

PRESS RELEASE FROM:

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Enterprise Zone Spurs Growth in Alsip.

Alsip is one of 17 communities in the new Cal Sag Enterprise Zone Awarded by the State of Illinois in January of 2016. Alsip has been part of an Enterprise Zone for the last 30 years, but the Zone awarded in 2016, was expanded to include new geography in Alsip, and added several neighboring towns to the Zone.

Alsip's last 4 construction projects were done using the benefits of the Enterprise Zone. Pilot opened their new Fueling Center/Arby's at 127th & Kedzie, in the fall of 2015. Taco Bell & Dunkin Donuts will open new facilities in November on Pulaski between 117th – 119th Streets. Aldi Foods at 113th & Cicero, is using Enterprise Zone benefits to expand their store, that will be ready for shopping in December. The first 3 projects returned vacant and underdeveloped property to the tax role, and all 4 add new sales tax and jobs to the Alsip economy.

The Village of Alsip agreed to expand the Enterprise Zone boundaries in their application to the State in 2014, which was approved late in 2015 for implementation in 2016. This expansion placed the 3 newest projects in the Zone that were not previously included. Growth on Pulaski & Cicero will continue to benefit from the Enterprise Zone along with other local incentives.

Businesses in the Enterprise Zone who build new facilities or rehab or remodel their current locations, can receive sales tax abatement on building materials, discounts on local permits, and in some cases real estate tax savings.

The Cal Sag Enterprise Zone is one of 4 Zones in the Southern Suburbs that were part of an application process made possible by South Suburban Mayors & Managers, Cook County, and CNT Center For Neighborhood Technologies. These 3 groups worked with local leaders to submit applications to The Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity for Zones that will extend for the next 15 years. Other Zones in the region are The Calumet Region Enterprise Zone, The Lincoln 394 Corridor Enterprise Zone, and The Will Cook Enterprise Zone.

For information on the Cal Sag Enterprise Zone, contact The Zone Office @ 708-653-3122 or visit their website calsagezone.org. Or e mail calsagezone@aol.com Mary Schmidt, Zone Assistant says this incentive combined with other local incentives in each town, places the Southern Suburbs in new competition for development & re development. Blue Island & Midlothian are 2 other communities in the Cal Sag Zone currently making use of this incentive to redevelop their communities. Several other towns have projects anticipated for 2017.

