by any new growth. This development would increase the Park District's EAV, and with the development being added to the tax rolls, this cost would not be passed on to taxpayers. A park district cannot receive more property tax revenue than the law allows by the property tax calculation, therefore, if the estimated levy is higher than the results of the final levy figures, the FSPD will only receive from Will and Cook Counties what is established by the final EAV and new growth figures.

The agenda also includes consideration of the annual liquor license renewal for Square Links through the Will County Liquor Control Commission and the State of Illinois Liquor Control Commission as required for the sale and consumption of beer and wine at the golf course.

Travel expense forms for the 2027 BDC dance competitions are on the agenda for your consideration. The requests are for staff travel, lodging, and meals and incidental expenses established by the Government Services Administration guidelines, as required by Park District Ordinance No. 16-12-301.

MAINTENANCE

Staff continue to install engineered wood fiber playground surfacing as needed throughout the District. This surfacing is designed specifically for playgrounds. In addition, staff complete periodic raking in an effort to distribute the surfacing in heavy wear areas near swings and slides.

Staff worked creatively with a contractor to recover two pitcher's mounds with new fabric. They did a great job and the improved mounds were installed at Union Creek Park and being enjoyed.

RECREATION

Many thanks to Greg Beaudin for his many years of coaching soccer for both the FSPD recreation programs and various community travel teams. He has done so much to support young players with skill development, teamwork, and self-confidence. While his retirement announcement was hard to accept, we are happy for Greg and wish him all the best.

Always helpful and supportive, Greg recommended Faith Bridges to lead the next chapter of FSPD soccer. Ms. Bridges is a kindergarten teacher at Christa McAuliffe Elementary School in Tinley Park. She started playing soccer at the age of 5, played on the Force coached by Greg and the Lincoln-Way East soccer teams. She continued to play in college as a winger at St. Ambrose University. Now that she has graduated college and begun her teaching career, she wants to give back to the community by helping kids find the love for soccer as she has.

SPECIAL RECREATION

Congratulations to Keith Wallace, LWSRA Executive Director, on being inducted into the Class of 2026 as a Fellow of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. The Academy recognizes leaders who have demonstrated distinguished service to the parks and recreation profession. This prestigious honor reflects Keith's commitment to advancing parks and recreation, expanding opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and leading with vision and service.

The next LWSRA Board Meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2026.

GOLF COURSE

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the FSPD's College Scholarship Program and made this year's College Scholarship Classic a success. We appreciate their commitment to our community and look forward to the opportunity to share the proceeds with local high school seniors in support of their future educational endeavors.

The 2027 College Scholarship Program application will become available on the Park District's website, in hard copy at the Community Center, and at the LWE PPS Office, coinciding with the release of the winter/spring brochure. High school-aged students that live within the borders of the Frankfort Square Park District are encouraged to apply. Completed applications are due by March 2, 2027, and can be emailed to admin@fspd.org, or dropped off at the Community Center.

OFFICE

The front office staff managed registration for the popular Polar Express special event, with 50+ residents registering on the first day. FSPD residents are given priority and both available train cars filled up quickly. We are fortunate that Metra offers an opportunity for us to share this popular event with our residents.

RISK MANAGEMENT

PDRMA hosted the annual Health Program Council Meeting. As part of our ongoing commitment as a PDRMA member, we plan to continue our participation in the same high-deductible plan required for a health savings account and appreciate PDRMA's continued efforts to support and listen to its member agencies.

Respectfully submitted:
Audrey Marcquenski
Executive Director