

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Roderick Drew  
Phone: 773-457-0472  
E-mail: [roderick.drew@cityofchicago.org](mailto:roderick.drew@cityofchicago.org)  
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### **OMP Reimburses School, Community College Districts over \$800,000 in Property Tax Revenue**

The City of Chicago O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) today joined Illinois State Representative Angelo "Skip" Saviano (R-77), State Representative Dennis Rebolleti (R-46) and State Senator Don Harmon (D-39) to present a check for \$805,366.99 to school and community college district officials.

"Under Mayor Richard M. Daley's leadership, the City of Chicago is committed to being a good neighbor to the communities surrounding the airport," said Rosemarie S. Andolino, OMP Executive Director. "Today is another example of our commitment to improving the quality of life for families and residents near O'Hare."

The check was made payable to the Bensenville Elementary Grade School District 2, Fenton Community High School District 100 and the College of DuPage Community College District 502 to reimburse property tax revenue due to OMP land acquisition. The amount includes \$4,387.99 for 2005, as well as an advance payment of \$800,979, or 80 percent of the estimated total for the 2006 taxable year. The OMP will reimburse the remainder for 2006 once the actual property tax bill is received.

"This check shows the benefit of negotiation versus litigation with the City of Chicago regarding the modernization program," said Representative Saviano. "While receiving this money is important in the short term, what I really want is for Chicago to finish building the entire program - because that's when the region will get the full benefits from modernizing O'Hare."

Working together with school and elected officials, the OMP voluntarily agreed to advance property tax monies not yet owed for immediate use by school districts.

"It's great that all parties worked together and came up with a solution that benefits our school and community college districts," said Senator Harmon.

"With the first OMP components coming online in November 2008, including new Runway 9L/27R, the extension of Runway 10L/28R and the new North Air Traffic Control Tower, this program will generate additional economic activity that will continue to enhance the property tax base well into the future," added Andolino.

The O'Hare area has already benefited from a number of businesses building brand new facilities. According to the City of Des Plaines, nearly 2 million square feet of new industrial space has been developed to prepare for the economic boost the OMP will have on the region's economy. And, according to a May 2007 column on the OMP appearing in *Benuzzi's Industrial Guide*, which tracks Chicago-area industrial real estate, "One thing we know for certain - property prices are currently on their way up in the O'Hare area, and the demand for properties is on the rise as well."

### **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, on top of the 450,000 jobs and \$38 billion O'Hare generates today, 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. New Runway 9L/27R, the extension of Runway 10L/28R and the new North Air Traffic Control

Tower will be commissioned in November 2008.

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](http://www.OhareModernization.org).

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