

NBIC EMAIL RECEIVED JUNE 3, 2017 to MAY 1, 2017

REDACTED

From: Sarah <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 12:13 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Community park and center at Finkel sight

Hi! My name is Sarah Rassey and I live on the. on my block alone there are 8 families, all with young kids. I too have three young kids. I, and my neighbors love living in the city. With that said, making more interesting open places where kids and families can get together makes a community stronger, connected and enjoyable. A park like Maggie Daley with an outdoor music venue like Ravinia would be an amazing asset in LP. It would also help to keep families from moving to the suburbs, which is a common discussion among many of the families in my community. I am happy to volunteer and help in the efforts to advocate for more open/family/community space in the city.

Thank you,
Sarah Rassey

From: Carlin Thomas <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:49 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: Park Space at Finkl Steel Site

Hi,
I'm a constituent in the 43rd Ward and I am advocating for there to be open and recreational space for the public as part of the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor.
Look forward to seeing your plans reflecting this, thanks!
Carlin

From: Emma Weiss <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:43 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Finkl Steel Site Redevelopment - Park

Hello,
I am writing to express my desire that the Finkl Steel Site be developed to accommodate a large public park, as described in this article <https://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20161021/lincoln-park/finkl-steel-needs-major-new-park-michele-smith-says>.



[Put Major New Park At Finkl Steel Site, Alderman Says ...](#)
www.dnainfo.com

LINCOLN PARK — A North Side alderman wants the city to set aside 10 acres in the Finkl Steel development for a major new park along the Chicago River.

I believe it would significantly benefit not only Lincoln Park, but also Logan Square and West Town to have a large public park at that location that everyone can enjoy.

Thank you.

Best,
Emma Weiss
Lincoln Park resident

From: Bernstein, Bob <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:18 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: More Park Space

Please add more park space to the redevelopment plans of the Finkl Steel Site. It is a real shame that in this rare situation where significant land in the congested city becomes available, that almost no green space has been built into this redevelopment plan. Please push back on these developers and take this rare opportunity to add significant park space to the community. Park and recreation areas are critical assets to the our city and people's daily lives. I am surprised that the City has not taken Park space into consideration. It is great for families and will attract more people to the city. Our city parks don't add to the tax base, but they attract people who do. Thanks for listening.
Bob Bernstein

From: [REDACTED] <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:13 AM
To: DPD;
Cc: Brendan Reilly
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen

I am writing to voice my concern that there be some green park space at the north branch corridor site. More than ever we need to preserve open space and parkland for the full enjoyment of the community, because we seem to be under pressure to cave to developers demands for higher FAR, smaller setbacks, less affordable housing and TIF, but young families are moving to the Clybourn corridor and we need parkland and playground space to keep them in the City.

The redevelopment of this site has a huge impact on the community and, traffic, but the more open space and parkland we have the stronger our future. To skip green space and parkland would be a huge mistake for the city.

Sincerely,

Albert Van Alyea

From: sheryl markman (PART 1)
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:05 AM
To: DPD
Subject: finkl site

MORE GREEN SPACE more green space more green space more green space more green space more green space PLEASE

From: sheryl markman (PART 2)
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:02 AM
To: DPD
Subject: green space at former Final site

Amidst the hustle and noise of the city, we need MORE green space that allows us to sit, reflect, converse, read play and regroup. We have so much glass and steel, much of it interesting looking, but we need a better balance.

Please consider giving us more open spaces.

A man's mind stretched by a new idea can never go back to its original dimension.

-oliver wendell holmes

sheryl

From: Jane M. Curry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:14 AM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org
Subject: Yes! to park space at Finkl

People need to breathe. The massive amount of development now underway in Lincoln Park has yet to shape livability for the thousands who in the near future will call it home. Why gamble? Once land is lost to building, it's never recovered.

Give this burgeoning community of ours a bit of green, some bushes, some trees. We all need open spaces to escape to, somewhere to sit solitary or with friends, laughing, looking up to see birds and blue. Come on. Give us that.

Thank you.

Jane M. Curry

Member of [Lincoln Park Village](#) since 2009

From: Noemi Kopp-Tanaka <
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 4:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Finkl and Sons site future use

Hello,

I am very interested in participating in the conversation about the future use of the Finkl and Son's site. I missed the September meeting and wish to be informed as soon as there is a date set for the next meeting on this topic.

Although I am not a professional involved in planning, I am very serious about getting involved and promoting a positive development in the city that will benefit everyone, including the radiance of the city.

I would like to share an idea that could be a great opportunity for the city and hope, in my humble position, to be able to have my voice heard.

I have been living in Chicago for more than 23 years and care for this city's development. I am an avid biker, stopped owning a car, installed photovoltaic solar panels on my roof 5 years ago, and think that Chicago has an incredible potential to have a sustainability heartbeat right at the former Finkl and Sons site. This would be a symbolic big step towards new technologies replacing the powerful presence of the Finkl and Sons steel plant.

My vision would be a fusion of sustainable manufacturing plant (solar would be best) with a serious improvement of landscaping and green space reserved to public use around it.

It would allow the creation of new jobs right in the city, would carry on its historic manufacture tradition, but moreover, it would have to have a component dedicated to informing, educating and training, as it would also provide improvement in the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhoods with an esthetically beautiful reserved green space for public use.

If there is anyone I could speak with about the idea I would like to share, please let me know.

Cordially,

Noemi Kopp-Tanaka

From: Brett Pender <

Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 6:49 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Hilary Pender; Ward 43

Subject: Finkl Steel Site Development

To Whom It May Concern,

As a citizen of Lincoln Park and Ward 43 I am deeply concerned about the future of my community. I drive by where the old Finkl Steel Plant was almost everyday and I hope that this space can be used to help make our neighborhood more desirable. I urge the Department of Planning and Development to set aside some of this land for a park along the river, with recreation space for my future children to play in.

Thank you for your time,

Brett Pender

From: Michael Rhee <

Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 4:47 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: Park space - North Branch Industrial Corridor

To Whom It May Concern:

As a homeowner in the the city's 43rd Ward I would like to express my support for park space to be included in the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor (aka the Finkl Steel site). This is an area of the city that is already densely populated with commercial, industrial, and residential housing and is sorely lacking in green space.

Statistics show that the number of children in the community have been [growing in recent years](#). The closest parks in the vicinity (Adams, Privet, Trebes) are small and often over-crowded in the summer. Allocating some park space in the corridor would help reduce the pressure on the already limited park space that exists and give the community's growing number of families another place to spend time outdoors. I would also hazard to guess that park space would be very valuable to any new businesses and residents that choose to locate there.

Please consider including park space in the corridor. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Michael Rhee

From: Nissa Rhee <
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 4:42 PM
To: DPD;
Subject: We need green space at Finkl site!

Dear Department of Planning and Development representative:
I live in Lincoln Park just two blocks from the former Finkl site. I am very excited about the potential development at the site and for the creation of new parks and green spaces at the site. The area west of Clybourn is currently a dangerous, polluted area. The fumes coming from General Iron Industries mean that we often have to keep our windows closed during the summer and I rarely go shopping at the many nearby stores on Clybourn, because I fear for my two-year-old daughter's health. This area desperately needs green spaces to offset the pollution and match the walkable, family-friendly environment that the rest of Lincoln Park has. The redevelopment of the Finkl site is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create new parks in an area that desperately needs them. Please make the right decision for Chicagoans and put green spaces in the redevelopment plans. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Nissa Rhee

From: Katherine O'Brien <
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 3:17 PM
To: DPD; Ward 43
Subject: PLEASE SHARE at North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Mtg - unable to attend

Dear Concerned Parties,
I'm writing to express my support for public recreational space and to discuss my experiences in utilizing our area parks, especially for organized team activities. I am unable to attend tonight's meeting because I am working tonight. If someone could please share my thoughts with the committee, I would appreciate it.

As a mom living in a home without a yard, the city's parks are my kids' "yard". It's where we go to play. And while we live where we do because of the easy access to green space, we could always use more. Lincoln Park would benefit from a dedicated space for larger-scale outdoor, organized team activities the way communities North and South of us have.

There is no Lincoln Park AYSO, for example, and so my family joined AYSO Hyde Park. Unlike the private soccer clubs [which we've also done] -- AYSO is a community organizing event: run by parent / community-stakeholder volunteers. I've seen the difference in the sports community -- at AYSO, which is more affordable, the participants are more diverse, engaged, and the experience on the whole is better for younger kids -- I think -- than what the private clubs can offer. While there are many small, private clubs that set up shop in the various fields here and there, the North side soccer leagues tend to gravitate further up the lakeshore - in Lakeview and near Montrose. And, private leagues for field sports would benefit as well from a larger space to hold classes, practices, leagues and games. LPHS could benefit from bigger practice fields as the Latin / Parker teams use the space closer to the Lakeshore. It would be great to have more of an "athletic" community in Lincoln Park -- a unified space close enough to downtown and far enough from the congestion of the neighborhoods north of here -- where kids and their families ages toddler - high school could have dedicated, safe, public practice areas WITH EASY PARKING.

On the whole Lincoln Park would benefit from a larger scale community recreational facility -- with easy access, accessible parking. We could always use another...

- dog park
- jogging track
- walking path
- driving range
- mini-golf course and putting green
- shaded picnic grove adjacent to playgrounds
- public outdoor pool
- tennis courts
- basketball courts
- field house
- football /soccer fields
- baseball diamonds

It would be fantastic to put a full-scale recreational facility in the new planning for the FINKL site because of how this type of access engages the community across class and race divides. Arranging for a sprawling, multi-use "campus" helps people keep their kids active, and it provides safe, fun recreational activity during the day, on nights and weekends, and creates a large dedicated space to organize the community around athletics - which is an equalizer and way to find common ground.

If developed thoughtfully, we could conceivably create the next Maggie Daley Park / 606 attraction. Perhaps DePaul and other private institutions would want part-time access and could help subsidize the cost of development and maintenance. An indoor/outdoor facility could also plug in directly to the park district -- there is high demand it seems for swimming and gymnastics and dance on a regular basis as those seem to sell out quickly.

It would be great to have a one-stop shop for recreational activities with easy parking -- the best of suburban living right here in the heart of Lincoln Park and a stone's throw from other thriving, rapidly developing, family-oriented communities.

Thanks for hearing me out. Please keep me posted as to further planning plans.

Best,
Kat O'Brien

From: Anne Wedner <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 7:38 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Please parks in the new clyborn corridor
Dear City of Chicago,

With all of the construction, it would be amazing to create more meaningful park space in these large rehabilitation projects. Particularly, the clyborn corridor offers an incredible moment to create an infrastructure type of park area (vs. a play lot). Please please please make this part of the plan. In the future, it will bring so much more value to the city.

Best,
Anne Wedner

From: Marguerite Huber <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 7:54 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor

Good Morning,
I am writing to show my support for the creation of public recreational space in the soon-to-be-redeveloped Clybourn Industrial Corridor. This redevelopment is a once in a lifetime chance for you to make the Corridor better for the area's residents. As a resident of Old Town Triangle, I have seen lot after lot become an apartment building or new hotel. As an environmentalist, the necessity of open space is unparalleled. Give us a space where we can play, practice, run, and be outside. This will not only benefit recreational teams but our physical and mental health as well. Thank you,
Marguerite Huber

From: Jenny <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:04 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourn corridor park

When you think of the great cities of the world -- Paris, NY, SF etc. -- you think of their parks. When you visit a new city with kids, you look up places to go and things to do -- parks and gardens are on the top of the list. You go to the Tuileries, you wander the open areas of Hyde Park in London, and that's where you marvel. It's no accident that Chicago international tourism has picked up in recent years. Millennium Park gives them a place to go and a thing to see. Now we have another opportunity, beside another commercial area, to add another space where Chicago's natural beauty (not just lakeside, but riverside as well) can be enjoyed and admired.

People are shopping and live their lives online more than ever, and need large retail less than ever, and as a result, need open and places they can interact with humans and nature more than ever.
Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Friedes

From: Carol Duran <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:23 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Parks needed in former North Branch Industrial Corridor

Please see the comments below and be sure to accommodate the current and future needs of our neighborhood.
In 1998, the Chicago Park District called for 2 to 5 acres of public space per 1,000 people. In the current study area for the PMD, there is only 0.65 of an acre of public space per 1,000 Chicagoans. City dwellers without yards need parks for team sports, individual exercise, recreation as well as relaxation and a general sense of well-being. Future neighborhoods will one day savor open green space just as our downtown thrives, in part, because of it.
Thank you.
Best regards,
Carol

Carol Nevada Duran

From: Diane Levin <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:32 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward Services
Subject: A Park in the Clybourn Industrial Corridor

We are eagerly awaiting your next set of plans this month regarding the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. We all hope to see true recreational park space included. Our neighborhoods need places for growing kids to enjoy outdoor activities like soccer, baseball and running. As it is, many families move to the suburbs as soon as the children become pre-teens due to the lack of recreation space. Rising taxes do not justify the strain being forced on parents to carpool great distances for kids to participate in athletics. Our wishes have been made clear in the public meetings. The city should put residents needs ahead of private interests. If the manufacturing area is opened up to new uses, then, it is only fair to tie zoning changes to substantial public recreation space in the Clybourn Corridor.

Sincerely,
Diane Levin
Homeowner in Lincoln Park since 1986

rom: Vmasutti <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:33 AM
To: DPD; Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor Park Space
Dear Parks Department,

Please keep our green space safe and designate significant park space along the River in the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. Just like the lakefront , which has been preserved and which is a model for cities around the world, our riverfront can be the same and add much more value to the city in the years to come. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Vera Masutti
From: Steve VanderVoort <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:39 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Clybourn Corridor Redevelopment

The redevelopment of the Clybourn Corridor is one of the most exciting things that happened in my neighborhood in a long, long time. It will greatly enhance the area. I have two concerns, however. They are:

1. Additional public recreational space. New ball fields, tennis courts, and perhaps even a field house are badly needed, particularly with the planned residential development of the space. All the neighborhood parks to the east are badly over-used. Creating large areas of public recreational space is consistent with the "Burnham Plan" espoused by the City over a century ago, and we need to follow through with this.
2. Adding large numbers of new residents to the area, while ultimately a good thing, may well create gridlock in the way our streets and traffic patterns are currently configured. Thoughtful and creative ways to prevent or alleviate this problem are critical.

Thank you for your work. I am excited to see what will finally develop.

Steve VanderVoort

From: Tracy Drake <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:41 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Clybourn Corridor Parks/Recreational Space

Dear Department of Planning and Development,
I have lived in Chicago for most of my life and currently reside on Janssen Ave. just north of the Finkl complex. Since it has been there I've appreciated the landscaping and decorations the Finkl company has displayed over the past decade. Now as we drive by my 10 year old, when asking about the fate of the land, always remarks "It would be so nice to have a park here". I wholeheartedly agree and request that you consider some park and recreational space in the upcoming design. The land on the river would be such a perfect spot to enhance the neighborhood, utilize the river space and add some badly needed recreational areas for kids sports. In Lincoln Park we are being inundated with condo and apartment new construction with commercial space, adding to the already terrible traffic situation. It would be lovely to have some green space to break up this mess.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Tracy L. Drake

From: Lisa Stone <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:45 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: Please create a Clybourn Corridor Park

Department of Planning and Development, I respectfully urge you to insist that the development of the Clybourn Corridor include generous area or areas of recreational space. Just as the area had been designated a planned manufacturing district in order to preserve a balance of types of space use, it's now essential that there be a balance of developed and green space to ensure healthy conditions for residents and visitors. Creation of park spaces will align and connect with the development of recreational corridors along the Chicago River, and will ease the increasingly unworkable dense traffic in Lincoln Park/DePaul neighborhoods.

I'm an employee in the area and have commuted to work, walking, cycling, by bus and car, for 20 years, past the Finkl Foundry site. The Foundry was committed to planting trees and preserving some open space on its campus. The neighborhood and City will suffer if development is allowed to fill the property.

Sincerely,

Lisa Stone

curator

Roger Brown Study Collection

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

From: Juliet
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 9:36 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward Services

Subject: Green and recreational space in Clybourn Industrial Corridor

We are strongly in favor of creating meaningful public recreational space in the soon-to-be-developed Clybourn Corridor. The area is already very congested, with few green spaces available to the public.

It is crucial that this be a central part of this development project.

I urge all who are copied on this to email their opinions to the addresses above, so that the DPD can make decisions based on what the voters desire. Please forward this to neighbors and other concerned parties.

From: Ward02
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Katherine O'Brien; Ward 43;; DPD
Cc: Shirley Hardiman
Subject: Re: request for additional community meeting

Hi Kat,

Thank you for your email. Alderman Hopkins hosted a community meeting on December 13th with over 50 people in attendance, mostly 43rd Ward residents. Our office then proceeded to conduct a survey that resulted in over 250 responses, as well as over 100 emails and phone calls.

The feedback of the community has been presented to Alderman Hopkins for review and consideration. However, given that the proposal has not changed, and no hearing date has been set, it would not be appropriate to host another meeting at this time.

We encourage residents from the relevant area to continue emailing and calling to provide their feedback, and our office will be happy to provide copies of the presentation as well as answer any further questions they may have.

Sincerely,
Office of Alderman Brian Hopkins
2nd Ward

From: on behalf of Jim Fairhall [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2017 12:28 PM
To: DPD
Cc:

Subject: public park space in the Clybourn Corridor

To the Department of Planning and Development:

I moved from New York to in 1991, back when the Clybourn Corridor was wholly industrial and you could smell bread and chocolate as well as not so pleasant smells wafting in the morning. The area wasn't without charm, but I was struck by the absence of spacious parks. (Tribes was just grass and a few trees.) Today the city has an historic opportunity to do what other forward-looking cities in the U.S. and Europe have done: transform old industrial sites not only into areas for new, cleaner technologies but into green spaces for citizens to relax, play sports or simply enjoy nature.

The Clybourn Corridor's proximity to the north branch of the Chicago River makes this a very special opportunity. Several organizations, along with the city of Chicago, have been working to clean up the river and its banks for decades. A park close to the river in this space would enable citizens, in what is going to be a more heavily populated Clybourn Corridor, to enjoy not just green space but our river itself.

This is a rare, historic opportunity for Chicago to live up to its motto, City in a Garden. Like New York's Highline, on a smaller scale, a park along the river will be seen as a creative, civic-minded use of an old industrial artifact. It will be part of the movement to make Chicago green, and it will become a popular, much-publicized amenity for citizens in this area.

I hope that the Department of Planning and Development will give the concept of such a park serious consideration as a long-term benefit to Chicago citizens.

Sincerely,
Jim Fairhall
Professor, DePaul University
English Department,
Irish Studies & Environmental Studies Programs

From: Maj Valkyrie <
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2017 11:58 AM
To: DPD
Subject:

Dear Sirs/Mesdames.

I am a former volunteer Master Gardener, and current TreeKeeper (#467) though Chicago's OpenLands Project.

