

A Message from Mayor Ron Serpico

Entering Melrose Park, one returns to a time when neighbors talked over the fence, moms watched out for each other's children, and churches were central to family life. Our tree-lined streets are populated with well-manicured homes. But what you really notice upon entering Melrose Park is the diversity of its residents. Walk down any street and you will be immersed in a tapestry of cultures, each with their unique language, food and customs - Melrose Park is a shining example of the ideal of the "American Melting Pot".

Celebrations and festivals are synonymous with the words Melrose Park. The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel has been celebrated every July for over 120 years and is the longest running festival in the Chicago area. Our annual Hispanofest draws nearly 125,000 people. And every Labor Day weekend the Taste of Melrose Park draws hundreds of thousands of hungry patrons to the most family affordable food festival in all of Illinois.

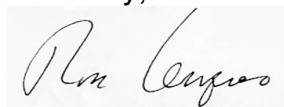
Few communities offer its residents the amenities that Melrose Park offers. Our central location, convenient expressways, and mass transit system enable residents to arrive at O'Hare Airport, downtown Chicago, entertainment venues, excellent shopping centers and fine dining eateries in a matter of minutes. Melrose Park is one of the few suburban towns to have two hospitals, Gottlieb and Westlake, located within its village limits. These are some of the reasons Chicago Magazine named Melrose Park one of the best suburbs for first time homebuyers and why we are a Governor's Hometown Award recipient.

Melrose Park, thanks to its strong business community, is able to offer residents some of the lowest water rates and property tax rates in the Chicago area. Our crime rate is one of the lowest in the western Cook County suburban area.

Melrose Park's nickname is, Corporate King of the Suburbs. Corporations like Alberto-Culver, Wilson Sporting Goods, Benjamin Moore Paint, Jewel-Osco, Home Juice, Zenith, International Harvester, Navistar and many others have made or still call Melrose Park their home. We are also one of the few towns to have Costco, Target and Menards stores located within its village limits.

Please visit Melrose Park and experience a unique community that takes you back to a time when life was less complicated and a lot friendlier. If you have any questions, please call 708 343-4000. Hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor of Melrose Park