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**Date:** March 10, 2017 at 10:15:07 AM CST

**Subject:** Board Briefing Comment - Alternate Water Supply - City of Park Ridge

FYI – Board Briefing Comment as discussed

- Park Ridge Herald-Advocate Question Regarding Park Ridge's Exclusion from the Water Transmission Line Study/Project with Morton Grove and Niles – I received a request for comment regarding the City of Park Ridge's status relative to working with Morton Grove and Niles on the continued effort to transition to an alternate water supply.

The inquiry was as follows:

*Hi Ralph. Basically, I am hoping you can clarify why Park Ridge was ultimately not included in the new water transmission line study/project with Niles and Morton Grove after October 2015. I know that the Park Ridge City Council had not met a July 2015 deadline to make a decision as to whether the city would participate in a study with the two communities, and was wondering if this was the primary reason. Please email or call me today at [630-200-8301](tel:630-200-8301). Thank you!*

Provided Response:

*A 2012 regional study indicated all three communities (Morton Grove, Niles, and Park Ridge) could save money by purchasing water from the City of Evanston by building a large dedicated water transmission main from the Evanston water plant to the three communities.*

*Based on that study, Morton Grove and Niles began working together in 2014 to evaluate purchasing water from Evanston as well as other suppliers. In 2015, a more comprehensive engineering study estimated the cost for a dedicated transmission main of this magnitude would be cost prohibitive. Continued evaluation indicated Morton Grove and Niles could realize substantial savings by utilizing a combination of new and existing infrastructure in Evanston, Morton Grove, Niles, and possibly Skokie. The water system modeling concluded it was highly unlikely a combination transmission system could also support the needs of Park Ridge; therefore it was not appropriate to include Park Ridge at this time. If further evaluation indicates otherwise, Morton Grove and Niles would welcome the opportunity to partner with Park Ridge.*

*It is both Village's beliefs that cooperation is good government toward the appropriate use of capital funds while providing efficient and cost effective services for their respective communities. However, at this time to have the City of Park Ridge participate in the cost and effort associated with negotiations and an engineering effort without a higher level of potential success would be inappropriate.*

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