The Finkl Steel foundry itself and its attendant blasts of heat and views of the molten metal were barely relieved by the few streetside trees. The later planter boxes on the sidewalks were a mere afterthought, unworthy of their proximity to the river, in no way up to the job of relieving the hot air.

Do you know, I wonder, of the research showing patients in hospital get better sooner if their windows look on the sky or plantings? Are you aware of the fact that a neighborhood with parks and trees is often up to ten degrees cooler than surrounding concrete canyons - which can sometimes preclude the need for air-conditioning? Do you realize how sought-after views of trees and parks are in and from residential units? In other words, when we take care of the trees, they help take care of us.

Knowing now what is so often missed on City parkways, Chicago has an opportunity to plant trees near Clybourn, both extensively and correctly - meaning *not* in 4-or-5-foot square tree pits (more properly tree *crypts*, which hamstring the roots and doom the trees to less-than-adequate growth and early and needless demise).

But let us not make the same mistake of other parks by deluding ourselves into thinking artificial turf stands in well for real grass. Let us heed the US women's soccer team, aggrieved to be forced to play on fakery, since Astroturf and similar abominations are hot to play on and cause worse damage to a sliding player's skin, and all because they are made of plastics, which do not biodegrade. The additional and ultimate insult is that plastics all shed microbits, soon or late, into the soil and water table.

The birds which find their way by the Chicago River, could they speak, would thank the visionaries willing to set things right with natural habitats wherein they can rest and glean bug and berry snacks, and hopefully be safe from feral cats.

This foresight will provide many area schools with incomparable biology lessons. More of Nature is always better. It is inconceivable that the Clybourn Corridor plan could even begin to be discussed without public park space front-and-center.

From: Sarah Flosi <
Sent: Sunday, January 8, 2017 12:01 PM
To: DPD
Subject: park space in the Clybourn Corridor

Dear Members,

We are residents of the 43rd ward and want to emphasize our concern that the Clybourn Corridor will be developed without enough attention paid to the need for park space. As our city becomes even more urban it is more important than ever to provide the public with park space to enjoy. Jackson Park will

soon lose some of its land to the Obama Library and although we look forward to the development that will come along with this important addition to the Chicago landscape, we see the need to create space for people to enjoy. We hope that you will work to make park space an important and significant part of the Clybourn development. Thank you so much.

Sincerely
Sarah and Fred Flosi

From: Jeremy Sokolec <
Sent: Sunday, January 8, 2017 10:18 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourn/Cortland Industrial Corridor redevelopment
I would like to see the redevelopment of the old A Finkl & Sons property along the Chicago River to include park space. I think it is necessary to have park space in the city to encourage families to live in Chicago.
Jeremy Sokolec

From: Patrick McGarvey <
Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 5:39 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Clybourn corridor park

I'm writing to say I support all efforts to add more green space in our beautiful city and in particular at the Finkl site.

Patrick J. McGarvey

From: Paul Niser <
Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 3:55 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Michele Smith
Subject: Clybourn Corridor
I would like to voice my support for park space, including such amenities as a turf soccer field, for the Clybourn Corridor area.

Regards,

Paul Niser

From: Rachel Garko <
Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 2:28 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Park for Clybourn corridor
Hello Alderman Smith,

Thank you for fighting for more park space as the Clybourn Corridor is being developed. We have chosen

to remain in the city and raise our two young daughters in the city. We love it here and have so many fond memories at Oz park, Jonquil Park, Adams Park and the many other park spaces that bring so much happiness and joy to all of our lives. Please let us know how we can support you and this effort. The Clybourn Corridor is so unique as it would be such a wonderful meeting space for families from Lincoln Park, Lakeview, Wicker Park and Bucktown. It would benefit so many neighborhoods.

Thank you for all of your hard work and efforts. We are grateful and appreciate all that you do to improve our already wonderful city and neighborhood.

Best regards,

Rachel G Pasquini

From: Jan Bail <

Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 1:57 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Michele Smith

Subject: Clybourn Corridor

Dear DPD,

We are very excited about the opportunities presented to the city of Chicago and our neighborhood in the development of the Clybourn Corridor. We have been residents of the neighborhood since the late 1970s. We raised our three children here and have seen amazing development and growth. There are so many things that make Chicago special, but the lake and the river are at the very top of the list. The Corridor is a "once-in-a-lifetime" / "no-go-back-if-we-miss" opportunity to make something REALLY special. We can't blow it. There is no downside and we can't imagine anyone opposing green space anywhere in the city. We urge you to please use this opportunity to make the river front available to all Chicagoans and expand the Sheffield "Garden District" image of Lincoln Park.

Sincerely,

Janice G Bail

Richard P Bail

From:

Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 1:07 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor

I would like to add my voice to others' who have called for a park/recreational space as part of the redevelopment of this corridor. With Chicago becoming so densely populated with high-rises, etc. this valuable and beautiful location could serve as a green legacy for the residents of the neighborhood and city. Once built (with high rises &/or other residential or commercial buildings), there will never be another opportunity to create such important space for a city such as ours in such a location. Whatever the commercial or residential plans, I ask that beautiful park and relaxation space be part of the overall plan – what a unique opportunity the city has!

Thank you for your consideration.

Donna Zahara

From: Mishaum <

Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 12:25 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward Services

Subject: Recreational Space at Clybourn Corridor

I am writing to encourage planners to include recreational space in the Clybourn corridor development. Biking and walking in Lincoln Park is fun, but crowded, especially on weekends, and it would be wonderful to add space for these activities and other to relieve crowding in existing parks, and to offer opportunities for enjoying a new park in that neighborhood.

Margaret Walker

From: craig macdonald

Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 4:43 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: Clybourn PMD and Finkl site: substantial green space urgently needed

To whom it may concern,

We have resided for 25 years in a 120-year-old residential building near the intersection of Halsted and Clybourn. We have watched with dismay as the city has granted zoning variances and zoning changes allowing massive real estate developments in what had been a relatively quiet and low-rise area. These giant private retail and residential developments, while adding no green space other than some shrubs, have brought huge increases in automobile traffic, congestion, noise, air pollution due to trucks, automobiles and restaurants (wood-fired grills and ovens), sewer backups due to poorly managed capacity, and most importantly, inhabitants.

The number of residents in this area has increased fifty-fold due to three massive residential high-rises that have gone up. Meanwhile, the nearest substantial green space is nearly one mile away at Oz Park. The word "substantial" might be considered generous when applied to that rather small green space.

We wish to add our voices to the thousands of residents and voters who are unhappy about the current lack of public green space and recreational facilities in their neighborhood. The Clybourn Corridor development, specifically the redevelopment of the former Finkl Steel site, must include substantial public green-space in the form of parks and recreational facilities for the citizens. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to do the right thing.

Absent responsible decisions to include such public green space as a substantial part of the redevelopment planning for this area, people will be justified in voting with their feet and leaving the area.

Yours Sincerely,

Craig Macdonald, Onni Nickle, Chicago IL.

From: Alan Cravitz <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 2:39 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor

To the Chicago Department of Planning,

I am e-mailing you to voice my support to include recreational space in the plan to develop the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. I agree with Alderman Smith and Alderman Hopkins that it is important to take advantage of this rare opportunity to provide "green space" in this neighborhood. As a homeowner living 1/2 block from Oz Park I cannot emphasize how valuable an asset the Park has been to our community, in fact, I can't even imagine what living in my neighborhood would be like without it. I would think the same would be the case for a park in the Clybourn area.

Sincerely,
Alan Cravitz

From: Judy Johanson <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 2:29 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Smith
Subject: Clybourn PMD

The plans for the Clybourn PMD should include park space with recreational facilities. All residents of the city should have access to the river, not just a privileged few.

I live across from Oz Park which is less than a mile away from the Clybourn PMD. Every nice day the Park is over crowded with sports, picnickers, and all kinds of park activities.

We need more park space in our city, as in the summer many of our Parks are not available due to fests and other paid events.

Please do not miss this opportunity to create much needed park space.

Judy Johanson

From: thomas mcneill <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 2:16 PM
To: DPD
Cc:

Subject: I FAVOR SUBSTANTIAL RECREATIONAL SPACE in the planned Clybourn Corridor

Dear Sirs:

I live on North Lake Shore Drive in the 43rd Ward of Chicago.

I applaud your effort to plan well for the Clybourn Industrial Corridor.

I VERY MUCH FAVOR SUBSTANTIAL RECREATIONAL SPACE to be assured in your Plan.

PLEASE consider my request and those of very many others who have the same feeling and opinion.

Sincerely, Thomas B. McNeill

From: deborah.shefrin <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: PMD

I urge that that plans for PMD include a facility for seniors to exercise, play and learn. The Chicago Department on Aging does not have a robust program for retired and aging residents. New York and

Boston do a much better job. My retirement plans have considered this missing piece. I am seeking to live in city that provides physical and intellectual stimulation for its seniors. PLEASE GIVE THIS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

From: Caroline Gibbons <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:39 AM
To: DPD;

Subject: YES! To the Clyborn Corridor River front Park!!!

This idea is extra-ordinary and will help Chicago shine outside of just the lakefront parks! Please do all you can to support this and let me know if there is anything I can do. I live on Webster, pay tremendous taxes, and would like to see my tax dollars used to improve the health and wellness of our city and the environment!

Thanks!

Caroline Gibbons

From: Tina Rosso < Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:03 AM
To: DPD

Subject: clybourn corridor

PLEASE allow for--indeed, require--parkland and athletic fields in the redevelopment of the Clybourn corridor! This is the only chance there will be to create a proper balance between recreation, housing, and commercial. Do it right!

Christine Rosso

From: Joe Madison <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:00 AM
To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: Required: Recreational Park Space in the Clybourn Planned Manufacturing District

The former Finkle Steel site offers the city, and those directly in the Ranch Triangle neighborhood, a once in a generation opportunity to re-think and better utilize the land available with the pending redevelopment. The comparisons between the creation of Grant Park and a new public park in the Clybourn Planned Manufacturing District today are unmistakable. Image a combination of Oz Park with a park that includes riverfront access for kayaks, canoes, ect to connect our neighborhood directly with the amazing River Walk downtown in River North and The Loop. A few of my personal ideas include; disc golf course, open ares of grass, and a dog park.

I lived in Boston from 2007-2011 and have visited many times since the developments in the Seaport area have taken shape. Its amazing to see there and we can build on that success here. Also, with so many wonderful projects in our parks have been imagined and/or completed in recent years... this opportunity at the former Finkel Steel site would be the highlight of them all. Please consider this when establishing a meaningful park space for the Clybourn Planned Manufacturing District during the final DPD meeting, and I look forward to outcome of our park.

Thank you,
Joe Madison

From: Kevin Donnellon <
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 10:50 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Park Space Clybourn

Hello. Please seriously consider the importance of park space and not congestion of more commercial or residential options in this area. Appreciate your consideration and concern.

From: Sarah <

Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 10:48 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Park space on clybourn St

Hello,

I am a resident in Fremont St and I am in full support of the need for public community space in Lincoln Park! A park for people and families in all stages of their life to come together and connect. Also, as a mother, a community center where kids can take classes and be rented at an affordable price for family get together and birthdays would generate money for the city and be very helpful for families. I am happy to work in creating this space.

Thank you,

Sarah Rassey

From: Marguerite

Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 10:23 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward Services

Subject: Clybourn Corridor

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a long time resident of the Ranch Triangle area of Lincoln Park having bought my home here in 1984. Back then the neighborhood was at the start of a resurgence and was beginning to grow and expand around Finkl Steel.

Now that Finkl Steel has moved the city has a unique opportunity to give what has now become an overcrowded, overbuilt, congested area some much needed breathing space.

Our nearby parks are small and packed to capacity on weekends. The neighborhood would benefit from a park for all to enjoy.

As you know, more apartment/condo buildings are being built along North Avenue and in Old Town at an unprecedented rate. The dense population of the area is becoming unmanageable. As it exists now, on a summer weekend my wait time to turn off of North Avenue onto my one-way block is twenty minutes. What a difference from years ago when the neighborhood was empty and parking plentiful.

All of this building is a benefit to the developers and to the city for future taxes but should the people who reside in the area, currently and in the future, not be given a benefit as well of a beautiful green area to make living in this city more enjoyable.

When you look at cities around the world, citizens and tourists like to enjoy the sites and the museums but especially enjoy the parks and public areas. This is an incredible opportunity to create a new green space of the future - a new legacy for Chicago.

Sincerely,
Marguerite Juliusson

From: Mindy H. <
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 8:28 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor

As a property owner in the 43rd ward I am writing to urge you to create public recreational space in the plan for the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. History has shown how parks and riverfront access draw visitors and residents to urban areas and keep young people from moving away as their families grow. The riverfront can be a precious asset for the city and there's no reason the people of Chicago shouldn't benefit as well as private developers.

You have an opportunity to make Chicago even better than it is. Please seize the chance!
Sincerely,
Melinda Hutchinson

From: Lara Smetana <
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 11:50 AM
To: DPD
Cc:

Subject: Parks in the reimagined Clybourn Corridor

Dear Chicago Department of Planning and Development officials,

I write in strong support of establishing a new public park and meaningful outdoor space in the Clybourn Planned Manufacturing District (PMD).

As an Associate Professor of Science Education, I can attest to how priceless open space and public parks are for strengthening communities, protecting the local environment and ecology, and allowing for the kinds of invaluable, year-round out-of-school learning experiences that are accessible to *all* and especially promote our youth's academic, social-emotional, and physical development. We have seen all of these benefits within Chicago's Grant Park and have the incredible opportunity of ensuring more of these types of spaces now in Lincoln Park.

I join other concerned citizens who call for developing strong and clear criteria for the Clybourn PMD that will ensure the priceless land along the river also includes a public park with recreational facilities.

Sincerely,
Lara K. Smetana, Ph.D.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 7:05 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Parks Please for Clybourn Corridor!

Dear DPD:

Thank you for taking into account Aldermen Smith and Hopkins' recommendation for recreational park space in the Clybourn Corridor. I have lived in Chicago most of my life (since 1969). Although I love Chicago as my home, I have long bemoaned the lack of green space in the city and in my neighborhood, in particular (West Lincoln Park).

I pray that Chicago will follow the example of other cities which have beautiful, clean rivers and riverfront parks that they have either cleaned up or kept clean. Examples like Minneapolis' Minnehaha Creek, San Antonio's river walk, Providence, R.I., Boulder, CO and Portland, OR come to mind. The idea is to incorporate nature into our built urban environments, so that people can enjoy nature where they

live, rather having to escape to somewhere remote. Healthy, green cities are the kinds of places that people want to live in and where businesses want to be as well.

Green space is not just for recreation and pleasure. It benefits us in other less obvious, but very tangible ways. Chicago's vast built environment creates a "heat sink". More trees and green space will go a long way towards cleaning our air and keeping our city cooler. I hope that the Department will make health of the residents and our environment the number one priority rather than treating it as a luxury or something we cannot afford at this time. I think we cannot afford not to address these environmental and health concerns now.

The opening of former factory land along our river gives us a unique opportunity to do something truly transformative that will benefit our city now and forever. If we do not put in green space at this critical time, this once in a century opportunity will be wasted. The 606 trail and Nature's Boardwalk are examples of the kind of transformation that is possible. I very much hope that we can do something similar along our riverfront.

The investment in green space will attract and keep more people in Chicago. The economic benefit of green space will go well beyond the value of these individual parcels. By investing in green space, Chicago will be joining the most successful cities of the future, in which it is possible for human activity to be in harmony with nature. I urge the DPD to incorporate as much parkland as possible into the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Make our city the best it can be!

Anne Abramson, Resident, 2nd ward

From: Deborah Eichten <
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 11:06 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Parks Please for Clybourn Corridor

Dear DPD,

Thank you for taking into account Aldermen Smith and Hopkins' recommendation for recreational park space in the Clybourn Corridor. I have lived in Chicago most of my life (since 1969). Although I love Chicago as my home, I have long bemoaned the lack of green space in the city and in my neighborhood, in particular (West Lincoln Park).

I pray that Chicago will follow the example of other cities which have beautiful, clean rivers and riverfront parks that they have either cleaned up or kept clean. Examples like Minneapolis' Minnehaha Creek, San Antonio's river walk, Providence, R.I., Boulder, CO and Portland, OR come to mind. The idea is to incorporate nature into our built urban environments, so that people can enjoy nature where they live, rather having to escape to somewhere remote. Healthy, green cities are the kinds of places that people want to live in and where businesses want to be as well.

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Cordially,
Deborah Eichten

From: Stephen Quast <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 12:40 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Finkl land reuse

Pls !! Provide recreation park space, ball fields, open space.

Common sense to keep families in area rather than fleeing to burbs.
Steve Quast | Q and A

From: Hilary Branch <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:52 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello, I'm writing as a homeowner and resident of Ward 43. I am strongly in favor of repurposing the North Branch Industrial Corridor as a public recreational space. Making the Corridor a welcoming space that can be used by the surrounding communities would be transformational. I strongly urge you make this a space for all.

Thank you,
Hilary Branch

From: Gemma Adams <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:00 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Industrial Corridor

Hello,

I will not be able to attend the February 21st DPD public meeting. I would like my support for the need of public recreation space to be registered.

While I look forward to this new development I also urge the DPD to listen to the residence/taxpayers of Lincoln Park along with other experts about the need for green space. The project should closely consider environmental effects of such a development.

Thank you,

Gemma F. Adams

Certified iRest® Meditation Teacher

From: Robin Munden <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:28 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To the Department of Planning and Development

As a 40 year resident, home owner and taxpayer in the 43rd ward I am strongly in favor of retaining the North Branch Industrial Corridor as just that an industrial corridor. The City of Chicago and the 43rd ward needs to retain spaces that can be the site of manufacturing whether light or heavy. While my alderman apparently favors recreational use of this location, I do not. I would like to see the property developed and retained for another Finkle or other industrial, manufacturing use. I am also not in favor of retail or commercial development on that site.

Regards,
Robin G. Munden

From: Robert Hoyt <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:52 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

My wife Nancy and I live at (in Ward. We feel very strongly that a healthy proportion of this land should include outdoor recreation facilities like sports fields, tennis courts, and the outer boundaries of the space are larger enough for a running track. As for the land not allocated to that, we preferred commercial facilities that would be good for Chicago's economy like an incubator facilities for tech start-ups but essentially anything that increases employment opportunities in that area.

We are out of town on the date of the scheduled meeting which is why we are communicating our sentiments now.

Regards,

Bob Hoyt

From: Colleen Cassell <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:55 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourn Industrial Corridor Feedback

Hello, I am connecting to express my support for public recreational space in the plans for the new Clybourn Industrial Corridor. My family has lived very close to this area for over 25 years. We, as well as so many others, raised our children here and park space/green space is needed now more than ever.

In addition, the other issue that will need to be solved is incremental traffic and congestion. As a daily user (albeit multiple times per day) of Cortland Street and Webster, I would like any proposal to consider new streets or bridges to cross the river in addition to Cortland and Webster.

Colleen Cassell

From: Teffani Zadeh <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:54 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: We Need Public Space!

