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**CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN TO BE
DEVELOPED USING CITY-OWNED VACANT LAND**

Innovative project will expand Chicago's growing network of community gardens

Today the Chicago City Council approved an ordinance that will authorize the execution of a new lease agreement with NeighborSpace for use of a city-owned vacant land located at 4235 North Neenah Avenue for \$1 per year for use as a community garden.

The mission of NeighborSpace is to assist residents by providing the support and expertise needed to expand communal gardening throughout the City. "I am pleased to continue to City's partnership with NeighborSpace. NeighborSpace empowers City residents to enjoy our City's beauty in their own back yards and allows us to expand our network of community gardens," said Mayor Emanuel.

The Lease authorizes NeighborSpace to occupy the vacant land at 4235 North Neenah Avenue for \$1.00 for the term of the lease. NeighborSpace will be responsible for maintenance, security, and payment of all utilities. The Lease expires on December 31, 2016 but may be canceled by either party with 60 days' notice.

NeighborSpace was established in 1996 as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation to expand communal gardens in Chicago. NeighborSpace presently has over 80 communal gardens under its stewardship throughout Chicago

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