



City of Countryside

**Police Department**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Countryside Police Department installs high definition video cameras at two parks in Countryside, with the assistance of funding received from ComEd through the Powering Safe Communities grant program administered by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.**

***Countryside, IL*** - In March 2018, the City of Countryside Police Department applied for funding through the 2018 Powering Safe Communities grant program. This grant program supports innovative municipal public safety initiatives in the ComEd service region. In July 2018, ComEd, in partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, announced the 2018 grant recipients. The City of Countryside's "Parks Cameras" proposal was one of 21 community proposals that was approved for funding and the City of Countryside was awarded \$9,362 toward the cost of the camera project.

To maintain the community's overall sense of safety and security, the Countryside Police Department pursued the "Powering Safe Communities" grant to provide high definition video cameras at 2 of its most attended parks, Countryside Park and Ideal Park. These parks were chosen because of their unique attributes and propensity to draw a large amount of visitors. High quality video cameras in these locations are a tremendous asset and will offer a heightened level of comfort and safety within the community. Since the cameras can be monitored in real time and recorded video can be viewed, the presence of this technology will not only serve as an effective crime deterrent but will be instrumental in assisting with the prevention of criminal activity and the investigation of crimes.

The cameras have been installed and fully functional since January 2019 and this project has already proven to be effective as they contributed to the apprehension of a subject stealing bleachers from Countryside Park on February 15, 2019.

*The Powering Safe Communities grant program is administered by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and funding is provided by ComEd.*

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