Dear Dept of Planning & Development,

As you consider how to develop a very large tract of incredibly valuable land in the North Branch Industrial Corridor, you must keep an eye on the value of public, green space, not only to this generation, but to the next 10 generations.

It would be easy to get greedy and want to develop all of the land into buildings, but once that is done, the opportunity to create parkland that will leave a legacy for a hundred years, is lost.

Please, think progressively and allocate a large portion of land for green space, park land, bicycle paths, trees, etc. Our city needs it and our residents deserve it.

Sincerely,
Teffani Zadeh
City of Chicago Resident

From: Tim Compton <
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:25 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Industrial Corridor - North Branch

Dept. of Planning and Development,

I'm writing as I may not be able to attend the event on Feb. 21 to discuss the latest plans for the Industrial Corridor in the North Branch.

I am a resident of the Sheffield Neighborhood and frequent the corridor for leisure (606) and commerce (general shopping). I am also deep in the Chicago tech community (VP of Finance at ActiveCampaign a 100 person growing tech company).

While I strongly support all goals for open space (606 expansion, river trail loop and additional open areas), I disagree that the focus should be on light(tech) industrial. There is a major shortage of houses

and people in the area. It would be great to have more residents in the area so that it can be a true neighborhood and not an office park. Further, as an executive who is actively looking to relocate (we've outgrown our office) I can attest that the North Branch location isn't feasible for our company and most other tech companies I am familiar with.

Additionally, there is little doubt that dense residential development could yield the highest tax revenue which in turn would yield the best civic return (parks, open space, etc.).

Thank you for hearing my opinion.

-Tim Compton

From: John Stuermer <
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 8:57 AM
To: DPD; Ward 43
Subject: Voter Opinion Re North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Friends,

IT is extremely important that the North Branch Industrial Corridor Plans include substnatial park space- especially along the river. IT would also be nice to include a Park District Field house for indoor athletic activities, music and crafts. The condos can then overlook the park and see the river.

At present there are practically no park facilities whatsoever in that area. The city should be getting tons of tax money from the high end condos that will go up there- An attractive, large riverside park would only make those condos more expensive and an even better source of city tax revenue.

Thank you very much

John Stuermer

From: LeBreton, Pierre R. <
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:33 AM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org
Subject:

Dear Sir,

I want to enlist the support of The Department of Planning and Development for the setting aside of property to construct a public park on the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Pierre LeBreton
Member of 43rd Ward

From: Derek Scallon <
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 2:47 PM

To: DPD
Subject: north branch industrial corridor

Hi-

I am a resident in the 43rd ward. I just wanted to send a quick message to give my support for public recreational space in the north branch industrial corridor. I think a public park would be a great use for the land and benefit the residents nearby.

Thanks Derek Scallon
From: Judy Mansueto <
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 10:01 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Need for park land

I am asking that you set aside land for recreational space as well as parking space in the North Branch Area of Lincoln Park.

As our community schools get better and better, we will have more people staying in our area and these children need park space to play. Adults need areas for soccer games? baseball games, tennis courts, quiet space, etc. We need bathrooms instead of outhouses.

Our area has wonderful space w/ the Zoo and North Avenue Beach and Oz Park, but these are areas populated quite heavily w/ people not living in our area, and many not even living in the Chicago. These areas also provide very limited parking.

It is time to have a community park that the Lincoln Park Community can call its own.

I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Parks Administration and I spent 12 years working in that field, so I do realize that a park is open to anyone. However, from my work at the Mt. Prospect and Buffalo Grove Park Districts some 40 years ago, that land developments were required to allot park and recreational space in their plans. Does Chicago law require this allotment by the developers?

No matter, please allot Park and Recreational space in our community. We definitely need it!

Judy Mansueto

Sent from my I phone

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 9:20 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello,

I am a resident of Lincoln Park. I want to express my support for public space/parkland in the NBIC. Many citizens and families benefit from creating more open space where neighbors can come together and enjoy their community!

Thank you,
Sara Stone

-----Original Message-----

From: Mishaum [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 8:33 PM
To: DPD
Subject: More parks and recreation

Please add a good size public recreational area in the North Branch Industrial Corridor build out.

Margaret Walker

From: Amanda Storti [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 6:39 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: Support for park space for North Branch Industrial Corridor

I would like to express my support for public recreational space for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. As a home owner in the immediate neighborhood, I feel there is a great need for park space and it would be very beneficial to the surrounding families and businesses.

Thank you,
Amanda Storti

From: C RL [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:37 PM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD,
as I won't be able to attend the Feb 21 meeting to express my strong support for public green and recreational space, I would like to do so via email. I live in the 43rd ward and have witnessed a substantial increase of housing and traffic in the vicinity. It is only logical that the city, presented with this opportunity, would also add recreational space. Giving people public spaces and especially green spaces is important for many reasons. Park spaces have positive effects on mental health and well being, they help build a community, they help reduce higher temperatures in the city, they improve air quality and are beneficial for wildlife.
I hope you will take these considerations into account when deciding about the land use and development of the area in question.

Sincerely,
Claudia Roeder

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Lynch [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:30 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward43
Subject: Public space 43 ward corridor
I am in complete support of green space
It would be great if the 606 could be extended
Kevin lynch
years

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Niser [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:12 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Michele Smith
Subject: Clybourn Corridor

I would like to voice my support for park space, including such amenities as a turf soccer field, for the Clybourn Corridor area.

Regards,

rom: JoJo Neumann [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:58 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Open Space for North Branch Industrial Corridor

Unfortunately, we cannot make the DPD meeting on Tuesday Feb 21st to discuss the North Branch Industrial Corridor. However, we want you to know that we hope this new development will provide an abundant amount of open space as that is what we need to keep Chicago special and a great place to live!

Sincerely,
JoJo and John Neumann
Maud Avenue Residents

From: Jared Wunsch [mailto:
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:36 PM
To: DPD
Subject:

Dear DPD,
I'm writing to express my strong support for ample public recreational space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.
Sincerely,
Jared Wunsch

From: Seth [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:03 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern:

My name is Seth Kleinman and I am a homeowner in Lincoln Park at. My wife and I have three young children.

It is vitally important to myself and my family that changes to the industrial corridor near Cortland (a 3 minute walk from my house) include a substantial amount of open space, especially on the river. This is a once in a generation chance to transform the area into something usable for the families that live in the area and support the businesses in the area. The corridor is a connector between Lincoln Park and Bucktown, and there needs to be usable space as part of any redesign.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Seth Kleinman

From: Sally Drucker [
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 3:17 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor public recreational space

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Lincoln Park area and wish to encourage serious consideration of including public recreational space in the development plans for this Corridor. From statistics compiled by neighborhood associations and concerned citizens, it is alarming that we currently have only .375 acres per 1,000 residents of public park space. With heavy use by sports leagues and school teams, our current public space is insufficient. The opportunity to incorporate parks and improvements along the Chicago River in this location will not come along again; public access to the river and use of it fits squarely within the goals of many organizations, such as the Chicago River Corridor Development Plan, Friends of the Chicago River and, of course, the Great Rivers Chicago initiative.

I hope serious and thoughtful consideration of this issue will be taken up at the next development planning session.

Sally Drucker

From: Malcolm Mossman [mailto:
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 12:07 PM
To: DPD
Subject: COMMENT: North branch corridor needs more green space
Hello,

With regards to the North Branch Industrial Corridor's future land-use plans, I would like to make a case for more green space along the river. West Town, Logan Square and the Halsted corridor disproportionately lack park access. The modernization of the Chicago River's north branch provides the city with a once-in-a-century opportunity to take advantage of this natural asset and remedy this access problem for thousands of residents.

The Chicago River is finally receiving the attention it needs and we're seeing it become cleaner. The Riverwalk downtown has been wildly successful and efforts to improve the health of the river are finally beginning to show returns. I am proud that the City of Chicago is embracing the river once again. I see this in the recent zoning requirement for new riverfront construction to have at least a 30 foot setback from the river to allow for public access.

But as industry begins to exit the industrial corridor along the river's north branch, the City has an opportunity to do something truly revolutionary. By requiring an even more progressive 60 foot setback, converting the north branch channel into an eco-park and dedicating some adjacent riverfront property to become new green space, the North Branch will become more than another part of the city. It will become a social, economic and environmental asset. It will become a destination for nearby residents to relax and enjoy the outdoors, for recreational enthusiasts to fish, canoe and swim, and for tourists to visit. Green space will also help attract large tech employers to Goose Island and other nearby neighborhoods since the new labor force values green space access, in addition to the already accessible public transportation and vibrant neighborhoods nearby. Green space will also help keep the river clean by reducing surrounding city runoff and prevent stormwater flooding by creating space for water infiltration.

For all of these reasons, I believe green space should be a major focus of the upcoming North Branch Industrial Corridor land-use plan, in addition to truly mixed-use development that not only includes retail and residential developments but clean manufacturing and commercial tech developments as well.

Thank you,
Malcolm Mossman

Malcolm Mossman
University of Notre Dame '14
DePaul University MASUD Candidate

-----Original Message-----

From: [On Behalf Of Bryan Young
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 2:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I saw a solicitation for comments regarding the reuse of this corridor and my hope would be that public recreational space, public access to the Chicago River and bicycle and pedestrian access would be afforded as much importance as private development opportunities. These ideas compliment each other and benefit each other instead of needed to be mutually exclusive. Thank you for your consideration.

Bryan Young

From: Clark, Garrett <
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:07 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Chicago River redevelopment

Hello,

I both own my home near the north branch (in the redeveloping area that was formerly Cabrini Green) and work on Goose Island itself (for Wrigley), so am very invested in the future of the formerly industrialized area around the Chicago River. There is a massive need for recreational spaces and public access to the river – right now there are only isolated access points to the river (such as Whole Foods' river patio) so there's no way to really have a continuous walk around the river to enjoy it. A dog park along the river (similar to the dog parks along the beach in Lakeview and Montrose) would be a beautiful way to attract people to the river, and could also spur business at local shopping spots nearby as foot traffic increases.

Goose Island itself also has a major accessibility issue – the two main Division Street bridges cause massive traffic snarls every day during rush hour, with people blocking intersections and causing chaos. The city had previously planned to start construction on new bridges by May 2016, but I'm disappointed to hear that this has been pushed back to 2019. The new plan for redeveloping the area should ensure future-proofing for adding additional access points such as bike/pedestrian bridges on and off the island. There are a lot of redeveloping plots of land on the island, and these new developments won't be successful if everyone sees the island as an ugly cluster of traffic and poorly-maintained infrastructure. To attract new jobs and people to the area, we need to follow the lead of areas like Fulton Market and the West Loop, which have invested significant money in beautification and infrastructure improvements.

Garrett L. Clark

Project Engineer – Process

Wrigley Global Engineering Team

From: Vicki Duhon <

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:05 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Need more recreational space in Lincoln Park Area!

Hello, I'm responding to info I've seen on the new Clybourn corridor construction planning. I'm hoping they can allow for recreational space in that development. We have a soccer club that is in desperate need of fields to play on and that shouldn't be so hard to come by in a neighborhood like Lincoln Park. It will only help to keep more people in the city, especially those with children, if we can help the area to have more green and recreational space.

Vicki Duhon



From: Iain Whitaker <

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:20 AM

To: DPD

Subject: DPD Meeting follow-up - traffic proposal

Hi,

I attended the public meeting at UI Labs last night. Really interesting to see the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This is an important initiative and I'm glad to see how much thought the City is putting into the corridor's future. With so many interest involved, I'm sure it's no easy task.

I was glad to see that improving and easing traffic flows is a major thrust of the proposals. I therefore wondered whether there are any plans to reopen Kingsbury south of Cortland. It seems very odd to me that a private business has exclusive use of this section of the street, forcing traffic to detour into other streets, and it seems inconsistent with your overall goals. No-one has ever been able to explain to me how this arrangement came to be, but in the spirit of improving traffic - for residents and businesses - would the City be willing to open this street back up to everyone?

Thank you,
Iain Whitaker

From: Holly Demaray <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 7:59 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Park Space in the Clybourn Corridor Development

The current "suggested" recreational space is not acceptable for the development of this area. Recreational space should be a requirement, period. Chicago stands out among cities in the US for its neighborhood park spaces and recreational areas. It would be foolish and shortsighted to dispense with that in this large development.

As a resident of the 43rd Ward, I do not support the current plan I would like to see it changed.

Holly Demaray

From: BOBBI ZABEL <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:10 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am writing to express my disappointment in the proposed plans for developing the land along the river. While I recognize the need for the revenue derived from residential and commercial uses for the property, it is short sighted not to take into account the quality of life. That ultimately is what determines the value of our city—whether people want to live here and feel that it is a place that considers their needs.

Recreational space is more important than ever as the city becomes more dense, and the number of high rises replacing smaller buildings along Wells, Division, North Avenue and up Clybourn create added pressures. The more crowded people feel, the more likely tensions are to rise. Plus, the less likely people are to know each other. In Old Town, running into neighbors in our pocket parks and in Lincoln Park contributes to our sense of community. We see our neighbors, their pets and families, over and over and form bonds. Issues are more likely to be discussed, and a shared sense of stewardship develops.

If you just keep cramming people onto the land and fail to provide places for them to interact, our quality of life will suffer. Furthermore, while I understand the eagerness to monetize the riverside land, it provides an excellent opportunity to preserve not only our heritage but a shared asset that can make this a special place to live.

I pray that you will think more about the people than profits and make parkland a priority and requirement in these plans.

Roberta B. Zabel

From: mrcarpen <

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:11 AM

To: DPD

Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org

Subject: Park space at Cortland corridor

Please include park space for recreational and athletic use in the development of the Cortland Ave. Industrial Corridor.

Our community would really benefit from this type of environment. Making that area completely commercial will make congestion in an already overloaded driving path unbearable.

Thank you,

Michelle Carpentier Lazarz

Resident of Lincoln Park

From: pedigob <

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:12 AM

To: DPD;

Subject: North Branch Corridor parks

To: DPD

I'm writing in support of additional park space in Chicago, specifically the North Branch Corridor. Personally, I believe the entire space should be park land as Chicago's open space is sorely lacking. The city is far behind our open space target. Even crowded, dirty New York City has 50% more open square meters per person than Chicago does!

And by open space we mean parks, trees, ball fields, not river walks.

Thanks for listening, we voters will be watching.

Bruce Pedigo

Howe Street Neighborhood Association

From: Pierre LeBreton <

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:19 AM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Sirs;

It is important that you include compulsory dedicated open space in your future plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Pierre LeBreton

From: Casey Hartman <

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:24 AM

To: DPD

Subject: PARK PLEASE!

The courtland industrial corridor Deserves to be a park and public space for the multitude of residents to have a space. There is a chance to give the city a huge open space that historically become the most coveted spaces to reside near in a city and the pride of its residents. Central Park anyone????

Do something people can be proud of for decades. An open space to breathe and appreciate looking out on the city.

Thank you. Now build a park.

Casey Hartman
Store Manager
SEE Eyewear

From: Robin Munden <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:40 AM
To: DPD
Cc:

Subject: Industrial Corridor
To Whom It May Concern,

I am a 40 plus year resident in the area and in the 43rd ward. Unlike my alderman I strongly believe that the industrial corridor should remain just that--an industrial corridor.

Regards,
Robin G. Munden

From: Kim Thorstenson <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:51 AM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice@

Subject: One Chance to make a difference.
Hello Department of Planning and Development,

The North Branch Industrial Corridor NEEDS real recreation space. Look at Lincoln Park, without that amazing space what would our city look like? You have a real opportunity to create beautiful waterfront recreational space. This opportunity doesn't come along very often and when its done correct generation after generation gets to reap the benefits. Community space is what makes urban areas great. Don't mess this up! One chance is all you get, be strong, stand up to money, DO THE RIGHT THING for the future.

Sincerely,
Kim Thorstenson

From: Joseph Barr <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 9:00 AM
To: DPD
Cc:

Subject: Industrial Corridor Park Push
Sir/Madame:

I strongly endorse adding a major park area to the former Finkel Plant property. The city has no real park area that borders the river and this would be a great opportunity to develop and protect such a location. The area really doesn't need more upscale housing or retail.

Give us the park we need.

Joseph
Dr Joseph Barr

From: Janice Orenstein <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 9:11 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch industrial corridor

Please include more public park land and maybe an additional dog park as this area is developed. One of the city's great pleasures is it's walkability. If this area will have increased residential development, 50% of the space should be dedicated to parks. The best part of city living is the proximity of parks, for children, for families, for sports organized and informal, (frisbee) and a great place to meet new friends and neighbors. You can't sandwich in more expensive residential without having a neighborhood park. Think "green". And don't forget the great benefits of dogs and how they can bring a community together. Thank you.

Janice Orenstein

From: bob chirinko <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 9:45 AM
To: DPD; Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD,

I am writing to request that you give most serious consideration to modifying the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

As I understand matters, the current plans only offer suggestions and intentions, NOT REQUIREMENTS, for the inclusion of recreational space in the new development in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." And it is ONLY FIRM AND EXPLICIT REQUIREMENTS that will ensure that the proper amount of recreational space is created. This is a once-in-a-century opportunity to create a truly great and desirable living space in Chicago. I very much hope we can ensure it comes to fruition via FIRM AND EXPLICIT REQUIREMENTS now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Chirinko
Chicago, Lincoln Park

From: Karen Slimmon <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:39 AM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I have been residents of Lincoln Park (43rd ward) for over 24 years. We have seen many changes over that time. One of the most anticipated changes has been the redevelopment of the Finkl site. We have looked forward to this redevelopment and the possibilities for enhanced outdoor space for many, many years.

Please don't crowd us out with dense, tall buildings and no open space. We need parks, bike lanes, and open views of our beautiful city.

Thank you.
Karen & Andrew Slimmon

From: Matt Biesterfeld
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:40 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Park Space in North Branch Industrial Corridor
To whom it may concern,

My name is Matthew Biesterfeld and I am a resident in Lincoln Park. The new development set to occur in the North Branch Industrial Corridor needs to have more recreational park space included in the plans. Any development that adds more residential zoning will require parks for those residents. This area is already void of enough recreational space and parks have become crowded. Current residents and new residents in this development will need new parks to service the needs of the community. Please include more park and recreational space in the development plans.

Sincerely,
Matt Biesterfeld

From: Rob Friedman <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:42 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Public parks are important to me!
To Whom It May Concern:

I own a condo we love in the 43rd Ward. It's close to the lake and surrounded by parks. I'm writing to urge you to create public recreational space in the plan for the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. As important as development may be, it's our parks, lake and riverfront that distinguish Chicago and make it the special city it is.

Please keep our city great!
Sincerely,
Rob Friedman

From: kenkromash@rcn.com <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:52 AM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Development
Der Planning Committee,

I have been a resident of Ward 43 for the past 20 years. Every time I drive over the bridges on North Avenue and Cortland Street and look up and down the river, I imagine what it would look like if it weren't an industrial eyesore. We have a chance to make a difference. Please don't let this chance go by without taking full advantage of it.

