



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

O'Hare Modernization Program

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**Statement by OMP Executive Director
Rosemarie S. Andolino
Regarding Village of Bensenville Demolitions**

"Today, the Court declined to enter an order prohibiting the City of Chicago from proceeding with demolition activities in the Southwest acquisition area. To that extent, demolition activities will proceed after the city concludes coordination efforts with its contractors. Notification will be provided prior to the commencement of demolition activities.

On June 18, 2007 the City of Chicago and the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) sent the Village of Bensenville a ten day Notice of Intent to proceed with demolition activities within the Bensenville portion of the OMP Southwest acquisition area. This notice expires on June 28, 2007.

The OMP has acquired 437 of the 611 parcels of property in the Village of Bensenville needed for the program. 370 of those parcels are already vacant and the previous owners have relocated.

There have been numerous break-ins, vandalism and theft of City-owned property, additional incidents of fly dumping, and an assault on a property manager. Therefore, it is imperative that demolition activities start immediately in order to remove those structures that may harbor illegal activities and provide an unsafe environment.

(more)



As was the case with the successful demolitions in the Northwest acquisition area, the City is committed to demolishing the structures in the Southwest acquisition area without incident or harm to Village property or its residents.”

About the O’Hare Modernization Program

The O’Hare Modernization Program, approved by the federal government in September 2005, will reconfigure O’Hare’s outdated intersecting runway configuration into a modern parallel configuration, substantially reducing delays and increasing capacity. The OMP will create up to 195,000 new jobs and add an additional \$18 billion in annual economic activity to the region without the use of any state or local taxpayer dollars.

Construction activities for the OMP are underway on a number of North and South Airfield projects. To date, contractors have moved more than 6.3 million cubic yards of dirt and placed 42,000 square yards of concrete for the extension of a taxiway. The OMP has awarded more than \$740 million in construction contracts thus far. In the next year, the OMP will advertise up to another \$720 million in construction bid packages.

Land acquisition activities are also moving forward. In fact, the OMP has also acquired or settled 464 of the 611 parcels needed in the Village of Bensenville.

For more information, please visit www.OhareModernization.org.

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