



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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90 Units of Veterans Housing Proposed for North Lawndale

A 90-unit, five-story affordable apartment building for homeless and disabled Veterans will be built on a cluster of vacant lots along West Roosevelt Road in North Lawndale through financial measures introduced today to the City Council by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

All units will be for male and female veterans at or below 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Seventy-five units in the building located in the 2900 block of West Roosevelt Road will receive Veteran Administration Supportive Housing Vouchers from the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA). With the CHA rental subsidies, Veterans will not spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent.

The developer, A Safe Haven Foundation, a nonprofit that has provided housing, job training and other services since 1994 to civilians and veterans struggling with poverty, homelessness and drug and alcohol addiction, is applying for rental subsidies for the remaining 15 units from the Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Funds to make those apartments affordable at 30 percent AMI.

City support for the project includes nearly \$5 million in cash grants and the sale of seven City-owned vacant lots valued at \$875,000 for \$1 per lot. In 2012, A Safer Haven Foundation purchased a lot adjacent to this proposed area from a private entity for \$185,000.

Other funding sources will include a Home Depot Foundation grant of \$500,000; a Commonwealth Edison Energy grant of \$133,600 and award of IHDA Tax Credits of \$11,066,431.

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Neighborhood Opportunity Fund to Support Adaptive Re-Use of Garfield Park Warehouse

A vacant East Garfield Park warehouse would be redeveloped for multiple tenants through a \$660,000 Neighborhood Opportunity Fund grant proposed to City Council today by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

The funding would support the \$1.58 million rehabilitation of the building at 328 N. Albany Ave. by the building's owner, Madland Industries, LLC. The work would create approximately 25,000 square feet of commercial space for a planned photography studio, café and other tenants.

The Neighborhood Opportunity Fund uses voluntary payments from downtown development projects to support commercial corridors in low- to moderate-income communities on the South, Southwest, and West sides.

Projects with grant amounts exceeding \$250,000 require individual City Council approval. More information is available at www.neighborhoodopportunityfund.com.

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Land Acquisition Would Support Park Expansion on the North Side

The Humboldt Park community's Kells Park would be expanded by .14 acres through a land acquisition proposal introduced to City Council today by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

The additional space would involve two vacant lots at 724-26 N. Kedzie Ave., which the City would acquire from the Openlands conservation organization for \$61,000. The City would subsequently lease the space to the Chicago Park District for use as a new playground.

Acquisition costs would be paid through the Chicago/Central Park TIF District.

The two-acre Kells Park, located at Chicago and Kedzie avenues, is named for George D. Kells, who served as an alderman of the 28th Ward from 1931 to 1951.

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