This is a unique opportunity our community has to develop this area and dramatically improve a neighborhood. There is too much concrete in our cities and it has hugely negative effects in the production (one ton of carbon dioxide is produced for every ton of concrete during the manufacturing process). It's also not appealing to look at, and creates more water runoff.

Our city is losing the war on crime. The Human-Environment Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has determined that neighborhoods where there are green spaces have

fewer violent and property crimes. This research is not unique to Chicago. The same results were shown in other locations (Philadelphia, Baltimore, Youngstown). Not only did crime decrease, but time spent in natural surroundings has been demonstrated to reduce mental fatigue and increase a sense of community and personal wellness. Open spaces are like an invitation for people to interact. This forms neighborhood connections. Places which have a strong sense of neighborhood are inhabited by people who care, support, and protect one another. When spaces are designed for recreation, the benefits are tremendous. There is an increase in active and healthy people using the spaces. The health of children and teenagers improves. Neighborhoods become more attractive as places to meet. This helps to build a community.

As you continue the planning process along the North Branch Industrial Corridor, I strongly urge you to incorporate more large, open spaces. We have enough concrete and hard structures already. We are lacking on open, green spaces and all their positive effects in this city. Please take full advantage of an opportunity when you have it. Broaden your scope and your vision and take a chance on our neighborhood and future. Create more open, green spaces which will benefit us all.

Regards,

Ken Kromash

From:

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:54 AM

To: DPD

Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org

Subject: Industrial Corridor Development

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have been a resident of Lincoln Park for 34 years I have driven through the development area numerous times per week throughout the time I have been a resident. Accordingly, I am well aware of the fact that this represents a historic opportunity to do something very special with the area.

Furthermore, as a private lawyer, I have worked with the city on another major property development (Edgewater Hospital), there representing one of the developers. I am thus well aware of what the city can do to press developers...HARD. I am exceedingly unhappy with the presentation for the area made on February 21. While I am aware that the public often pushes for amounts of parkland that are not necessarily reasonable (this happened re: Edgewater), the plans here do not strike a reasonable balance with an inappropriately small amount of public space worthy of the area. But to me an even more important flaw in the plans is the extreme residential density. This will add a huge amount of congestion in the area. Also, I fail to see how buildings of this size are likely to have the unique design elements that could make this area a real jewel. This area abuts an area of the city with some of its highest property values and is a connecting point with another such area (Bucktown). It would be a travesty to press through a plan that plops down in the area a copse of large, modern apartment buildings. In sum, I urge DPD in the strongest possible terms to demand a broad reconsideration of this plan.

Scott Mendeloff

From: Matthew Brown <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:59 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor community feedback
To: Chicago Department of Planning and Development

I am writing regarding your recent presentation of North Branch Industrial Corridor modernization plan. As a resident of the community (on the 1100 block of Webster) and a parent of young children who utilize community parks for activities such as baseball and soccer and casual family time, I wish to express my strong opinion that the modernization plan take into account more usable public recreational space in order to alleviate the current overburdened state our community parks. While I am a big fan of riverfront trails and wetlands, I view these as necessary but not sufficient in addressing the community's need for recreational space that would relieve the congestion we currently feel in parks such as Oz and Trebes. It is often quite difficult to find space to play catch with my son, or kick a ball with my daughter— not to mention space for community league practices and games— since the baseball diamonds and soccer fields in our community are nearly always booked.

As a resident of this community since 1971, I have watched the residential growth of Lincoln Park to the east of the Corridor and of Bucktown & Logan Square to the west. No doubt that one of the strongest appeals to this area has been its livability for families— strong residential neighborhoods coupled with green space and recreational space, in close proximity to retail and office space. As the Corridor transitions from its Industrial history, maintaining this livability balance is vital to retaining the family-oriented character of this community. And maintaining the family-friendly residential character is in turn vital to attracting the residents who are vital to supporting the commercial base.

Thank you for your consideration.
Matthew Brown

From: Jordan Gary <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:02 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To Whom it May Concern:

While I agree that more public parks would be nice in our ward, I think that the priority should be given to developing unused or underused spaces in our city including that of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. I don't think forcing a developer into putting a park in their development is beneficial and may come at the cost of some good projects and/or affordable housing options. It's their land, as long as the building permits are within the city's guidelines, I say let them build it.

Jordan Gary

TW: My comment was relating to the North Branch Industrial Corridor project.
pMp.

On Mar 1, 2017, at 8:23 AM, Wyatt, Todd <todd.wyatt@cityofchicago.org> wrote:
Good morning Patrick. Please clarify which project you are referring to in your email:

From: Patrick Pruitt <

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 2:43 PM

To: DPD

Subject: As You Know

DPD:

At times Aldermen push residents to voice opinions to those in authority when they (aldermen) are hoping to promote their own agendas which may not be the same as those of the residents.

Alderman Michele Smith (43) has done so.

This action is often done so constituents will believe the Alderman is progressively acting in their best interest therefore hopefully garnering public support for future campaigns.

Hopefully, organized opposition to private development will be recognized and considered accordingly.

Patrick M. Pruitt

Lincoln Park

From:

Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 1:28 PM

To: DPD

Cc: DPD; Belden: Greg Grove; Mattie Harris; Michael Pykosz; Marianne Serex; Matthew Kirst; Dean Balice; Woody McCally

Subject: Support for designated park land in the North Branch Corridor
ear Sir or Madam,

My wife Maggie and I fully support Alderwoman Michelle Smith and her efforts to legally secure more park land for the City and it's citizens. The many lovely parks are what makes Chicago stand out amongst it's global peers. As a frequent visitor to London, Paris and New York, none compare in the quantity or accessibility of ththeir public parks. It would be a shame to let an opportunity to bind ourselves to add to the park lands of Chicago pass us by, especially in this ever growing and heavily populated swath of land that once was derelict and isolated, to make it inviting and habitable. Especially important is the accessibility of our fellow citizens to either actively use or simply passively enjoy these reservoirs of green, quite and nature.

Please heed our comments when comping the final planning for the North Branch Corridor.

Sincerely,

From: Andrew Daglas <

Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 9:40:38 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward 43

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor: Comments re: park space

Hello,

I have attended two recent planning meetings for the proposed North Branch Industrial Corridor redesign, and they have been illuminating. I am impressed with the scope of DPD's vision both for this unique area of the city and for the larger Industrial Corridor revitalization project.

However, I agree with the concerns expressed by many at both meetings regarding the proposals for new green space. The amount of land being considered, and the lack of a clear requirement for a minimum amount of park space, threatens to leave the new neighborhood underserved -- and, consequently, to send its residents to other parts of the city in search of greenery, taxing those resources and creating additional traffic congestion.

In addition, I feel it is vital that green space in the North Branch includes not only structured landscaping but also ample open space - pure parkland with simply grass and trees. There is a place for both styles, but the current plan seems biased in favor of the former at the expense of the latter.

For many people in the city, structured park space (such as in the South Pond section of Lincoln Park) makes for a lovely front yard, but one with a specific use. It's open park space (such as in the North Pond section) that provides our backyard, a place to read, enjoy sports, play with dogs, have a cookout, let kids run free, etc.

Open, unstructured space, giving residents the chance to color outside the lines, is what makes our parks feel like part of our neighborhoods, rather than tourist sites. It gives residents full access to their shared public space, and allows them the ability to decide, organically, how to best use it.

I believe this is especially important to ensuring that residents of all income levels and backgrounds feel welcome in and enriched by our common areas.

Finally, I believe we should make sure the Chicago Park District has an important and front-facing role in developing our park spaces. Private investment is valuable, but it is equally valuable that people know our public spaces are just that: public. The Chicago Park District offers one of our best opportunities to remind all citizens daily that their civic institutions work for the benefit of everybody.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your continued efforts on this project.

Andy Daglas
43rd Ward

From: Derek Scallon <
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 6:04 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: north branch industrial corridor

Hi-

I just wanted to send an email to show my support for a new park space in the industrial corridor. I think a recreational space is the best use of the land for the public and ask that it be given more importance in the future plans.

Thanks Derek Scallon

From: Lilli M. Scheye <
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 3:44 PM
To: DPD

Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am a resident of the neighborhood in which this project is proposed. I am disappointed with the plans as they do NOT create a requirement for recreational space. This is particularly concerning in light of suggested mix of up to 50% residential uses for the areas north of North Avenue. If allowed, this will only create more congestion in the existing parks within our Ward as new residents flock to our neighborhood parks for true recreational space for sports and other leisure activities.

Please do NOT approve this project in its current form.

Lilli Scheye

From: Jean Cali <
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 2:07 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Industrial Corridor Park

We have a grandson who plays soccer and baseball - as do most of the kids on our block, and other blocks around here. It would be wonderful if they would put a public recreational space in the new Industrial Corridor for our children in the neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my suggestion.

Jean & Ross Cali

From: Buckles Kathryn <
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 1:31 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD,

We are writing with grave concerns about the development plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. The need for open space and parkland in this development plan is extreme. The closest park is Oz Park and it is already crowded with residential usage as well as LPHS usage. What makes Chicago great in many ways is the planned parks it has developed over the years for its residents. Residents are painfully aware of increased traffic and congestion, scarcity of parking, increased cost of living in the city with much new high density, expensive development occurring which will only exacerbate these problems. All residents deserve and NEED parks and open spaces to maintain a semblance of calm and serenity in the midst of all this. A river walk sounds dandy, but it does not replace the need for parkland. It seems one of the city's goals has been to enhance and increase parkland until this major piece of land became available. We beg you to reconsider your position thus far.

PLEASE REQUIRE OPEN SPACE AND PARKLAND IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS MASSIVE AREA CALLED THE NORTH BRANCH INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR.

Thank you. Respectfully yours,
Wade and Kathryn Buckles

(Previously for 30 years, and for 6)

From: Mary Dempsey <
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 12:11 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I would like to weigh in on the land use modernization plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. There should be public recreational space as part of the development plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor – a good deal MORE than the proposal shows. The suggested mix of up to 50% residential uses for the areas north of North Avenue will cause more congestion in the existing parks within the 43rd Ward. New residents will need true recreational space for sports and other leisure activities. While the river walk development is a nice feature (and kind of a no-brainer), it will not accommodate families, games and sports activities. We will need tennis courts, soccer/football fields, basketball courts, indoor and outdoor facilities. We need a large park or two to serve these new residents!

Carpe Diem!
Mary Dempsey
Mobile:

From: penelope miller
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 8:12 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Park space in North Branch industrial corridor

Sir or Madam,

It would be shamefully shortsighted to build concentrated residential units without generous park space among them in this area. Besides aesthetic considerations, there is nothing more depressing than inner cities without "lungs," and nothing more enervating than having to travel long distances, especially with small children, to reach recreation areas. Most of us want to run outside to play and feel free to breathe close to our own homes.

We benefit greatly from the foresight of previous planners who saved green space for people's health and enjoyment. I beg you to forego the rush to build unrelieved housing and to insert large and beautiful park areas among it for the residents' recreation.

Thank you for your thoughtful contribution to future generations.

Yours truly,

Penelope Miller
(Ward 43 resident)

From: Kate Waimey Timmerman <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:53 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor redevelopment

Dear Chicago DPD,

I would like to express my concern about the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. First of all, I think it is crucial for the city that a mandatory (not optional) recreational and park space be included in any plans. Second, if possible, this space should connect with an extension of the 606 trail which enhances neighborhoods across this city.

Thank you for listening to my voice.

Best wishes,
Kate Timmerman
(Lincoln Park resident)

From: Sari Kravitt
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 7:57 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Recreational Park Space

To whom this may concern,

I am a 10 year resident of the Lincoln Park neighborhood. After recently getting married, I am beginning to think about starting a family. As I consider my next move in Chicago, my heart wants to stay in Lincoln Park. I live near Sheffield and Armitage.

I receive our ward emails, and I feel the need to stress the importance of using the Clybourn industrial corridor space for parks and recreational area.

If I keep my family in Lincoln Park, there is a dire need for some wide open space and park facilities. It would be instrumental in the development of our community. It would bring new families into the area and continue to carry Lincoln Park's excellent reputation forward. Please, hear me out when I say that we truly desire and want park and recreational space.

I hope to keep my family in Lincoln Park, and the future of the industrial corridor is playing a big factor in our decision.

Please consider using the area for parks and recreational space.

Thank you,
Sari Kravitt

From: Rick Melcher <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 7:48 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern,

I would like to add my voice to that of Ald. Smith of the 43rd Ward, where I am a resident, supporting her efforts to make park and recreation space integral to any future development along the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This development presents an enormous opportunity for our neighborhood and as an example for the rest of the city and region to illustrate the importance of balancing commerce and quality of life. Our area, already groaning from development and congestion, is in vital need of more open space, properly planned. This is a great chance to do something special. I strongly encourage you to make open space a key component in the planning requirements and in the final project approval.

Sincerely,

Richard Melcher

From: David Zoretic <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 6:26 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - need for

Greetings,

I live at, and am writing to strongly ask that any development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor that includes residential use be accompanied by mandatory and expansive recreational / park space. Simply put, we do not have appropriate facilities for the existing residence of the area, yet alone for any new residents who move to what will be built. Trebes park is closest to my home but woefully inadequate for sports and leisure due to overcrowding, over use and a poor field area that does not drain.

As Alderman Smith and others have said, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to make this Corridor truly special and unique. Parks and recreational space give more character and benefit to an area than residences, retail stores and buildings. There's room for everyone to win. Let's find it.

Please require that ample recreational space be included as part of the development. Let's enhance the vision and bring something awesome and incredible to the area. Let's make the area a true destination for residents of the new development, retail stores there, and residents of the surrounding areas. WOW and WIN WIN WIN!

Thank you.

David Zoretic

From: Michael Basil <
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 6:26 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward Services; Kathleen Basil
Subject: Industrial Corridor - Lincoln Park - recreational space REQUIRED

I am disappointed by what I have heard about the planning for the industrial corridor near my residence.

We need more than grass along the river.

I fully support Alderman's Smith call for a commitment for sizable, realistic, and genuine recreational space for the current and future Lincoln Park community.

--

Michael Basil

From: Emily Draper <
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 2:43 PM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Need for Dedicated Park Space

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for including dedicated park space, including spaces large enough for recreation fields, in the development plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This corridor provides tremendous opportunity to provide more dedicated park resources to residents of the surrounding areas and new residents that will be coming to the corridor in the future as part of new development.

I am a current resident of Lincoln Park and have lived in the neighborhood with my husband for over 12 years. We now have two small children in our family (ages 6 and 3). Park space is essential to us and our quality of life in the city. My family spends many hours at parks across the city for organized sports, recreation, etc. with a lot of time spent at the park closest to our home, Oz Park. Without this, we would have a hard time raising our family in the city.

The increasing number of developments that include residential components (including the North Branch Industrial Corridor) will only put more pressure on existing park space. Setting aside dedicated park space in this corridor will help alleviate this pressure and contribute to residents remaining in the city instead of looking to move elsewhere.

Thank you,
Emily Price

From: Jim Grossmann <
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 2:47 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: recreational space is key component of any Finkl redevelopment plans

It is important to have recreational space as a key component of any Finkl redevelopment plans.

The location near the river will continue to improve and plans should take this longer term thinking into consideration. A small park, walking and bike paths will help connect this area to Bucktown and ultimately be good local business old and new.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jim Grossmann

From: Carter O'Brien <
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2017 2:49 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Support for the North Branch Framework

Hello, I would like to add my name to the list of those supporting the inclusion of active forms of transportation (walking, biking, public transit) into the North Branch Framework plan. I am particularly excited about the prospects of a North Branch Chicago River Trail, extending the 606 across the River and into Lincoln Park, and more bike/pedestrian bridges across the River.

Sincerely,
Carter O'Brien

--

Carter O'Brien, LEED AP O+M

Sustainability Manager
Science & Education
Field Museum of Natural History

From: Patricia Kroness <
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2017 7:52 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: need for more park space

Hi Folks,

Those of us who don't live close enough to walk to the Lake - and may be either pushing a buggy or a walker - find it is getting harder and harder to access

a nice open green space where we can just lounge/sit and read a book - or play.

Having open walkable landscaped areas along the river would just make the whole area!

Our local parks in the area are already overused and need annual refurbishing.

Including substantial parks in the newest areas to be developed will make the area sooooo much more attractive to prospective buyers as well as help quality of life for those of us nearby already suffering from saturated density.

In addition to people park, a dog park would also be a HUGE draw and be much appreciated.

Please consider these suggestions. Thank you.

Pattie Kroness & Louis Cohn

From: Elie Zenner <
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 11:29 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch River Trail

To whom it may concern,

I write to advocate for continued bike and pedestrian access to the North Branch. Making the river bike-friendly and runner/walker friendly would be a huge asset to the this part of Chicago and would increase foot traffic and development in the area.

Thank you.

Elie Zenner (

From: Jeffrey Wozencraft <
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 2:41 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Expressing Support for Continuous Bike Trail Along Chicago River

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for a continuous bike trail along the Chicago River. I read that it has been proposed as a part of the North Branch Framework for the Mayor's Industrial Corridor Modernization Initiative. As a resident of the Bucktown neighborhood who worked in the West Loop, I rode my bike down Elston almost every day I could. The ability to do so on a continuous path, such as the 606, would be amazing, and I believe it would further encourage others to use active modes of transportation.

