



Springfield Park District

www.springfieldparks.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SPRINGFIELD PARK DISTRICT TO CUT THE RIBBON
THIS WEEKEND ON NEW ADDITIONS TO BARKER PARK!**

[**Springfield, IL**] The Springfield Park District is partnering with the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association on Saturday, September 9th to cut the ribbon to some exciting new additions at Paul A. Barker Park. The Ribbon Cutting ceremony will take place promptly at 5pm and the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association has planned a neighborhood celebration for all its members to commemorate the afternoon and kick-off the fun utilizing these new features in the park!

Paul A. Barker Park is a 26-acre piece of property that was generously donated to the Park District by the Paul Barker Trust with the intent to develop the land into a park. The Springfield Park District has worked closely with the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association to continue to develop items identified in the master plan.

The additional development projects in Paul A. Barker Park including:

- Construction of an accessible walkway that connects Hazelcrest Road and Glendale Drive
- Construction of a ½ basketball court
- Paved and accessible parking lot
- Construction of picnic shelter
- Electric service to the shelter

The paving work was completed through contracts with the local firms of Martin Engineering Company and Truman Flatt. “We continue to work closely with the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association on the further development of Paul A. Barker Park, enhancing the recreational opportunities and the District is excited to bring these new features to the community!” – Leslie Sgro, Springfield Park Board President

The Ribbon Cutting Event will take place on Saturday at 5 PM rain or shine, and a neighborhood block party has been organized by the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association which will include a bounce house, cupcakes, games and a movie night for the whole neighborhood to enjoy!

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For more information on this event and others going on within the Springfield Park District, please visit our website at www.springfieldparks.org.

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