



Village of Mount Prospect **Press Release**

Village Celebrates Opening of Levee 37 Pump Station 2.5

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MOUNT PROSPECT, Ill. – On Tuesday, July 23, the Mount Prospect Public Works Department, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), and the US Army Corps of Engineers held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Levee 37 Pump Station 2.5. The ribbon cutting commemorates pump station 2.5 becoming fully operational.

The ceremony had many dignitaries in attendance, including Mayor Paul Wm. Hoefert, US Army Corps of Engineers' Jeffrey Zuercher and Colonel Kenneth Rockwell, and Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Rick Pohlman, P.E.

According to Mayor Paul Wm. Hoefert, "This project is simply a game changer. It will help provide an unprecedented level of flood protection for hundreds, if not thousands, of homes in Mount Prospect on the west side of River Road."

The Village of Mount Prospect, the City of Prospect Heights, and IDNR worked together with the US Army Corps of Engineers to establish Levee 37 to prevent Des Plaines River flood waters from inundating properties in Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights. Original construction of Levee 37 included two pump stations in Mount Prospect and a third in Prospect Heights. The project was largely funded federally through the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Following a 2015 drainage study by Christopher B. Burke Engineering, it was determined that additional pumping capacity was needed to prevent flooding in the residential areas protected by the levee. With leftover funds from the federal budget, the US Army Corps designed a supplemental pump station, appropriately named Pump Station 2.5, to discharge storm water at a rate necessary to alleviate flooding issues. Pump Station 2.5 has as the ability to discharge water at 120-140 cubic feet per second (cfs), while all three preexisting pump stations combined could only discharge 60 cfs at peak capacity.

According to the Village of Mount Prospect Director of Public Works Sean Dorsey, "This project is the result of unrelenting cooperation and teamwork between multiple units of

government. This levee and the supplemental pump station [2.5], would not have been built without prolonged and determined effort from United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, the City of Prospect Heights, and the Village of Mount Prospect.”

Pump Station 2.5 is part of the Village’s greater efforts to mitigate flooding near the Des Plaines River. In 2019, the Village entered an intergovernmental agreement with River Trails Park District to develop two stormwater management facilities. A stormwater detention basin was constructed at Burning Bush Trails Park in 2019, and in 2021, work was approved for an underground retention vault at Aspen Trails Park.

Visit the [Village’s website](#) for more information on stormwater management efforts in Mount Prospect.

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