Thank you for efforts to include plans for active transportation in developments. Chicago will be a better place as a result! Thank you

Sincerely,
Jeff Wozencraft

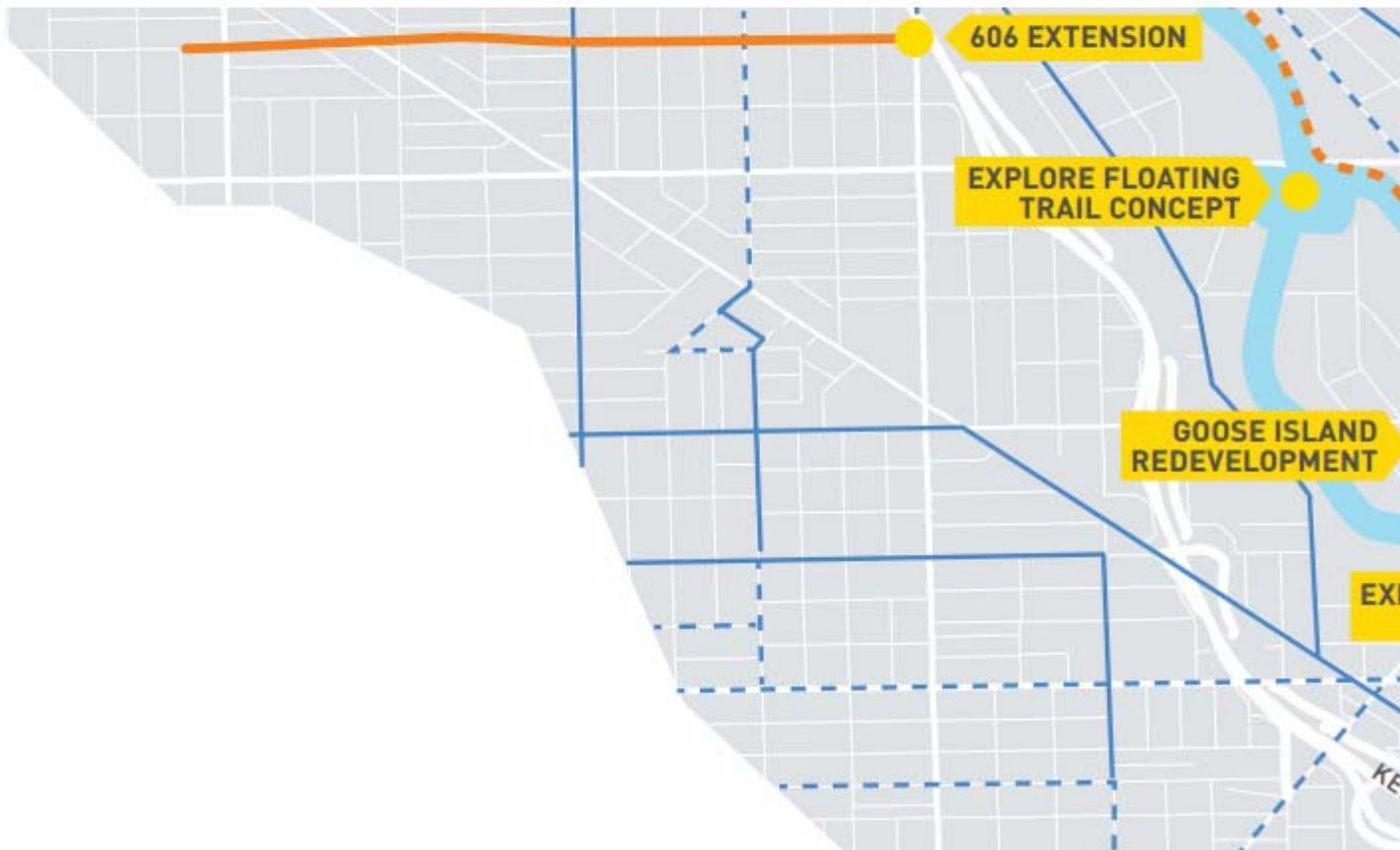
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Jeff Wozencraft
Associacao Ambiental Caretta Caretta

This is an awesome plan!!!!!!!!!! Please approve this plan!!!!!!!!!!

Chicago River Trail advances in North Branch Framework
March 2, 2017 | by Steve Simmons

Chicago River | Zone 5



City planners recently unveiled concepts that support a continuous trail along the Chicago River. These ideas were presented by planners during an update about the North Branch Framework for the Mayor's Industrial Corridor Modernization Initiative.

This industrial corridor runs from West Kinzie through West Fullerton Avenues, separating Bucktown from Lincoln Park, and covers all of Goose Island. As the first of twenty-six industrial corridors under review, the North Branch framework will have important implications for future city plans.

While the framework covers many policy areas, city officials presented promising ideas that would go a long way towards filling one of the largest remaining gaps in a Chicago River Trail, as envisioned in [Active Trans' Chicago River Trail Action Plan](#)

The map illustrates how the Goose Island Redevelopment fits within the vision of a Chicago River Trail.

Key transportation projects in the framework include:

- Pedestrian and bike bridges across the river at West Erie and West Weed Streets
- Extending the 606 Trail into Lincoln Park
- A Blackhawk Street pedestrian bridge that would connect Bucktown to Goose Island
- A major overhaul of the Chicago/Halsted viaduct
- A long-term goal of creating a pedestrian and bike trail that would start South of Kinzie and continue up through Goose Island and run west of the river all the way to Armitage.

From: Nancy A. Trainer < Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 12:54 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward 43

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Development plans

As a 38 year resident of Lincoln Park I have seen increased difficulty in our street to North Avenue due to the tremendous increase in building in our area. Our recreational areas and parks are overtaxed and I think that if we wish to stem the flight to the suburbs by parents with children we better come up with more open and recreational space. Thank you.

Nancy Trainer

From: Grace Friedman <

Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 2:58 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: Industrial Corridor Park Push

Hello,

As an active resident of the 43rd ward I am writing to urge you to create public recreational space in the plan for the Clybourn Industrial Corridor. History has shown how parks and riverfront access draw visitors and residents to urban areas and keep young people from moving away as their families grow. The riverfront can be a precious asset for the city and there's no reason the people of Chicago shouldn't benefit as well as private developers.

You have an opportunity to make Chicago even better than it is. Please seize the chance!

Sincerely,

Grace Friedman

From: elyse klein <

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 2:16 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Need for Planned Park Space

Dear DPD

As a resident of 20 years in the Sheffield neighborhood - walking distance to the North Branch corridor, I would like to voice my complaint at the lack of proposed public park and recreational space in the DPD's plans for Mayor Emanuel's Industrial Corridor Modernization. The current proposal shows 0% open green space but states the third goal of the plan (of only 3 goals listed) is to enhance unique natural assets of the area. The Chicago riverfront is a unique natural asset and the opportunity to redevelop the North Branch makes this the perfect opportunity to ensure that all Chicagoans have access to it. Incorporating park space in the redevelopment plans will amplify the use and revitalization of the North Branch and ensure that the economic and job growth it generates integrates with the community. The residential component of the proposed land use makes green space a necessity. I strongly support the refining concepts for land use include open green and recreation space for all neighborhood residents to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Elyse Klein

From: Harris Kay <
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:05 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

This is in regard to the Clybourn PMD and the open space plan. There has been much discussion about open space and the need for a recreational park in this area, however, at these meetings City representatives, including those from DPD, have taken the position that there is nothing they can do because it is privately owned land. This argument appears disingenuous because the City could use eminent domain in order to accomplish the goal of providing adequate open space to the community. Furthermore, the City is in the process of selling an approximately 18 acre site across the river from the Clybourn PMD (Fleet management site), where a park could be provided for and/or some of the monies from the sale of this land could be used to provide for a recreational park in the Clybourn PMD space (used to pay fair value for land used for park through eminent domain) and/or the City could explore whether federal funding is available to assist in developing open space. The Lincoln Park area is in need of open space - especially park space that serves the 12+ age group. Moreover, various literature from parks and planning associations discuss how open space and parks add value to the surrounding area by increasing property values (and thus the tax base) and provide environmental benefits, among other benefits. It is unclear why the City of Chicago is refusing to provide adequate open space in the overall development plan - especially when they are planning to allow 50% of the land to be developed as residential.

Sincerely,
Reatha Kay

ALLAN MELLIS EMAIL 3-15-2017

I was happy to hear your commitment to maintain industrial access to the river as part of the North Branch Industrial Modernization Framework Plan.

While one way to do this is to move the river walk to the other side of the river to avoid any conflict.

I have another idea. Build the first river walk drawbridge. It would be in the down position to allow continuous bike and pedestrian trails, and raised when a company needs access to the river.

I am looking forward to reviewing the Framework Plan and the Design Guidelines Document. However, since this Framework Plan and Design Guidelines will guide development for many years to come, I ask you to "Get it Right, Not Get It Fast".

Allan Mellis

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Sherife Jusufi" <
Date: Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 3:13 PM -0500
Subject: HTOA
To: "Ward02" <"Ward27" <"Reifman, David" <"Gorski, Eleanor" <

Dear Alderman Walter Burnett Jr., Alderman Brian Hopkins, Mr. David L. Reifman and Ms. Eleanor Gorski,

After attending DPD's North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization meeting on February 21st I was surprised to see that DPD has altered its original position on an updated Land Use overlay for the current "Buffer Zone" known as the Halsted Triangle neighborhood. I applaud the time and effort that DPD has taken to augment many timeworn PMD land-use policies, but urge DPD to reconsider its decision to amputate the Halsted Triangle from its North Branch Industrial Corridor modernization effort. As a member of the Halsted Triangle Owners Association ("HTOA") I supported the Halsted Triangle 2.0 study that proposed a thoughtful intersection of residential, commercial, and retail density to support dynamic and diverse urban planning principles within the Halsted Triangle. As a landowner in the area I deeply understand the crucial impact a dense and mature Halsted Triangle will have for demand on Goose Island. Without a place for office users to "live and play" in the Halsted Triangle, demand for high-tech office campuses on Goose Island will suffer. The Halsted Triangle will best be able to support mature retail density, particularly bars and restaurants, with 24/7 clientele that stem from local residential density. Without this, the Halsted Triangle will continue to be inundated with sub-optimal uses, particularly undeveloped parking lots and national "Big-Box" retailers. Again, we applaud DPD's efforts, but recommend that DPD examine the direct and historical interaction between the Halsted Triangle "Buffer Zone" and its evolving industrial neighbors.

Sincerely,
Sherife Jusufi
Proprietor
Sully's House

From: Madda, Adrienne <
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 12:35 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Public Recreational Space

Hello,

I'm writing upon reading Alderman Michele Smith's newsletter regarding your department's plans for developing the North Branch Industrial Corridor. The information I'm reading about both the meeting and the department's plans are troubling to the point of compelling me to write my first-ever email of this nature.

As a mom of two, I can attest to the lack of open public spaces in the city. I appreciate beautiful river walks and maintaining Chicago's unique & long-standing connection to our waterways. I am not arguing against these features and applaud your inclusion of them. However, this is not enough. Those spaces do not offer the same benefits as open fields for sports – organized and recreational – as well as parks & playgrounds for our families. Oz Park is overused and the park shows its wear and tear. It cannot be enough for Lincoln Park and surrounding residents to rely on this park, alone, for our recreational needs.

Chicago has had positive press for its efforts to beautify the parks & recreational spaces, highlighting our waterways as assets for the city. These assets not only improve quality of life for current residents, they also draw new residents and corporations to the area. So whether your motivation is quality of life for current residents or extended tax basis for the city, I do hope you will reconsider your current development plans for North Branch Industrial Corridor to include more recreational space.

It seems the department is quoting "62 emails & letters" received about the desire for public park space. While the absolute number may be small, I am confident the relative number is significantly higher than your norm. In my industry, we're taught to never overlook such signs of public disapproval. I do hope you won't make that mistake on this important issue.

Sincerely,

From: Terry Brugger <> on behalf of "Zow" Terry Brugger, PhD <>
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:59 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: Open space and bike paths along North Branch Industrial Corridor

Good day,

I am a Near North Side resident who frequently participates in activities around the North Branch Industrial Corridor, currently in the planning phases for redevelopment. I would like to ensure that the redevelopment plan includes requirements for both open space and bicycle paths.

To the first point, Chicago's Motto is "City in a Garden". Burnham's plan called for sufficient green space, and has served us well for the past century. Now is our opportunity to carry that vision forward for the next century. A recommendation is insufficient, as profit hungry developers will readily ignore it. We need a hard requirement for 5 acres of public open space for every 1000 residents in and adjacent to the corridor.

As part of this open space, we need to ensure that the transportation plan includes dedicated paths for bikes and similar non-motorized vehicles. Transit by bike is exploding in Chicago, with the city declared the best city for biking last year. This was in spite of increasing fatalities of cyclists. Clybourn and Elston are already scary to bike along -- especially with kids. The redevelopment will increase traffic in the area, making it even scarier. To compensate, we need dedicated leverage this opportunity to build dedicated bicycle infrastructure, ideally integrated with an overall plan to provide a bike path along the entire North Branch.

In summary, the plan needs to include requirements for:

- 5 acres of open space per 1000 people
- dedicated bicycle paths and infrastructure

Thank you,
S Terry Brugger, PhD

From: Mans, Amy <
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:52 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Industrial Corridor Modernization: North Branch...

I have been doing some reading about a recent presentation of the Industrial Corridor Modernization: North Branch framework plan - prepared by the Chicago Department of Planning and Development.

I would like to express my support that bird-safe building measures be required by the new North Branch Industrial Corridor Overlay zoning district - as well as the designation of wildlife priority areas with limited or low-impact access.

Thank you for working responsibly on behalf of our area's precious wildlife.

Sincerely,
Amy Mans

From: Thomas Graziano <
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:50 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Open green space/real park in North Branch Corridor

We as a community are asking for a true park to be included in the North Branch Corridor

The Fleet Management Site is owned by the city, carving a park within city owned property would be the most expedient avenue.

Let's do it!

Every neighborhood organization is in agreement, there is need for true park space and the Corridor provides a once in a lifetime opportunity for this space as Alderman Smith has stated.

Deirdre Graziano LCA Board Member
Sent from my iPhone

From: Harris Kay <
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:16 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I attended the meeting yesterday, March 14, at UI Labs. At this meeting/open house I spoke with one of the representatives of DPD. When asked about the public park space and why there wasn't anything in the plan regarding the amount of public recreational park space to be provided as part of the overall plan framework, she said that that would be addressed in the planned development process regarding the development of each parcel. I questioned this process, because by leaving the open space issue to the planned development process, rather than addressing it in the overall zoning plan, the City is reducing the overall size and scope of potential open recreational space. Why is the public recreational space going to be considered in individual parcels - why is it not being considered on a global level for the entire area that will be redeveloped. Additionally, why hasn't DPD weighed in what an appropriate amount of open park space is for the size and type of rezoning contemplated. Parks are and should be considered part of the City's infrastructure that contribute to quality of life, provides environmental benefits - such as helping with water drainage/flooding issues, raise property values of surrounding residences, which adds to the tax base. All of these benefits, and others, that public recreational parks add to the City are unfortunately being ignored in the existing proposed zoning plan. It is disappointing that this proposed zoning plan seems to lack significant framework that would make it a sustainable

plan.

Furthermore, when asked about the impact the rezoning and development would have on the local schools and noting that most of the proposed development area lies within the Oscar Mayer Elementary School and Lincoln Park High School attendance boundaries, the DPD representative stated that DPD contacted CPS and was told that there were other schools in the area that have space in their school. This answer hardly reflects any type of analysis regarding the impact that additional residential development could have on the local schools, but, rather, reflects the lack attention and concern for this very real issue, and, again, supports the conclusion that this planning process is not concerned with the sustainability of any development that occurs in this area or the impact it will have on the surrounding community.

Reatha Kay

Martin Jablonski Landmark Realty

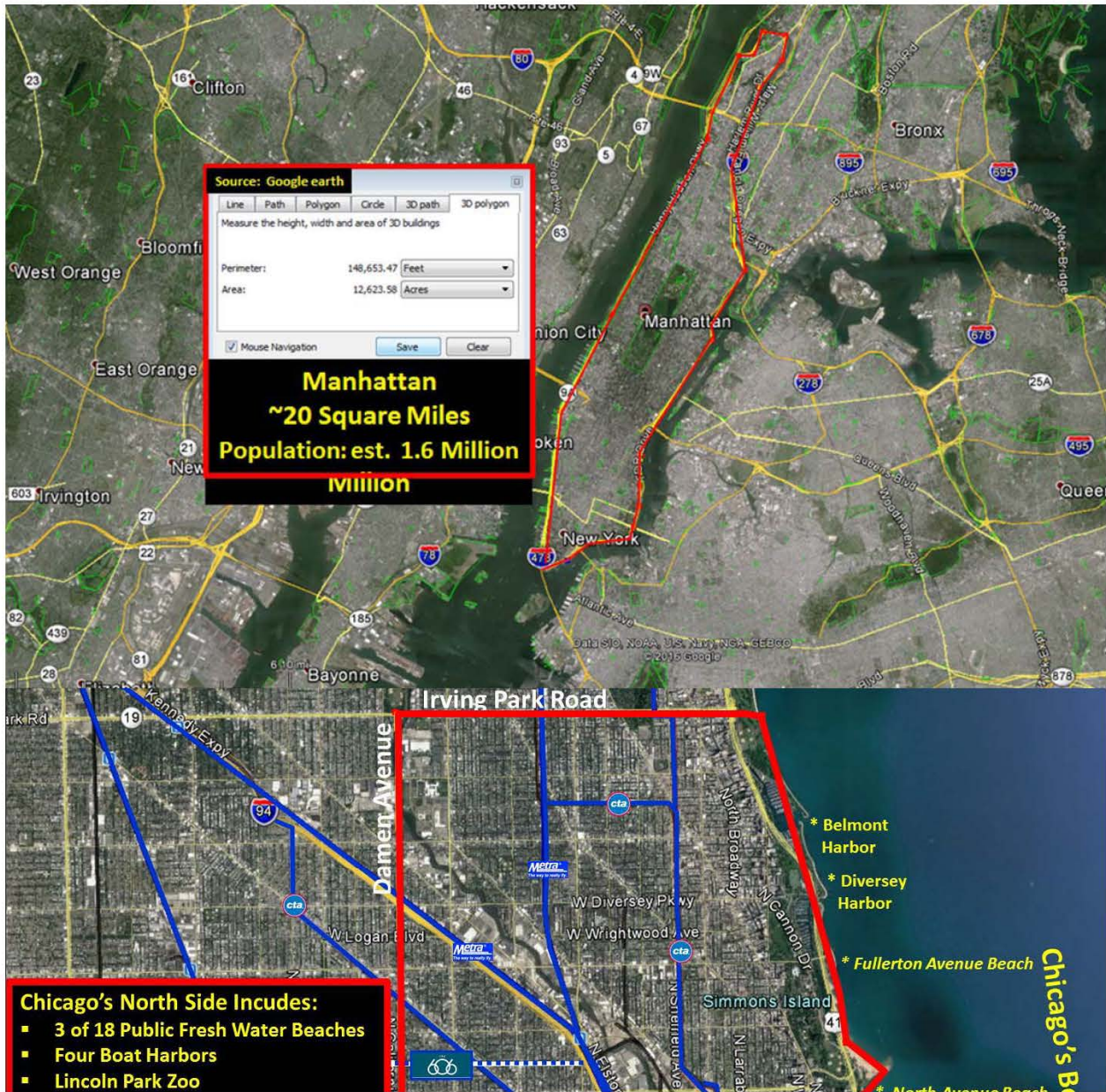
Hi Todd, the attached drawing was revised to respectively highlight Central Park in Manhattan and Lincoln Park on Chicago's North Side. If you think in terms of proportions, Manhattan is inhabited by some three to four times more people than Chicago's North Side; yet, Central Park is not that much larger than Lincoln Park.

