



Village of Melrose Park Trustee

ANTHONY N. ABRUZZO

Anthony Abruzzo is a lifelong Melrose Park resident. He attended Sacred Heart Elementary School and Holy Cross High School. Anthony was involved in many high school extracurricular activities including football and student council, where he discovered a knack and a love for leadership. After high school, Anthony attended the University of Illinois at Chicago and received a Bachelor's Degree in Arts and Architecture. Anthony then pursued a Master's Degree in Architecture, moving him another step closer to a career in design and construction.

After working for several design firms, he began his small consulting firm in 2004, which led to an extensive track record of achievement in complex design/build projects. Today, Anthony Abruzzo is the President of Forza Design & Consulting, Inc.

To date, Forza Design boasts its two greatest achievements, the design and construction of the Cinespace Chicago Film Studios and the Lagunitas Brewery. Cinespace is a subsidiary of the Toronto Corporation, a company specializing in the development, management and operation of film studio facilities. Cinespace has purchased the Ryerson Steel Campus on the southwest side of Chicago, which covers over 55 acres and 1.8 million square feet of building under roof. In its final phase, it will be the largest film studio outside of Hollywood in the United States. Lagunitas Brewery is a brewery with roots in Southern California that is planning on opening a distribution facility roughly 306,000 sq. ft. This facility will be equipped with viewing and tasting rooms, which will overlook the entire brewing process, from fermentation, to bottling.

Anthony counts being elected to the Melrose Park Village Board in 2009 as one of his most notable accomplishments. Since his election, Anthony has worked hard to acquire a deeper understanding of government and its operations by serving on various Village Boards, such as the Zoning Board and the Finance Committee. Not only has he proven himself a dedicated public official, he is also a good neighbor, volunteering for many neighborhood causes like serving as a member of the Feast Committee of the Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Anthony Abruzzo's philosophy is rooted in his architecture background, "Government is fundamentally similar to a structure; it has needs, demands and limits. Government, just like a structure, starts with a foundation; if not strong it cannot flourish."