



**News from**  
State Representative Franco Coladipietro

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 12, 2009

**CONTACT:** Rep. Franco Coladipietro  
(630) 582-0045

**Coladipietro: Northside Park in Wheaton to Receive \$400,000 Grant**

**SPRINGFIELD** – State Representative Franco Coladipietro (R-Bloomington) announced that Wheaton Park District, Northside Park, was one of 59 park development and land acquisition projects to receive an Open Spaces Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The \$400,000 OSLAD grant was in addition to a \$50,000 grant that Rep. Coladipietro helped to secure for the park in 2007.

“Northside Park and the pond is already a favorite place for families to enjoy an evening stroll or watch their kid’s baseball or softball game. This grant is just one additional opportunity for the Wheaton Park District to continue to provide quality parks and recreation services to the community,” said Rep. Coladipietro. “In addition, the \$21.2 million in grants released by the state is one step in putting people back to work and getting our economy back on the right track.”

Coladipietro stated that the grant will be used to develop and renovate Northside Park. New facilities include 10 fishing/observation piers, new walking paths to connect to existing paths, a dock for launching canoes and a playground.

According to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the OSLAD program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for the acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Grant awards up to \$750,000 are available for acquisition projects, while development/renovation projects are limited to a \$400,000 grant. Under this program, the grantee is required to provide a minimum 50% match.

###