From the community

Construction Begins for the Yellow Line Oakton Street Station

By Janelle Silva

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Construction of the "Kiss 'n Ride" facility is expected to be complete in fall 2011, and the Chicago Transit Authority estimates some 1,200 boardings will occur at the stop each day.

Construction began this week on the CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station in Downtown Skokie. Construction of the "Kiss 'n Ride" facility is expected to be complete in fall 2011, and the Chicago Transit Authority estimates some 1,200 boardings will occur at the stop each day.

The station will cost approximately $20 million to construct, with the Village of Skokie funding $6 million and an additional $14 million coming from federal funds. The new station is adjacent to the Illinois Science + Technology Park (IS+TP) in Downtown Skokie. The new station is anticipated to increase the attractiveness of the IS+TP by directly connecting Downtown Skokie and Chicago.

"I am grateful to officials from CTA, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, Skokie's state and federal legislators, Commonwealth Edison, The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Forest City Enterprises and, of course, the Village staff who persevered with this project for many years," said Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen. "Their collective vision, hard work and dedication to this important public transportation initiative will benefit the region for decades to come."

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