NORTH RIVER COMMISSION

Albany Park Chamber of Commerce

Albany Park & Irving Park SSA #60

LADCOR
Lawrence Avenue Development Corporation
SINCE 1976

REBUILDING TOGETHER

• GET INVOLVED

TUESDAY AUGUST 4TH 7PM

Welcome, thank you for joining us!

Welcome and Meeting Overview

John Friedmann, Board President

Meeting Overview

- Welcome
- Recap from June 9th Rebuilding Together meeting
- Issue area priorities and open discussion
- Break out session

Interest Areas

- Arts and Culture
- Economic Development
- Education
- Environment, Open Space
- Housing
- North Park Village

Meeting Participation

- Poll to pick your area of interest for break out session
- Open discussion, to participate:
- 1) Ask for us to call on you by typing "**STACK: <issue area>**" in the chat
- 2) or type your question into the chat

Best Practices

- Mute your mic when not speaking. Thank you.
- You consent to being recorded by continuing with this meeting

Arts & Culture

Ron Duplack, VP Arts & Culture
Carson Poole, Community Organizer for Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Arts and North Park Village

Arts & Culture Rebuilding Priorities - Updates

- Facilitate Public Art
  - Several public art projects are underway activate the business districts, including Global Roots / Local Heart vinyl murals at Lindo Michoacan, donated mural at 3704 W Lawrence, and at Our Great Rivers project area
  - Reconsideration of Ronan Park sculpture Garden
- Support artists, arts organizations to produce and perform locally
  - Two organizations have found permanent homes in Albany Park, public announcements forthcoming
  - Chicago Public Library performances upcoming
  - In talks with theatre and performing arts groups about outdoor performances

Arts & Culture Proposed Rebuilding Priorities

- Reconceive previously planned events (Mosaic and Lot Jams) into investment in placemaking and cultural infrastructure that will support future events
  - Considering opportunties for Covid-safe outdoor events this fall

Economic Development

Scott Berman, VP Economic Development &
Lawrence Avenue Development Corp
Alexa Schutz, Economic Development Coordinator
& SSA Manager

Economic Development

Affiliations

- **Albany Park Chamber of Commerce**
  - Neighborhood Business Development Center delegate agency of the City of Chicago
- **Albany Park & Irving Park Special Service Area #60**
  - Localized taxing district; see boundaries at *bit.ly/ssa60map*
- **LADCOR: Lawrence Avenue Development Corporation**

Economic Development
Proposed Rebuilding Priorities

- Creating and/or supporting outdoor dining and retail/shopping opportunities
- Referring prospective entrepreneurs and existing small businesses to resources, city departments, marketing, available storefronts, grants, and access to capital
- Encouraging businesses to create an online presence if “offline”
- Reimagining business district events and neighborhood promotion to drive customers and dollars into businesses
- Outreach for development opportunities of underutilized properties located in high traffic areas along our commercial corridors; seek community input
- Promoting special service area (SSA) rebate programs and encouraging investment in businesses and/or buildings for those financially-able

Education

Lauren Sivak, VP Education
Juliet Ludwig & Eliana Pinilla, NRC Education
Committee Members

The Education Committee exists to support and strengthen the network of schools on Chicago's northwest side. We do this by:

- executing marketing and branding campaigns that change the narrative about our schools
- building relationships between schools and local arts organizations
- championing and lifting the student voice in our community

Education Proposed Rebuilding Priorities

- Ensure that all members of our school communities- students, teachers, administrators, staff, and parents- are receiving trauma-informed care and SEL practices are part of all of our schools' curriculum in the wake of the pandemic.
- Claiming Our Spaces: collaborative storytelling program for undocumented students between The Kedzie Center, 2nd Story, and NRC.
- Amplifying youth voice and their position on SROs in our community's schools.
-

Education Proposed Rebuilding Priorities

- 33rd Ward Youth Council & Youth Voice: In addition to engaging youth in discussions about CPD in CPS, continue to host virtual youth gatherings and town halls. Make sure our students have a seat at the table, and always advocate for student voice in decision making regarding the future of our schools.

Education Community Organizer Position

Environment and Open Space

John Friedmann, NRC President

NRC VP Environment

Carson Poole, Community Organizer for

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Arts and North Park Village

Environment Proposed Rebuilding Priorities - Updates

- Support efforts and advocate to expand and enhance public space, including parks, streetscape, riverfront, and trails, as safer spaces for gathering and recreating, as a matter of public health
  - Launched Save Your Ash Initiative (more to follow)
  - Performed a River Park and Ronan Park cleanup with Friends of the Chicago River and 40th Ward on Aug 2
  - Working with Active Transportation Alliance, ward offices, and Lyft to support shared streets planning and design inititives

Environment Proposed Rebuilding Priorities - Updates

- Ensure that PACs are engaged with recovery and that community plays a role in re-opening efforts at local parks, including supporting the formation of PACs where they do not exist at present
  - River Park PAC is under formation
  - Outreach to PACs to stay engaged with Park programming

Environment Proposed Rebuilding Priorities - Updates

- Ensure that environment priorities - trees, river improvement, stewardship, NPV - are not sidelined or “back-burnered” by local leaders by staying in contact and advocating for resources
  - Supported Urban Forestry Advisory Board ordinance
  - Engaged with Friends of the Chicago River, Chicago Park District, community organizations, and Ward offices to maintain focus on previously identified riverfront improvements

Environment: Call to Action : Save Our Tree Canopy!