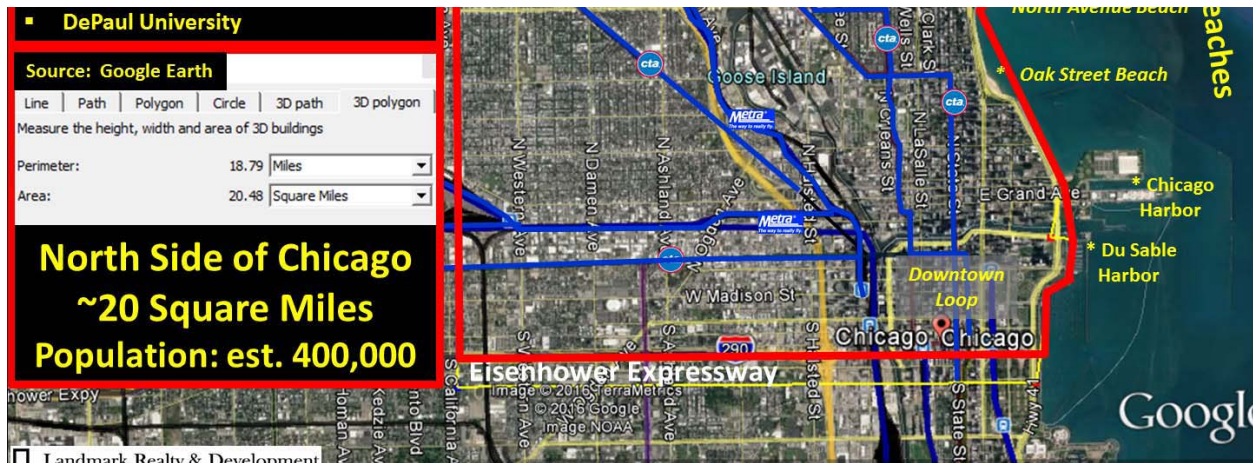
As always, your thoughts will be most appreciated.

Best regards,

Marty

Martin F. Jablonski
Landmark Realty & Development





From Julia Liu
Hello, Todd,

It was very nice meeting you last night. Thank you very much for following up!

I will talk with our neighbors and submit the concern to all of the channels you mentioned! I understand the urge to use land to generate fast economic return. But in the long run, the improvement of quality of life can attract a lot more talent and business and boost the economic growth. Bucktown/west town is underserved of public open space. A bigger park in North Branch Industrial Corridor will be great for this area and Chicago! We really appreciate your support!

Warm regards,

Julia

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 3:37 PM, Wyatt, Todd <> wrote:

Hello Julia, it was nice to meet you at last night's North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization – North Branch meeting. It looks like you reside in the 32nd ward - Alderman Scott Waguespack
I invite you to submit your comments and concerns regarding the information presented at last night's meeting to the Chicago Department of Planning and Development via email DPD@cityofchicago.org.
I have also added you to our database so you will be informed of future meetings on this topic. Thank you for your interest.
Todd

From: Nick J. Agliata Jr <
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:49 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Development - More Parks

I support the need for more park space in this development.

Nick J. Agliata Jr.
Owner



From: [Gregory Dreyer](#) <
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 5:01 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Draft North Branch Plan

I'm a 14-year resident of the area and a retired city planner. I attended the public meeting on March 14. I fully support the plan you are proposing. I am pleased to see the city taking advantage of an asset like the river and turning it in to a place that people can enjoy. I am hoping that the extensions of the river walk, the various pedestrian connections to Goose Island and the connection to 606 will be built. I was pleased to see the proposed park where the Greyhound facility is now. That seems far-fetched at this time, but my neighbors and I would welcome it.

In addition, the plan maintains the industrial/high tech nature of Goose Island and strengthens it. The improved transit recommendations will go a long way to improving employee access to these employment locations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this plan.

Gregory P. Dreyer, AICP

From: [Packham](#) <
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:56 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor needs park areas

Parks, parkland and playing fields should be included in the North Branch Industrial Corridor development plan.

Parks are a characteristic of Chicago neighborhoods. Development without parks does not fit the existing model.

Please provide generously for future generations. Don't be stingy with our future. Let's maintain Chicago as a livable, enjoyable city.

Valerie Packham

Valerie Packham

From: Andrew Szwak <
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:12 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Draft Framework Plan comments - Openlands

Please accept the comment below on behalf of Jerry Adelman.

Dear Commissioner Reifman:

I am writing to enthusiastically support the open space vision that your team presents in Draft Framework Plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

I serve as Chairman of the Mayor's Nature and Wildlife Committee (the "Committee"), which engages businesses, organizations, and agencies to encourage healthy urban ecosystems through public-private partnerships. I also serve as President and CEO of Openlands, one of the City's (and nation's) oldest metropolitan conservation organizations.

The Committee and Openlands jointly recognize that the riverfront, like the lakeshore, is a defining natural feature of Chicago. Consequently, Chicago's Nature and Wildlife Plan, developed by the Committee, identifies many priority Natural Areas along both waterways. Four priority Natural Areas fall within the North Branch Industrial Corridor alone.

The open space vision outlined as part of the North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Initiative successfully honors and incorporates priority Natural Areas into the Corridor's future development patterns. The vision identifies both the North Branch Canal and North Avenue Turning Basin as suitable sites for wetland re-creation and improved public access. It also notes the Goose Island Overlook and Webster Wildlife Site as 'civic spaces' where aesthetic features will be considered during future development. Such uses will promote healthy urban ecosystems at these priority Natural Areas, and I encourage the City to make them happen.

The open space vision also appropriately integrates recreational options into the Corridor. Increased open space and river setbacks in private developments will create space for ballfields and continuous trails for walking and biking. Improved viewpoints and pedestrian connections will entice residents to use these trails to interact with the river. In conjunction with the aforementioned Natural Area improvements, these recreational options outline a unique opportunity to re-connect residents with nature on the Chicago River.

In closing, I want to applaud the work that you and your team accomplished to develop the open space vision for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. It is an excellent model of how to integrate economically productive areas, socially pleasing spaces, and valuable natural habitat. I encourage the Chicago Plan Commission to adopt any rules, regulations, or ordinances necessary to realize this vision for the future of the Corridor.

Sincerely,

Gerald W. Adelman

Andrew B. Szwak, AICP
Planning & Policy Analyst



From: The Mellis Family [mail]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 7:56 PM
To: O'Donnell, Doreen
Cc: Gleason, Heather
Subject: Re: 2016 Land Acquisition Plan

my question is:

how many acres of open space per 1000 residents are in Community area 7 excluding Lincoln Park's 413.96 acres To make it easier

How many total acres of Open Space are there in Community area 7 Lincoln Park =

- 413.96 acres

Total acres of Open Space in Community Area 7 = Population of Community Area 7 = Acres per 1000 residents =

thanks

Allan Mellis

On Mar 23, 2017, at 4:21 PM, O'Donnell, Doreen wrote:

> Mr. Mellis,

>> Of the 1,188.62 acres of Lincoln Park , 413.96 are located within the Lincoln Park Community Area.

>> The 2016 Land Acquisition Plan outlines each park acreage. The Plan

> is on our website:

> <http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/departments/operations/planning-construction/>

>

> Doreen O'Donnell

> RE Mgr.

> Chicago Park District

> -----Original Message-----

> From: The Mellis Family [

> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:27 PM

> To: Gleason, Heather <

> Subject: 2016 Land Acquisition Plan

>

>> Previously sent

>> I just received an email concerning Community Area #7 Lincoln Park in your Land Acquisition Plan For the last 25 years, I have maintained that "regional parks" should only be counted for a percentage (e.g. 25 percent) of the community areas open space since they are used by many from outside the

community area The report on page 26 indicates that there are 6.98 acres per 1,000 residents in community area #7 Please provide me with the number of acres per 1000 residents if Lincoln Park (the park) is not included as local open space.

>

> I served on the CitySpace Committee and brought up this issue then.

>

> Nice Seeing you today

> Trail Comments to follow.

>

> Allan Mellis

Hi Todd,

Thanks for calling me back after listening to my message on voicemail last week. Apologies for waxing long on it. Below is the note I sent to the general DPD inbox and the reply I got last Friday.

I just wrote several paragraphs about my concerns for how far this city seems to be going from principles and practices espoused not only by Mr. Burnham (he was so exclusively lakefront-focused), but perhaps more importantly, by Jens Jensen, Dwight Perkins, Jane Jacobs, even Jane Addams -- eco and social justice issues. But deleted it here for now.

My recurring themes of concern for Chicago:

- balance high and low rise -- establish a "livability" benchmark or ratio/quotient
- keep a vibrant dialogue between new and old architecture
- comprehensive city-wide plan for all wards (less power at ward level; corollary fewer aldermen)
- not just "set asides for CHA" but a plan for where dollars taken from the massive investment in the central zones will actually benefit underserved and displaced communities
- clear environmentally and bio-friendly mandates and practices to include mandatory bird safe glass
- city-wide prioritization of green and public space at street level, more parks and play spaces, more art and plazas
- better and more transparent community engagement and inclusion in civic urban development decision-making (versus "community engagement theatre") or making decisions by narrowing the public input window to the tail end of the process when the major decisions have already been made
- undoing the wrongs of midcentury redevelopment CHA decisions
- desegregating the city

Tra la la. Another light-hearted saunter, she said, ruefully. As if we didn't have enough other things to worry about, huh? I smile, sadly.

So back to my focus here: North Branch Industrial Corridor modernization is a wonderful opportunity to try something new and better. More green, more bird-safety on the Chicago River for us and, more importantly, for future generations to come. Less congestion, less units, less money? Perhaps, but arguably, a better investment for the long term for everyone. A chance to gain international recognition for leading the way on this type of

redevelopment projects to include proven to be beneficial humane and environmental criteria.

Thanks for listening,

Amy Lardner



----- Forwarded Message -----

From: DPD <dpd@cityofchicago.org>

To: Amy Lardner <

Cc: Ward43 <

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 9:33 AM

Subject: Re: Bird-safe Building Measures and Wildlife Priority Areas -- North Branch Industrial Corridor Overlay

Thank you for your interest in Mayor Emanuel's North Branch Corridor Modernization in North Branch. Your correspondence has been received and will be reviewed by the appropriate city staff.

From: Amy Lardner <

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:47:35 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward43

Subject: Bird-safe Building Measures and Wildlife Priority Areas -- North Branch Industrial Corridor Overlay

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework plan to include:

- bird-safe building practices * attachment below
- designation of wildlife priority areas with limited or low-impact access
- real park space for recreation ** attachment below

I live not far from this area; I frequent the Clybourn corridor regularly, relying on it primarily for all of my shopping, as well as volunteering, visiting friends and exercise. I am excited about seeing this part of the river become a vibrant community for all.

Sincerely,

Amy Lardner

* [Bird-friendly building guidelines](#)

** [DNA Info: No New Park Space Disappointing](#)

Amy Lardner

PLEASE extend the riverwalk for walking biking and running include it in the Goose island revival revision proposal

8:25 AM - 30 Mar 2017

From: [R.Peter Carey](#) <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:56 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Peter Carey

Subject: North Branch Framework Plan and Design Guidelines

This is an excellent proposal to increase biking, walking and exercise in the Chicago area. I support it fully.

Peter Carey

R.Peter Carey

From: [Kevin Lynch](#) <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 7:04 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North branch pmd

I'm amazed you only got 5 response

You must be doing something right

Looks like a great master plan

Count me as positive comment # 6

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christopher Walvoord](#) <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 8:35 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Plan

Dear Planning Commission,

First let me say that I appreciate all the information that has been shared regarding the plan for the North Branch industrial corridor. I have lived in the neighborhood for over 25 years and seen some fairly significant changes in the neighborhood. I always enjoyed walking past the Finkel steel plant and seeing the giant cauldrons of molten metal. I miss their presence in the neighborhood as it contributed to the diversity and fabric that made living here a broader and richer experience.

I hope that the future plans for this area continue to include some industrial presence. I also hope that the plan encourages people like me who walk, run and bike around the area to do so more often. A connection to the 606

trail across the river would go a long ways towards that end and also help congestion on the Cortland bridge, one of the far to few roads across the river in the area.

I also appreciate that one of the things that helps the city prosper is density. More people can support more businesses within a given area. Adding some residential capacity to the corridor is probably a good thing. I also appreciate the need to balance density with open space and the area along the river seems an ideal place to maintain some open space as it is essentially doubled by the open space of the river itself. A continuous path along the river and some adjacent parkland should be a high priority.

Finally I would encourage the Commission to think hard about ways to improve the traffic patterns in the area. Over the past 25 years both Clybourn and Elston avenues have gone from quiet “back ways” of getting around to highly congested thoroughfares. The intersection of Cortland, Clybourn and Racine is particularly problematic with the lights at Clybourn and Racine continually out of sync with the ones at Marcey and Cortland less than 100 yards away. This causes needless back-ups and delays.

Again, I appreciate the transparency of the process and hope some of these suggestions can be accommodated.
Kind regards,
Chris Walvoord

From: [Juliet](#) <
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 10:52 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Framework Plan Comments

It is critical to minimize congestion-especially on the streets. The increase in Uber etc car sharing has dramatically increased traffic. The old metrics of building high density housing near public transit and not recognizing that this new phenomenon will put much more car traffic on our streets must be addressed.

Another crucial consideration: the area needs significantly more green space. Parks, walking areas etc.
Sent from my iPad

From: [Steve Lipe](#) <
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 11:46 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Framework Plan

1) New vehicular bridges at Southport and Blackhawk - I think the fundamental planning issue with redeveloping this area is transportation. Because of the River and the Kennedy Expressway this area has been a bottleneck for years. This is a problem now, and will be an even bigger problem with the massive influx of population and jobs with redevelopment.

I think the transportation plan is very weak and lacks vision. At one of the recent meetings (February, I believe) your own transportation consultant recommended a new north south bridge connecting Southport with Throop and two bridges across Goose Island via Blackhawk. Those bridges should be the flagship transportation improvements that occur as part of the redevelopment. You will get public

support for both of them. I am very disappointed those are not in your final plan. The bike path, pedestrian bridges and the extension of the 606 are nice window dressing, but there is no way they move nearly as many people to, from and through the area as adding these vehicular bridges. If the transit way happens that is great, but it is very difficult very expensive and, like the downtown circular, the high speed line to O'Hare, the Ashland BRT, and the CTA Circle line, it will likely die on the vine. I know the City has no money, but there is so much momentum in this area that there is certainly enough funds to skim off enough for the new bridges—TIF or SSA could be used along with direct funding as part of development approvals. AT A MINIMUM, hire the engineers to locate and design the bridges, and require right of way to be set aside and buildings to be sited accommodating future roadways and bridges in development projects. Most property owners would jump for joy suddenly having a dead end side street converted to a minor arterial with a bridge over the River. They would gladly help pay for it because of the increase in their property value.

2) Better connections to Red and Blue Lines – This area is not only a bottle neck it is quite far from mass transit lines. The Metra at Clybourn is nice, but it is point to point, doesn't run often enough, and is poorly connected to other mass transit options. The walk circles DPD presented at the February meeting were misleading because they did not take into account physical barriers of walking from the area to the mass transit stops—especially to the Blue Line. It is a very long desolate walk from and along Elston to the Division Street Subway stop. There is also no plan for improving the pedestrian access and experience under the Kennedy and across the very busy entry and exit ramps at Division, North and Armitage. I would suggest a circular that the CTA, or even a privately run bus company managed by property owners, that operates routes connecting the area to the Metra, Blue, Red and Brown line stops. It could serve not only new population but existing population. When we developed 600 W Chicago (known as e-port originally) we were even closer to the Chicago Avenue stop on the Brown line and a similar distance to the Blue line. Still there was a concern about transportation access. We started a privately operated, high quality bus known as 'e-port transport' that brought workers from mass transit to 600 W Chicago. Fifteen years later, management of that building still feels it is an important enough amenity that it is still operating as the 600 W Chicago Shuttle. <http://600westchicago.info/main.cfm?sid=bamenities&pid=shuttle> I believe the buildings around Illinois center also operate one or more shuttles from the trains to Illinois Center.

3) Open Space and Parkland – some comments.

A) A small skate park near Walsh Park and the current termination of the 606 may be ok, but it should be a small part of more active recreation uses there. Specifically nearly all basketball courts have been eliminated in Bucktown and Wicker Park. There are no tennis courts anywhere.

B) I agree with the plan that the open space should be accommodated with each development proposal instead of designating a park site in set stone now. That assumes you end up with a couple large projects. It may not turn out that way. However, there should be a little more guidance. You'd be better served suggesting a few areas where parks or publically available open space should sit with their exact configuration to be worked out later. Also, a project is free to suggest an alternative, but the overall requirement would be similar, and it would give the public and DPD something to measure against.

C) Following up on the above. There is a big demand for one or two large areas for active open space. As a parent of two sports oriented girls. Heading from Bucktown to the far north Lakefront for access to soccer fields is a drag. I know we are not the only parents making that trek. There is no other option but to drive with kids across town like that. Keeping more people off of the road with shorter trips is better for everyone. There are very few place for active recreation near this area. The Logan Square

open space plan which I participated in over decade ago identified it is a problem. The 606 is great, but more is needed. It seems a wasted opportunity to not find a large area place for recreation somewhere.

4) Land use and site planning, parking – details are still vague on this. But there should be a strong discouragement for surface parking. Some parking is unavoidable, but structured or underground is preferable. Also, parking uses should be open to the public (for a fee). North and Clybourn is an example of exactly how not to manage it. There is plenty of parking in that area, which encourages driving but most of the lots are free. And, since they are mostly free, they are managed by the towing vultures that don't allow customers to leave the lots to shop across the street. So, people drive their cars to go a couple blocks. Having people park once is best. If they pay they will leave their car and walk from shop to shop.

Thank you for considering my comments. In general, I am pleased that more uses than industrial are finally being considered in this area. While well intentioned, holding development at bay to protect a few industrial users for 25 years probably generated poorer land use results than letting them relocate one by one with new developments with wider uses taking their place. The strip malls that line Clybourn and north Elston have made traffic worse and kept property taxes and City revenue lower than they would have been otherwise.

Steve Lipe
Steve Lipe
Lipe Property Company

From: Michele Dreczynski
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 11:56 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Potential Education Resource Development on Goose Island

Dear North Branch Works,

Has anyone suggested the development of a training facility, perhaps City College run, to do workforce education for the jobs that are being proposed on Goose Island and the Fulton Market Tech Corridor. Is there a para professional Light Tech manufacturing/design sequence in City College? It would be fortuitous to somehow tie education development into employment opportunity. Could be in tandem with UIC Design labs.

There is a hole in Chicago City College coverage here on the Near North side. Closest CCC is Humboldt Park Vocational, Harold Washington Downtown, or Truman in Uptown. CCC Goose Island could also be paired with Lincoln Park HS, Noble Charters, and Wells HS to provide tech training for those students not college bound. Kind of like what was done at Austin Politech program light manufacturing program where after HS graduation there was a post graduation program to teach machine skills and then companies like Dudek would employ graduates.

Rather than another SES CPS High School how about a Goose Island City College instead?
Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this idea.
Michele Dreczynski

From: [Derek Ward](#) <
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 2:46 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Framework - Comments from a Neighbor

Hello -

Personally, I am affected by this plan and would first like to compliment the group heading up this effort for your forward-thinking notions to improve these highly valuable areas. I live on Kingsbury St between Chicago and Division and my condo building has direct access to the riverwalk. I constantly say to myself, why isn't there more riverwalk! It's such a unique and beautiful component of this city and a major differentiator along that particular area, and I only wish there was more access like that available. I highly encourage the committee and commission to continue to focus on lengthening the riverwalk with more connecting points both south and north.

