

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2015

(TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT)

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)

As of December 31, 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
<u>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT</u>	2
<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	
Statement of Net Position and Governmental Funds Balance Sheet	3
Statement of Activities and Governmental Funds, Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	4
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures – Budget and Actuals	5-6
<u>NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	7-9
Summary Schedule of Audit Findings	10
<u>STATE OF ILLINOIS CPA LICENSE</u>	11



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Board of Directors of Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
Commissioners of Special Service Area #26
Chicago, Illinois

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Special Service Area #26 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Special Service Area #26 basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our unqualified audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Special Service Area #26 as of December 31, 2015 and the changes in financial position and budgetary comparison for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matter

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

The A.C.T. Group, Ltd.

The A.C.T. Group, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountants
April 13, 2016

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)
Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
Statement of Net Position and Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
December 31, 2015

	<u>Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of Activities</u>
ASSETS			
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash	\$ 97,259	\$ -	\$ 97,259
Property Tax Receivable, net of allowance for uncollectable taxes of \$18,442	442,619	-	442,619
Prepaid Expenses	26,345	-	26,345
Due from City of Chicago	20,842	-	20,842
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 587,065	\$ -	\$ 587,065
LIABILITIES			
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Accounts Payable	\$ 24,487	\$ -	\$ 24,487
Due to Edgewater Chamber of Commerce	7,361	-	7,361
TOTAL LIABILITIES	31,848	-	31,848
DEFERRED INFLOWS			
Deferred Property Tax Revenue	442,619	(442,619)	-
FUND BALANCES / NET POSITION			
<u>Non-spendable:</u>			
Prepaid Items	26,345	(26,345)	-
<u>Committed:</u>			
	-	-	-
<u>Assigned:</u>			
	-	-	-
<u>Unassigned</u>			
	86,253	(86,253)	-
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	112,598	(112,598)	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 587,065		
<u>Net Position</u>			
Restricted		\$ 555,217	\$ 555,217

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Total fund balance - governmental funds	\$ 112,598
Property tax revenue is recognized in the period for which levied rather than when "available." A portion of the property tax is deferred as it is not available in the governmental funds.	442,619
Total net position - governmental activities	\$ 555,217

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)
Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
Statement of Activities and Governmental, Funds, Revenues,
Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	<u>Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of Net Position</u>
REVENUES:			
Property Taxes	\$ 437,587	\$ (9,345)	\$ 428,242
Interest Income	<u>115</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>115</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>437,702</u>	<u>(9,345)</u>	<u>428,357</u>
EXPENSES:			
Services:			
Customer Attraction	83,818	-	83,818
Public Way Aesthetics	263,308	-	263,308
Sustainability & Public Places	9,923	-	9,923
Economic/Business Development	<u>1,679</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,679</u>
Total Services Expense	<u>358,728</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>358,728</u>
Administration:			
Personnel	78,028	-	78,028
Admin - nonpersonnel	<u>18,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,498</u>
Total Administration Expense	<u>96,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>96,526</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>455,254</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455,254</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	(17,552)	17,552	
Change in Net Position		(26,897)	(26,897)
FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION			
Beginning of the Year	<u>130,150</u>	<u>451,964</u>	<u>582,114</u>
End of the Year	<u>\$ 112,598</u>	<u>\$ 442,619</u>	<u>\$ 555,217</u>