Environment: NRC Save Your Ash Campaign

Environment: NRC Save Your Ash Campaign

www.northrivercommission.org/SaveYourAsh

Environment: Save Your Ash Campaign

- www.northrivercommission.org/SaveYourAsh
  - Neighborhood canopy preservation
  - Negotiated discount rate with supplier for treatment to protect trees against EAB and certain death
  - Supporting community organizing for residents, block clubs, civic organizations, and other community groups to map, tag, and fundraise to preserve their ash trees and neighborhood canopy
  - NRC has fundraising platform available for community groups

Environment: Illinois Solar For All Campaign

- www.illinoissfa.com
  - Program to implement solar generation and encourage community solar participation for low-income and environmental justice communities
  - NRC to conduct outreach to homeowners, property owners, affordable housing managers, and nonprofit & public buildings to implement solar energy at no upfront cost
  - NRC to connect interested parties to solar vendors and help smooth the process to implementation
  - July 2020 - July 2021, with possibility for extension for following years

Housing

John Friedmann, Board President
Interim VP Housing
Dalia Aragon, Housing and
Economic Development Coordinator

Housing

Proposed Rebuilding Priorities

- Seeking financial relief and resources for our landlords, tenants, property owners.
- Maintaining affordability in our communities by supporting Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).
- Creating new development in our service area.

Housing Proposed Rebuilding Priority Updates

- Seeking equitable opportunities and resources for all stakeholders during and post COVID-19.
  - COVID-19 Rental & Housing Assistance: there are 4 new programs Chicagoans can apply to by visiting the new portal at chi.gov/housinghelp
  - Landlord/Tenants workshop on **August 13** to learn about new ordinances, best management practices during COVID-19, and landlord/tenant safety.
  - Partnership with Environment Committee to bring the ILSFA program to the community

Housing Proposed Rebuilding Priority Updates

- Working with Wards on a plan to facilitate ADU legalization to maintain and create affordable units in our communities.
  - Housing Committee is creating a list of local vendors that property owners can refer to when pursuing ADU legalization.

Housing Proposed Rebuilding Priority Updates

- Creating a list with prioritized properties for development that includes details that incentivize investment.

- Leading a marketing campaign for prioritized vacant or underutilized sites in our service area in collaboration with the Economic Development Committee.
  - currently marketing material is being created for the 4 identified priority sites.

Housing Proposed Rebuilding Priority Updates

- Continuing to do outreach and have communication with affordable and market rate developers.
  - the Housing Committee remains engaged with Ward CDZD processes and developers.
  - Currently there are 4 development proposals in the 33rd Ward.

Housing Proposed Rebuilding Priority Updates

2924 W. Montrose Ave.

3030 W. Lawrence Ave.

2907 W. Irving Park Rd.

3559 W. Lawrence Ave.

North Park Village

Sylvia Asllani, VP North Park Village
Carson Poole, Community Organizer for Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Arts and North Park Village

North Park Village Proposed Rebuilding Priorities - Updates

- Ensure the continued safety and support for all senior residents at NPV by working with EHDOC and 39th Ward to stay in contact and make connections to local resources
  - NPVAC residents and buildings remain safe, NRC in contact with EHDOC and ward offices to maintain good functioning
  - North Park Village easement extension to perpetuity has been submitted to City council, vote coming in September
- Ensure that North Park Village Nature Center, Peterson Park, natural areas, and community gardens on site are re-opened safely
  - Park opening has been conducted without incident thus far, NRC in contact with Park supervisors

Interest Area Breakout Sessions

20 minutes for active discussion

Reconvene and Conclude

Rebuilding Together • Get Involved

Thank you for attending!

Stay connected…

- Newsletters: bit.ly/newsNRC
- Web: northrivercommission.org
- Facebook: facebook.com/northrivercommission
- Instagram: @northrivercommission

GLOBAL ROOTS LOCAL HEART

NORTH RIVER COMMISSION

Upcoming Committee Dates

- Arts & Culture - August 18 at 6pm
- Economic Development - August 19 at 4pm
- Education - August 24 at 5pm
- Environment - August 10 at 6pm
- Housing- August 17 at 5pm
- North Park Village

GLOBAL ROOTS LOCAL HEART

NORTH RIVER COMMISSION