I could also be professionally affected by this plan. I am employed by a large-scale construction management firm who specializes in public sector projects. If you need the expertise of a firm like mine, I'd be more than happy to meet and discuss our capabilities and the potential impact of this project. We have 2 offices in Chicago and are nationally renowned. If there is an opportunity to elaborate, please let me know.

Thanks,

Derek

From: [Warren Baker](#) <
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:50 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourn Corridor

Dear Sir or Madam:

i live one block east of Clybourn in the 2nd Ward. As residents in closest proximity to the Finkl redevelopment area, we are the stakeholders with the most at stake. I speak for many of us when I say the following:

1. General Iron. General Iron must relocate to another part of the city. Alternatively, if they want to stay they must make the investment necessary to contain their operations by enclosing their operations. They have been serial polluters spewing their toxics throughout the neighborhood and we are sick of it; no pun intended. Enough is enough.
2. Infrastructure. Make sure you get it right. When Finkl, Lakin, Guttman, General iron, were all operating at full

capacity, there were no more than 1,000 total employees per day converging on the area. Congestion was an issue then and navigating Cortland and Webster was challenging. A few years back, the Cortland bridge was shut down and traffic all around Lincoln Park was grid lock. Ambulances, fire trucks, police cars, etc could not navigate westbound on Webster. Webster was backed up all the way to Lincoln Avenue. With Sterling Bay is proposing plans that will have 10,000 to 15,000 employees per day converging on the area, it doesn't seem adequate that expanding the Cortland and Webster Bridges only without adding additional east/west thoroughfares will be enough.

3. Benefits. All of us know that our quality of life will be undermined for the foreseeable future. Costs to us will be congestion, diminished property values, etc. We might be okay with these "costs" so long as we can understand what the "benefits" will be. We need to understand what the benefits will be. Sufficient infrastructure improvements? For example, is the city going to make infrastructures starting at the Kennedy Expressway off ramp on the west to Clybourn on the east? Additional east/west thoroughfares? Open spaces? School? Police/Fire Station? In other words, tell us what the benefits are going to be so that we can decide if the costs are worthwhile.

Right now, we don't know what those benefits are. Hopefully you don't let Sterling Bay get away with short changing the community.

From: [Esther Charbit](#) <
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 12:37 PM
To: DPD
Subject: General Iron

I have lived directly in front of General Iron for 32 years. The neighborhood has changed considerably and the fumes and dirt from this facility has gotten worse. Every so often explosions occur. The stench has caused me to suffer asthma attacks . It's time for General Iron to move out!

Esther Charbit

From: [Tulipan, Beth](#) <
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 12:40 PM
To: DPD
Subject: General Iron

Lincoln Park and its residential neighborhoods are NO PLACE for the likes of General Iron. If you're curious, come smell the air around our neighborhood when the plant is in operation. We are surely breathing in toxic particles as General Iron grinds away its metal refuse. Would you allow your family to breathe in this air? Time to send General Iron packing—into a neighborhood appropriate for industry like this.

Beth Tulipan
, Chicago

From: [daan ridder everts](#) <
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:01 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Framework (General Iron) feedback

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am emailing to provide feedback in regards to the North Branch framework.

I moved to Armitage and Racine several months ago with my wife and 6-month old daughter. I knew there was a recycling factory (General Iron) but each time we visited the home we did not see any spillover effects from the plant in regards to our building. We also assumed that since we were in a residential zoning area there were proper precautions taken in terms of putting civilians close to industrial enterprises.

Unfortunately, our pre-purchase visits were on low activity days. Since we have lived here, General Iron has been the bane of our existence. In fact, we will be looking to move again. I am amazed that the immediate area outside of General Iron has been zoned residential. On high activity days, we cannot open the windows or sit on our terrace, once can actually taste the emission from General Iron. Sometimes outside on the street, I will see people walking with scarves around their mouth and noses to protect themselves from the pollution. Our pollution detector (Awar) goes full tilt when the wind blows in our direction. On top of that is noise pollution - we have high-quality windows which the noise easily permeates. The hours of General Iron operations are also very long, much longer than they post on their website. Sometimes we are still hearing and smelling them at 9pm.

General Iron is a scourge on this neighborhood. I can understand that they may say they were there first. I completely understand that argument. But in that case, our building should never have been zoned residential. I definitely feel duped, and we unwittingly moved our little daughter in the shadows of a large polluter.

Any action against General Iron would be a huge service to this community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daan Everts

Ps - I may be paranoid but the activity at General Iron has been suspiciously low for the past 2 weeks. I believe there was an air quality test planned so I hope it was not during this time. Today it is back in full force and I can smell the plant as I am typing this.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:19 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Framework Plan and General Iron

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Lincoln Park residing at. My wife and I have called Lincoln Park home since 2013.

Given our location close to the Clybourn/Cortland intersection it's really jarring to see the difference between the recreational space on our East and to the west. The General Iron plan is the only remaining eye sore in what otherwise would be a picture perfect neighborhood for us.

We love to walk in our beautiful city and would love to benefit from the 606 trail but that would mean walking

through the General Iron neighborhood which frankly is not safe with our 5 month old daughter. I'm concerned about the safety of both our air quality and our neighborhood in general.

With the fantastic proposals being presented for the makeover of the old Finkl steel plant it would be really great if General Iron is removed from our neighborhood and the plan is extended to revamp that area into a public space.

A public swimming pool (similar to the one in Hamlin Park) would be a great addition.

Regards,
Siddhesh Sawant

19. From: [Mark Baker](#) <
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:44 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch - Industrial Corridor Modernization - Resident Feedback

Hi there,

I am a local resident in Lincoln Park and wanted to write in to support the North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Plan, and provide feedback as a local constituent as to what is most important to me.

- River Access & Park Space
 - Continuous public pathway/trail from downtown to the northern neighborhoods along the Chicago River
 - There should not be breaks in this path, even for incumbent manufacturing companies; we need to find ways to work with them to get around them in a safe way without impeding their work
 - Expanded public park (>30 feet) along the north branch of the Chicago river where it does not conflict with necessary manufacturing companies that must have river access
 - At least 1 significant park should be set aside in the open lot space in the North sub-zone
 - I do not feel we need space set aside for baseball diamonds or soccer fields as much as beautiful, unobstructed riverbank/hillside with nice new walking/running paths, open grass areas for people to sit, picnic, play catch, etc. and watch the river
 - New fenced in dog park with water access, preferably close to Fullerton where our closest true dog park is almost a mile away
- Transportation
 - Water taxi stops as far north as Webster/Fullerton into the city
 - A light-rail/people mover/trolley concept to connect N/S (Southport & Clyborn to North Ave) and/or NW/SE (Clyborn & Fullerton to North Ave)
 - A new bus route is not exactly exciting or innovative
 - Opening up N/S traffic via Southport to Cortland

Dallas, TX has done a fantastic job building and maintaining their riverside park along Turtle Creek and Lakeside Park, which extends a few miles throughout the city. Here are some pictures.



Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Mark Baker

From: [Jack Nicholson](#) <

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:04 PM

To: DPD

Subject: General Iron, Finkl Steel site comments

I live at with a terrace that overlooks the General Iron operation from the second floor. My number one concern is the airborne particulate matter that is deposited onto my vegetable planters on my terrace. There is little chance that at least some chemicals are being carried to the soil from which I grow tomatoes and other vegetables; which chemicals and their toxicity are

unknown, but given the diversity of scrap that is processed there, at least some of it must be dangerous.

I'm pretty sure that they are in violation of the OSHA restraining order that prohibits General Iron from releasing "fugitive particulate matter. I've spoken with EPA on the issue and have requested that they conduct more monitoring of the air quality; no response beyond an assurance that they're on the case....

The noise and visuals are unappealing, but I bought the place. I certainly didn't realize that the noise begins at 6:00 AM, 6 days a week; my realtor didn't take me to the property at that hour. However, it's time for this dangerous source of air, ground and water pollution to be moved to a more suitable location, at the very least. Ideally, a substantial mixed-use development that would include some employment to replace the scrapyards' jobs will replace this dangerous eyesore.

Sincerely,

Jack (John K.) and Georgia Nicholson

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:29 PM

To: DPD

Subject: General Iron

Lincoln park is a very special residential area in Chicago and must be protected and preserved from pollution, junk, noise and ugly disturbing business such as General Iron. General Iron must be removed from Lincoln Park.

Mohammed Salhoot

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Laura McLeod](#) <

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 5:40 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Contact list

Hi – Today I was reading your summary about the North Branch Corridor. I would like to be added to your contact list for upcoming community and stakeholder meetings. Thank you.

Regards,

Laura McLeod, Senior Associate

THE WEITZMAN GROUP | [w](#)

From: [Nick Patterson](#) <

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 3:15 PM

To: DPD
Subject: General Iron - Removal

Hello

I'm writing to express my feelings that General Iron should be removed from its current site in Lincoln Park.

I live with my family (3 young kids) just around the. The smell and noise that the plant produces is not creating a healthy environment for us to live in.

Nick Patterson

Kale Realty

From: [Anne Abramson](#) <
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 4:17 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Concern about General Iron

Greetings

I have been concerned about General Iron for many years now. One cannot help but notice this shocking eyesore and the toxic fumes it emits just steps away from retail and residential neighborhoods. One cannot help but conclude that the air, land and water in and around General Iron are heavily polluted. Testing will simply confirm what is obvious.

Recycling, especially the way General Iron does it, is a very dirty business. Environmental regulations set standards for maximum levels of individual substances but one should also consider the combined effect of emissions of multiple substances and the significant toll they take on human health. Dr. Devra Davis writes about these effects in her book [The Secret History of the War on Cancer](#) (2007). General Iron is simply spewing heavy metals and other toxins over a wide area, impacting all of us, but especially those in closest proximity to it.

General Iron has been allowed to operate this way for many decades now. I hope that something can be done soon to make General Iron stop polluting. I hope that residents don't have to wait even longer for our neighborhood to become the clean and healthy urban environment that it should be. No business should be allowed to operate at the expense of the health of its neighbors.

I am excited about all the great work that the Department is doing to improve the north branch industrial corridor by adding green space along the Chicago River. Thank you! Unfortunately, I don't know if those efforts can really come to fruition without also addressing the negative impact of General Iron.

Best,

Anne Abramson

From: [Tamara Roust](#) <
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 10:59 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Support river trail

I wanted to email you to express support for pedestrian and bike path along the riverfront. I think the current river walk as well as other bike and pedestrian path's like the 606 have shown how such projects can be very economically value adding to the city as well as surrounding communities. These projects increase property value and thus tax revenue to the city, encourage residents to participate in activities and get out of their cars and foster a sense of community.

Personally I rode a short distance on the riverfront path in Roscoe Village last weekend, and I stopped at two businesses along the way, one of which I had never visited before.

I encourage you to devote development resources to developing a river front path to connect to our Riverwalk and other paths.

Tammy
Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 11:39 AM
To: DPD
Subject: General Iron Polluters

They need to go. Clogging our streets and polluting our air. 600 truckloads a day in and out..

Hauling junk into Lincoln park from all over the region, grinding it up, and hauling it back out of the area makes no sense. Furthermore, the jobs are they provide are low paying (12-20\$/hr.) non union, many undocumented, non-city dwelling workers.

Get them out of Lincoln Park.

Patrick Heneghan
President
Heneghan Wrecking Company, Inc.

From: [Dorothy Collin](#) <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 12:45 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: north branch framework

I live a few blocks from the proposed development site and look forward to seeing the old Finkl property become an area of homes, retail, offices, and open space. I especially look forward to seeing the river bloom.

There are two issues that concern me and many of my neighbors. One is space for a park, a real park with fields and courts. I know that the city and Sterling Bay are reluctant to sacrifice revenue-producing land for a park. But if the idea is to attract residents to the new homes and offices, those are the very people who value recreational space. If the city and developer want to rent or sell to today's high tech generation, they should note that same generation likes the outdoors and recreation. In addition, residents of the nearby, already developed areas want a park. They would be more likely to patronize new businesses if there were a reason, such as a park, to go the new stores and restaurants.

In your plan, you have shown a concept of mid-rise buildings surrounding what you call a common. The open space surrounded by tall buildings looks a lot like the old, failed concepts for CHA projects. The future residents are no more likely to sit around on benches and sing kumbaya (sp) than the residents of Cabrini -Green were.

I assume you and Sterling Bay are looking for a deal with nearby residents. In exchange for more park space, the developer would ask for more height for their residential buildings. I and my neighbors will be curious to see what offers might be made.

There also is the issue of General Iron. Once the PMD is lifted and the area reverts to old zoning, where does that leave General Iron? Surely, the city and developer will find a way to remove this major source of air and noise pollution. No one is going to pay significant money to sit out on that common and breathe in the fumes from cars being crushed 12 hours a day. And you can't improve the river with General Iron sitting on its banks spewing mysterious bits of filth over all the those nice bike paths and canoes.

I know this whole North Branch development will take years and cost a billion dollars, more or less. The city and developer have spent a lot of time and money on plans, interacting with neighborhood groups, and subtly selling those plans, hoping to head off any opposition that might end up in a courtroom. I doubt if anyone wants a replay of George Lucas or the old Children's Memorial site. I would just ask that Sterling Bay and the city consider the neighbors who want nothing more than a nice park in what surely will be one of the great urban projects in the country.

Dorothy Collin

From: [matthew levine](#) <

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:09 PM

To: DPD

Subject: park space at North Branch Industrial Corridor at UI Labs.

Dear Sirs:

As a high school (Lincoln Park) and long-time youth soccer coach, I'd like to express my frustration with the lack of fields in the city.

Not all schools have field space, Chicago Park District or otherwise, next to or near their building. Many schools travel one hour or more to HOME games to find an available and playable field. Students miss classes to get to the fields and valuable free or homework time to

travel back to school after the matches. A 9:00 pm dropoff time at school is not unusual for games which require bus travel.

We have traveled to fields only to find them booked twice and unavailable. We have also had to forfeit games due to lack of field availability,

Middle schools, for profit leagues and high schools all compete for the same fields. I often believe I have experienced more competition FOR the fields than I have ON the fields themselves, especially if for "last-minute games" such as city playoff matches. And many fields are used by dog walkers. Children are exposed to the "remnants" of the walks, which can't be picked up completely.

Overuse does not allow the fields to recover or to be properly maintained. Most were grass and are now dirt.

The huge growth of soccer at schools and in youth and adult leagues (which all require fields for practice as well as for games), rugby, lacrosse, and field hockey continue to increase pressure on our already over-stressed fields. Field rotation is one of the few solutions, which is nearly impossible. The other solution is to place artificial turf on the fields. With the overuse of the fields, even those fields do not hold up.

One or two more new fields will not solve the supply/demand problem, but it would be a start.

Matt Levine



From: [Lynne Remington](#) <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:10 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Corridor

Hello,

With the congestion in the neighborhood having more development (e.g. Finkl corridor redevelopment) and not giving the people the allowed public green space is not only a disappointment but should be a crime. Please give the heavily tax paying people the deserved green space so that everyone has a place to get relief from the crazy busy City.

Sincerely,
L. Remington

From: [Rob Hart](#)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:12 PM
To: DPD
Subject: We need a 15 acre park on the Finkl Steel Site

We need a 15 acre park on the Finkl Steel Site. Population density is increasing in many areas of the city but parks and other infrastructure are not being expanded accordingly.

Mary Beth Powers

From: [Rob Hart](#) <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:10 PM
To: DPD
Cc: 43rd Aldermanic Office
Subject: We need a 15 acre park on the Finkl Steel site

I concur completely with this recommendation: "The redevelopment of the 47-acre Finkl Steel site should include a neighborhood park of approximately 10 acres Oz Park, 13 acres is the only neighborhood-sized park in the 43rd Ward. . . . Large sections of the 2nd, 32nd and 43rd Wards do not have a park within a half-mile walking area required by the city's development guidelines."

There seems to be a boom of apartment and condo construction going on all over the city but there is no boom in expanding parks to accommodate the increased population density in some areas of the city. The Finkl Steel site should include a 15 acre park.

Yours,

Rob Hart

I am fundraising for the Lurie Cancer Center and participating in the June 4, 2017 Celebration Walk & 5K. Here is my fundraising page if you would like to donate: <https://cancer.northwestern.edu/walk/fundraising/mypage.cfm?kwofrid=HD7Q639>.

From: [Lilli M. Scheye](#) <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:14 PM
To: DPD
Cc: michele smith
Subject: Park space

The redevelopment of the Finkl property needs to include park space so that the density is reduced and the city remains habitable with comfortable open space. Don't make our neighborhoods so congested and family unfriendly. Spaces should be designed the sake of the community that we live there and not for the preference of the developer.

From: [James Frainey](#) <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:17 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Finkl Site Development

As a lifelong Chicagoan, I oppose the lack of recreational space in the current plan. This site should have 10 acres of a neighborhood park.

We live, work and play here. We do not want the plan for this open space to be dictated by developers.

James Frainey

From: Emily Draper <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:13 PM
To: DPD
Cc: yourvoice@ward43.org
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Need for Park Space

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for including dedicated park space, including park space large enough for recreation fields, in the development plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This corridor provides tremendous opportunity to provide more dedicated park resources to residents of the surrounding areas and new residents that will be coming to the corridor in the future as part of new development.

I am a current resident of Lincoln Park and have lived in the neighborhood with my husband for over 12 years. We now have two small children in our family (ages 6 and 3). Park space is essential to us and our quality of life in the city. My family spends many hours at parks across the city for organized sports, recreation, etc. with a lot of time spent at the park closest to our home, Oz Park. Without this, we would have a hard time raising our family in the city.

The increasing number of developments that include residential components (including the North Branch Industrial Corridor) will only put more pressure on existing park space. Setting aside dedicated park space in this corridor will help alleviate this pressure and contribute to residents choosing to remain in the city instead of moving elsewhere.

Thank you,

Emily Price

From: Anne Moore <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:32 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Green space within North Branch Industrial Corridor/Sterling Bay development

I am unable to attend April 7 hearing. Please accept these thoughts.

Department of Planning and Development,

I've been a resident of Lincoln Park for more than 30 years. I live on the east side of Lincoln Park, close to the park and Oz Park and one block from Bauler Playground. Those green spaces have been and are invaluable to me and my family. Daily I walk the Lincoln Park boardwalk and on to the lakefront. My children played soccer, basketball, baseball, flag football, field hockey, and sledged in Lincoln Park and Oz Park. My husband cross country skis in Lincoln Park. What a wonderful urban life!

I'm writing today imploring you to include a large swath of green (10 to 15 acres) within the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Residents in west Lincoln Park lack a large public green space within a half mile walk, as required by city guidelines. New residents and workers in the redeveloped area would also benefit from a large green space, as such areas foster community, athleticism, well being.