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Net change in Fund balance - governmental funds	\$ (17,552)
Property tax revenue is recognized in the year it is levied rather than when it is available for governmental funds	<u>(9,345)</u>
Change in net position	<u>\$ (26,897)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)
Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	BUDGET 2015	ACTUAL 2015	VARIANCE \$	BUDGET 2014	ACTUAL 2014	VARIANCE \$
REVENUES:						
Property Taxes	\$ 495,640	\$ 438,752	\$ (56,888)	472,128	\$ 474,394	\$ 2,266
Interest Income	-	115	115	-	117	117
Late Collections & Interest Income Thereon	(23,481)	-	23,481	(2,500)	-	2,500
Loss Collection	(5,000)	(1,165)	3,835	(22,500)	(15,563)	6,937
TOTAL REVENUE	467,159	437,702	(29,457)	447,128	458,948	11,820
EXPENSES:						
Customer Attraction						
Website	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-	-
Special Events	50,000	49,003	(997)	-	-	-
Social Media Outreach	500	-	(500)	-	-	-
Decorative Banners	7,500	11,115	3,615	-	-	-
Holiday Decorations	30,000	23,700	(6,300)	-	-	-
Printed Materials	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-	-
Total Customer Attraction	92,000	83,818	(8,182)	-	-	-
Public Way Aesthetics						
Acid etching Removal/Prevention	300	-	(300)	-	-	-
Landscaping	140,000	140,114	114	-	-	-
Facade Enhancement	20,000	14,512	(5,488)	-	-	-
Way Finding/Signage	500	-	(500)	-	-	-
Streetscape Elements	1,500	-	(1,500)	-	-	-
Public Art	16,481	12,899	(3,582)	-	-	-
Sidewalk Maintenance	70,000	44,882	(25,118)	-	-	-
City Permits	807	-	(807)	-	-	-
Sidewalk Snowplowing	45,000	41,399	(3,601)	-	-	-
Trash Removal	10,800	9,502	(1,298)	-	-	-
Total Public Way Aesthetics	305,388	263,308	(42,080)	-	-	-
Sustainability & Public Places						
Public Transit Enhancements	500	-	(500)	-	-	-
Bicycle Transit Enhancements	9,393	9,923	530	-	-	-
Total Sustainability & Public Places	9,893	9,923	30	-	-	-
Economic/Business Development						
Site Marketing	3,000	1,679	(1,321)	-	-	-
Commission Development	500	-	(500)	-	-	-
Total Econ./Bus. Development	3,500	1,679	(1,821)	-	-	-
Advertising & Promotion						
Website and/or Social Media	-	-	-	2,500	198	(2,302)
Special Events	-	-	-	31,350	33,044	1,694
Printed Materials	-	-	-	250	(1,917)	(2,167)
Total Advertising & Promotion	-	-	-	34,100	31,325	(2,775)
Public Way Maintenance						
Sidewalk Cleaning	-	-	-	35,000	32,582	(2,418)
Sidewalk Snow Plowing	-	-	-	44,500	36,655	(7,845)
Sidewalk Power Washing	-	-	-	37,300	12,091	(25,209)
Acid Etching Removal/Prevention	-	-	-	3,000	-	(3,000)
Trash Removal Service	-	-	-	13,150	11,720	(1,430)
Total Public Way Maintenance	-	-	-	132,950	93,048	(39,902)

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Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	BUDGET 2015	ACTUAL 2015	VARIANCE \$	BUDGET 2014	ACTUAL 2014	VARIANCE \$
Public Way Aesthetics						
Streetscape	-	-	-	20,000	16,709	(3,291)
Banners and/or Holiday Decorations	-	-	-	33,000	50,733	17,733
Way Finding/Signage	-	-	-	25,000	-	(25,000)
Public Art	-	-	-	3,000	-	(3,000)
Landscaping	-	-	-	140,000	134,390	(5,610)
Total Public Way Aesthetics	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>221,000</u>	<u>201,832</u>	<u>(19,168)</u>
Tenant Retention/Attraction						
Site Marketing Materials	-	-	-	10,000	-	(10,000)
Total Tenant Retention/Attraction	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
Façade Improvements						
Façade Enhance Program - Rebates	-	-	-	20,000	8,700	(11,300)
Total Façade Improvements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>8,700</u>	<u>(11,300)</u>
Parking/Transit/Accessibility						
Bicycle Transit Enhancements	-	-	-	2,500	721	(1,779)
Total Parking/Transit/Accessibility	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>(1,779)</u>
Admin Non-Personnel						
Annual Report	1,500	2,843	1,343	1,500	3,063	1,563
Audit	4,000	3,400	(600)	3,500	3,200	(300)
Bookkeeping	1,800	1,800	-	1,800	1,800	-
Office Rent	6,000	6,000	-	5,700	5,700	-
Office Utilities	1,500	1,500	-	2,520	2,520	-
Office Supplies	250	250	-	360	432	72
Office Equip Lease/Maint	250	250	-	288	218	(70)
Office Printing	250	250	-	300	300	-
Postage	250	250	-	300	300	-
Meeting Expense	500	194	(306)	500	132	(368)
Banking Fees	50	-	(50)	-	-	-
Equip Pur/Maint	500	-	(500)	-	-	-
Professional Development	2,000	1,761	(239)	1,000	920	(80)
Total Admin - nonpersonnel	<u>18,850</u>	<u>18,498</u>	<u>(352)</u>	<u>17,768</u>	<u>18,585</u>	<u>817</u>
Personnel						
Total Personnel	<u>78,028</u>	<u>78,028</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,110</u>	<u>68,733</u>	<u>(10,377)</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	507,659	455,254	(52,405)	517,428	422,944	(94,484)
Excess of Revenues Over Expenses	<u>\$ (40,500)</u>	<u>\$ (17,552)</u>	<u>\$ 22,948</u>	<u>\$ (70,300)</u>	<u>\$ 36,004</u>	<u>\$ 106,304</u>

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)
Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity: Special Service Area #26 (SSA) provides services on behalf of the City of Chicago (City) within a specified geographic area. These services include promotional and advertising, maintenance of the public way, safety, and other functions. The SSA is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue code.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements: The financial statements of the SSA have been prepared in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units, hereinafter referred to as GAAP(generally accepted accounting principles). The accepted standard-setting body for the establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles is GASB (the Governmental Accounting Standards Board).

Government-Wide financial statements (statements of net position and statement of activities) are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting for all of the SSA's activities. The Fund Financial Statements, which focus on the SSA's governmental funds current financial resources measurement focus, are prepared on the modified accrual basis.

The SSA accounts for its activities in one fund, its general fund.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year they are levied.

The governmental fund financial statements are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting with only current assets and liabilities included on the balance sheet. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e. both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Available means collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Property taxes are susceptible to accrual and recognized as a receivable in the year levied. Revenue recognition is deferred unless the taxes are received within 60 days subsequent to year-end. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred.

The preparation of financial statement in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position:

Cash, Cash equivalents and investments: The SSA's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Receivables: All property tax receivables are shown net of allowances. As of December 31, 2015, the allowance is estimated to be 4% of the outstanding property taxes.

Prepaid items: Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Fund Equity/Net Position: Government fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned. Nonspendable fund balance cannot be spent because of its form. Restricted fund balance has limitations imposed by enabling legislation or an outside party. Committed fund balance is a limitation imposed by the SSA board through approval of resolutions. Assigned fund balances is a limitation imposed by a designee of the SSA board. Unassigned fund balance is a net resource in excess of what can be properly classified in one of the above four categories.

When both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available for use, it is the SSA's policy to use restricted fund balance first, then unrestricted fund balance. Furthermore, committed fund balance is reduced first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

For the government-wide financial statement, net position is reported as invested in capital assets net of related debt, restricted or unrestricted. Invested in capital assets, net of related debt, if applicable, is comprised of the net capital asset balance less any related debt. Restricted net position is when restrictions are placed on net assets from 1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or 2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The remaining net position is classified as unrestricted.

2. Cash

The Organization maintains its cash in a bank deposit account, which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Organization had not experienced any losses in such accounts. The Organization believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk in cash.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

3. Property Taxes

Property taxes become an enforceable lien on real property on January 1 of the year it is levied. Taxes are payable in two installments in the subsequent year. The first installment is an estimate based on the prior year billed levy (55%) and is due in March. The second installment is due on August 1, or 30 days from the mailing of the tax bills if issued later than July 1. The second installment is based on the remaining amount of the levy on file with the County. Bills are issued and collected by Cook County who remits the SSA's share to the City who then remits the monies to the SSA.

The Due from City of Chicago of \$20,842 consists of TIF funds of \$27,003 earned in 2014 and 2015 but not yet received less \$6,161 of property tax credits issued in 2015 but not yet deducted from property taxes remitted.

4. Related Party Transactions

The SSA is affiliated with the Edgewater Chamber of Commerce, which provides certain administrative services for the SSA. As of December 31, 2015, \$7,361 was payable for services or goods provided. This resulted from the time lag that 1) goods and services are being provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, 2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system and 3) payments are being made.

5. Prior Year Reclassifications

For comparability, the prior year's financial statements reflect reclassifications where appropriate to conform to the financial statement presentation used this year.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)
Managed by Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

As part of our audit and request by the Special Service Area Annual Audited Financial Statement Guidelines prepared by the City of Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development dated June 2013, we have read the requirements contained in the Agreement for Special Service Area #26 between the City of Chicago and Edgewater Chamber of Commerce.

Per Article 5.03, the Contractor established a separate bank account in Chicago, Illinois. All service tax funds were automatically deposited into this bank account.

We noted certain expenditures for which actual expenses exceeded budgeted amounts.

Based on our understanding of the agreement and the facts surrounding the performance under the agreement, we noted no other exceptions. Many contractual items were included in the agreement which dealt with non-accounting and non-financial matters of which we had no knowledge.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #26
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