Thank you,

Lincoln Central Assoc. board member and chair, zoning & planning committee

ANNE MOORE

CHICAGO JOURNALIST
WWW.ANNEMOORE.NET

From: Collin Sprau <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:32 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Finkl Steel site

The 43rd ward is already woefully underserved regarding adequate park and open space relative to existing and coming population density. It will be a gross disservice to the 43rd Ward residents and property owners if there is not at least fifteen (15) acres of park space as part of the redeveloped Finkl Steel site. And to be clear, I am talking about acres beyond what will be part of any river-walk space. This Finkl Steel site is a rare opportunity to serve the residents appropriately - - don't squander it please.

Collin and Kathy Sprau

From: Laura Watson <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:33 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: RE: North Branch Draft Framework Plan and Design

To Whom It May Concern:

As a long time resident of the 43rd ward (18 years), I am deeply disappointed in the fact that there is not a proposed park for the North Branch/Former Finkl Site. I am fortunate enough to have access to Oz Park and Lincoln Park, but not all people are so lucky. I agree with Ald. Michelle Smith that we have a

once in a generation opportunity to provide some green space into an otherwise untapped area. I urge the city to please reconsider this proposed plan and please consider what our city will look like in 100 years. YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO THAT NOW!

Best,
Laura Watson

From: pedigob <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:39 PM
To: DPD;
Subject: Open spaces/parkland

Hello,

I've been a 43rd ward resident for 25 years and have seen the overcrowding increase, seriously impacting the quality of life.

We need more park space per resident, not less!

25 acres of parks should be the minimum target for this development.

Bruce Pedigo

From: C <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:41 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD team,

Please know that balance and harmony in urban living lead to increased prosperity through higher property values, reputation and quality of life.

After recently attending a business conference, I can tell you that Chicago's reputation appears to be in decline. Corruption and violence top the list of anecdotal remarks I frequently hear.

'Developer driven' public space reinforces outsiders views of our city. More importantly, citizens of Chicago suffer from a lack of public spaces.

Hopefully, the DPD will reconsider its plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor and take into consideration long term thinking that is in the interests of the people of Chicago and economic growth.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Best,
Chris Recker

Chicago

From: Susannah Manheim <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:45 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Park space

I'm writing to echo many of my neighbors concerns that the Finkl steel development site and surrounding area do not include enough open recreation space.

Oz Park is not enough room for this busy neighborhood as it is - let alone when you add hundreds to thousands of new residents.

Imagine how stunning a river walk - for runners, cyclists, walkers and strollers- could be there with the views of downtown around the bend.

Imagine how happy neighborhood dogs would be with an enclosed dog play area - there isn't anywhere nearby.

Imagine playgrounds, sports fields, picnic areas, kiosks with food and drink options.

Please, have the imagination to totally rethink this decision

~~Susannah Manheim

From: Hilary Branch <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 3:59 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello, I'm writing to make an official comment about the North Branch Industrial Corridor rezoning. I am disappointed that there is no recreational space required in the 43rd ward, where I own property. Recreational space is critical to the vitality of a neighborhood and, if we are going to the trouble of overhauling the Industrial Corridor, including the Finkl Steel site, it would be a grave misstep to omit park space. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to make park and recreational space a required element of future plans.

Thank you,

Hilary Branch

From: kristine kinder <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:17 PM

To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Department of Planning and Development:

As long term residents of the 43rd Ward, we'd like to see a 10 acre neighborhood park installed within the redevelopment of the Finkl Steel site. As you know, the city's developmental guidelines require a park within a half-mile walking area. Our Ward is greatly underserved.

Thank you,

Charles and Kristine Kinder

From: Sari Kravitt <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:31 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: North Branch Development Disappointment

I am extremely disappointed about the lack of park and recreational space planned for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. As someone who is planning on raising a family in the area, I am going to consider other areas to live because of the lack of park space. Please listen to the people of your district when we say that we want more park space. The last thing we need is more congestion in that area from businesses and housing. Make it foot traffic congestion and bike congestion from the wonderful space that could be used for recreation, not for cars! Think about the people, not just your wallets. Please please listen to us!

From: Jeanne McMahon <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:37 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch industrial

Hello.

I've resided in Lincoln Park for approximately 20 years. I've seen the changes associated with developments.

We do not want a concrete jungle; that's not why we moved here. We need more parks and open land with the continued development going on.

We are not in favor of building this area up!
Best,

JAMcMahont

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kathy Schubert <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:45 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: Finkl Steel Redevelopment

I think it would be very nice to have a park in the former Finkl Steel property. We don't have enough of them in Lincoln Park. We could use a bicycle racing track and a jogging track. Separate, of course.

From: Bob Segal <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:55 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor, Public Comment

DPD,

As a Lincoln Park resident who walks, bikes and drives past the former Finkl Steel Site frequently, I was disappointed in two major aspects of the DPD's development plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor:

- The proposed density is way too high. Our neighborhood is already becoming surrounded by poorly zoned high-rise projects. The Finkl site density allowance would add to the problem. Besides changes to the neighborhood character, my main concern is the impact on traffic. Lincoln Park streets can barely handle the current traffic flow. Furthermore, Cortland, as a main artery to the Kennedy Expressway would likely become impassable at times. The density should be limited to a 3.0 FAR.
- The neighborhood has too little park space per resident. Allowing public space to be "developer driven," is an abdication of DPD's role as a guardian of the public good, and assures that little actual public green space would actually come about. DPD should follow the community input already received from neighborhood groups and require a 10-15 public park set-aside.

Thank you.
-- Bob Segal

From: Jane Kaplan <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 5:15 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Final property

Park please!! I'm a homeowner

From: Steve VanderVoort <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 5:18 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am deeply disappointed that the final draft of your plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor does not include adequate space for a public park. While I can appreciate the need for the City to raise money through property tax revenue, your plan counters the vision laid out by Daniel Burnham a century ago that made public space a priority for the City. Our neighborhood parks in the area are significantly over-used at this point, and by providing for increased density without providing new public park facilities will make the situation even worse. This short-sighted approach is reprehensible.

Steve VanderVoort

From: pedigob <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 5:24 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Re: Open spaces/parkland

Thank you for the response, but I question your depiction of this as Mayor Emanuel's initiative.

Are we then to believe the aldermen have no say in the decision?

From: Bruce Alley <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 5:37 PM
To: DPD
Cc: y
Subject: Finkl Site Development Proposal

With so much talk about "access", "green space", "family friendly environment", bike lanes, etc., the proposed plan is puzzling and pretty disappointing. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to open space in a fabulous location, on the river at that, and we fear that the developers and perhaps even the DPD are taking a shorter term ROI view of this opportunity.

Many of our neighbors don't have a park within a half mile walk, which is a City guideline if I understand correctly. Therefore, this is a fabulous opportunity to right that "wrong". In addition, more recreation space and access will drive more citizen (voter) utilization and likely attract of visitors from beyond our neighborhood. Certainly, this should mean more revenue for our merchants, and maybe even more-enhanced property values.

We strongly urge DPD to instruct investors to take more of a longer view of their investment and go back to the drawing board and carve out at least 10 acres of park space for us taxpayers and our children.

Respectfully,

From: BOBBI ZABEL <

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 5:59 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor: public comments on redevelopment

The redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor is extremely important. As we eliminate a ground-breaking initiative (this being the first PMD), we need to ensure that this land is developed in a way that best serves the many interests of those who live, work and pass through this area.

The land along Clybourn has been established as solidly commercial and the opportunity to create residential opportunities along this area is certainly welcome, especially as much of it will contain business space. The younger generation values the opportunity to live, work and recreate all within a contiguous area. The value of the commercial and “white collar” space is enhanced by mingling with residential opportunities.

Even more important, this area demands to contain green space. The western edge of the Lincoln Park area is solidly concrete, and land along the river offers a natural place for recreation. We need to have space here—not only does the space demand it (riverfront!! they’re not making it anymore!!) but the mental and physical health of those who will live and work here does as well.

Just as Montgomery Ward battled for a decade to preserve our lakefront, and we now applaud his vision, we need to ensure that this space contains significant space where people can gather and enjoy nature. The benefits of this are many, from relieving the natural stresses of urban life, to providing a natural, organic way for people to interact and bond. When you look at those gathering in Oz Park, on the beaches or in Millennium Park, it is apparent how important this is to our citizens. When you see the University Club’s membership increase due to its newly-acquired position next to the space where things are happening, you see how green space adds value to what surrounds it. When you see how the Highline and the 606 have been lauded for creating recreational opportunities among the density of the urban landscape, you know we’re on to something.

It is just plain stupid to value profits over people. As the city seeks to add people and businesses, it needs to ensure that they find space nearby to enjoy a gorgeous day, take a run to clear their head or stroll with their children. I hope you will realize how important it is to carve a significant “green” component into this development. The riverfront is solidly packed with development and this area badly needs its own green space.

Thank you for listening,

Bobbi Zabel

From: Jonathan Boyer [REDACTED] >

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 6:32 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Smith Alderman; Stockdale Judith; Jonathan Boyer

Subject: NORTH BRANCH framework plan - Finkl Steel Site- CONCERN

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

In response to the DRAFT Framework Plan for the North Branch of the Chicago River

I too share the CONCERN AND DISAPPOINTMENT that there is NO SIZABLE PARK LAND (AT LEAST 10 ACRES) or equivalent to OZ PARK = 13 ACRES PROPOSED FOR THE FINKL STEEL SITE

I HAVE LIVED IN THE 43 WARD FOR 40 YEARS and OZ PARK has been a fantastic source of recreation, natural beauty and play:

baseball games, tennis, kids play, picnics, gardening

FEW OF WHICH CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN SMALL LINEAL PARKS

THE VACATION OF THE FINKL STEEL SITE IS A ****UNIQUE**** OPPORTUNITY. to create LARGE natural OPEN SPACE

PARKS BUILD AND UNITE COMMUNITIES - IT IS THE ESSENCE OF PLANNING TO COORDINATE PLANNING WITH TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION.

IF YOU DON'T CREATE A 10-15 ACRE OPEN SPACE PARK IN THE FINKL STEEL PROPERTY - connected to the River Transportation - WHERE ELSE IN THE 43 WARD COULD IT BE CREATED???

I CANNOT FATHOM WHY A 10-15 ACRE PARK IS NOT PROPOSED BY THE DPD FOR THE FINKL SITE??

Please provide any reasons or logic for not including a 10-15 park on the FINKL SITE

Sincerely

Jonathan Boyer

Jonathan Boyer, FAIA

Principal

From: Judy Mansueto <

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 8:04 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Parks at

Lincoln park is in serious need of park space. We need your committees to understand this need. Please assign some of that land to parks for all the children and adults who live in our community. By not including open space for these activities, you are inviting people to leave the city and choose the suburbs to raise their children. We need viable families to staunch n the city to support the tax base. Please set part of this land aside for parks.

Judy Mansueto

From: David Clarke <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 9:57 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Smith
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I would like to comment on the "Finkl" site plan. I am surprised and disappointed that the 47 acre plan does not include any substantial park area. Where will the tenants of the new high rises play games, sports, exercise? On the walking path by the river? How can the residents of the area around 'Finkl' see that last possible area ripe for recreational activities be covered up by high volume housing, more cars, more congestion in the neighborhood. The river would form a great backdrop to a neighborhood gem - a green activity area.

So - let the locals enjoy a new PARK, a facility sadly missing in the western section of ward 43. They cannot all go to Oz Park or the Lakefront - they need space close to home.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE - let us have a PARK.

David Clarke

From: deborah.shefrin <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 10:40 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Feedback

As a property owner at, I am writing to express my concern for the lack of recreational areas for children and adults in your plans. Please reconsider

The aging population and the new young families with children who need out door spaces in addition to the very wonderful but crowded Lincoln Park

From: Kim Tharin <
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 10:46 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To the DPD,

It is with great concern that I write to express the need for more open spaces in the city, particularly the 43rd Ward. We are presented with a unique opportunity to provide a well planned development for the North Branch Industrial Corridor that will meet the needs of city residents for generations to come.

As a resident of the 43rd Ward for over 18 years, I now have the pleasure of raising my children here. However, as they become more and more involved in sports and activities, I find myself spending more and more time in the car driving further and further away because of lack of open space. One child plays soccer and his club team has discussed possibilities of building a soccer center in a northern suburb. Another child who has played baseball for 6 years with Oz Park Baseball League, is now on the waitlist because the number of interested players is far greater than the number of baseball fields available in the area.

I see the for sale signs popping up in our neighborhood each spring as our neighbors and friends decide to move to the suburbs where parks and space are abundant for children. Likewise, I watch the storefronts empty year and after year as consumers turn more and more to internet shopping. Please don't take away the opportunity for recreational spaces to be created and instead filled with constantly turning over retail space - we have enough retail stores in the area. Let's get this right and make the 43rd Ward a place where residents can enjoy what our city has to offer.

Sincerely,

Kim Tharin

Lincoln Park resident

From: Bob Meyers <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 9:10 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Finkl space

Parks, open space and children are what makes Chicago livable & desirable.

Don't skimp! One 10-acre park at a minimum plus play lots seems like a good starting place.

From: Tina Rosso <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:06 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Finkl stell site development

PLEASE don't over-develop this site, which is in an area that will desperately need a park! The City's guidelines call for parks within walking distance of highrise developments and it's good policy. What is the downside? less density and fewer fast food spots? PLEASE require a park as part of the redevelopment! It was once commercial space--turning it into residential and commercial space means there are different needs---and a park is surely one!!!

Christine H Rosso

From: barbara badger <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:46 AM
To: DPD; Michelle Smith
Subject: finkl development

The needs of the wards east of the Finkl site are not being met. We do not need more residential development. It already takes 15 minutes to leave the neighborhood. High-rises to the north & south of our neighborhoods do not need that stress on the west side also.

What we need is recreational space for families: an indoor waterpark and soccer field. A possible outdoor theater/concert venue. Parking for these facilities.

It is bad enough that our children have bad schools, we should at least have recreational facilities that our suburban get from their taxes.

barbara badger

From: John H Nelson <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 12:42 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Department of Planning

I have reviewed the Framework Plan Draft for the North Branch Industrial Corridor, and find it to be an exciting and forward thinking document in dealing with the changes that have occurred in the nature of and the requirements manufacturing in our city.

This was often an issue we had to deal with in the past when I served on the Chicago Plan Commission, and tackling this entire section, rather than piecemeal zoning revisions is to be lauded.

As a resident of the community, I do however concur with the alderman and neighborhood groups that with the likely inclusion of increased residential options, (and increased density) that the plan needs to incorporate additional neighborhood park space. The river front green space will be a wonderful addition and asset to the new development and the environment, but with the population increase there should also be park space large enough to accommodate sports activities.

As this development moves forward it will be in essence creating a new "neighborhood", and it should have neighborhood park(s) to serve the new population.

Respectfully



John H Nelson FAIA LEEDAP

From: JERRY JOHNSON <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 12:51 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Michelle Alderman
Subject: Redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corrido at UI Labs

To whom it may concern:

I was so very unhappy with your decision regarding this new development. This whole area stretching from the lakefront is becoming like New York. Just high rises everywhere, too many people and extreme congestion, both automobile and pedestrian. Not including parks in your plan is insane. Also allowing the base zoning to increase to 6.5 Floor Area ratio increases the density of people, thus increasing the need for open space and parks but you are not providing that necessary ingredient in your plan.

PLEASE reconsider this approach and stop this area including Old Town from becoming just rows and rows of high rises and no open space.

Thanks very much...

Jerry D Johnson

From: Linda Rosenzweig <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 1:11 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Northbranch Industrial Corridor

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As a life long resident of Chicago, from Hollywood Park (40th ward) to Hyde Park (5th ward) and the last 49 years in the 43rd ward, it has always been my understanding that much of the responsibility and mission of the Department of Planning and Development is to protect the City from the greed and avarice of developers using every square inch of land being developed for use at elevated floor area ratios. This is precisely the irresponsible behavior that is being proposed by potential developers of the Northbranch Industrial Corridor.

The Department should be able to satisfy part of its responsibilities by requiring the dedication of ample areas for open space, recreation , parks, paths, walk ways, and other uses, such as taking advantage of a natural amenity like the river for a a river walk, to be used and enjoyed by the general public. The

history of the City,,even before Daniel Burnham, imposes that duty on the Department as well as the broader concept of making urban areas livable.

Please do not abandon that portion of the trust placed in you by the citizens of Chicago to keep the City from becoming a dense area of brick.and concrete.

Sincerely,

Ellis Rosenzweig

From: Rachel Gunderson <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 3:00 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Needs Park Space

To the Department of Planning and Development,

Re: Redevelopment of the Finkl Steel Site and North Branch Industrial Corridor

I fully support an increase in density, IF and ONLY IF, it is accompanied by ample park and recreation space, and increased transit capacity. Therefore I strongly support principles outlined in the plan, especially 2.2, 2.4 and 2.6.

However, under principle #3, I hope that you will consider adapting the current plan to include the requirement of a public park at least 12 acres in size. A substantial park is needed to provide sports fields, and ensure that residents in the area have access to real green space, not just paved plazas or walking paths.

Rachel Gunderson

Chicago Resident

Rachel M. Gunderson

From: Anthony Bowker <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 3:38 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subect: North Branch Industrial COrridor

Dear Commissioner,

My family strongly endorses the recommendations made by my 43rd ward neighbors and community associations for the provision of significant public recreational space in the redevelopment of the Finkl, Guttman, and adjacent sites.

We have resided on Maud Avenue since 1989 and, over these twenty eight years of our residency, we have welcomed the significant and ever-increasing population density and associated traffic that reflects a vibrant commercial and residential community. We cannot afford to lose, for all time, the opportunity to provide the public amenities that will ensure the stable long term health of these wards as residential communities that will support the entire cycle of family life.

While the reservation of park space will result in the reduction of proceeds to the sellers of the former industrial properties, their rezoning for residential development still produces a huge increment in their value. Any abdication of the planning of open space to the property developers will naturally lead to the developers optimizing the spaces for the use of the new tenants/owners. We ask that you act in the interest of the entire community, not exclusively for the sellers and developers.

Thank you for your consideration,

Anthony Bowker

From: Warren Baker <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 6:46 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Re: Plan Commission to consider North Branch Framework in May

If you want to know about how people living around Finkl/General Iron feel, read this petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/residents-of-lincoln-park-general-iron-does-it-belong-in-lincoln-park>

Warren Baker

From: Sarah <
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 7:10 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Environmental hazard

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns! General Iron is an environmental hazard and does not belong so close to a residential neighborhood. It has been proven that it contaminates the air and the water and puts us all at risk, especially all the young children in our area. Let's take a stand, protect the current and future health of our families and the overall integrity of Lincoln Park by closing General Iron and making sure that the Finkl site is cleaned up, tested, and the future businesses in this area only elevate the health, livability and community of the prestigious and beautiful Lincoln Park neighborhood.

Thank you,

Sarah Rassey
Fremont St. resident and concerned LP homeowner
Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Saturday, April 8, 2017 1:50 PM
To: DPD;
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To the Department of Planning and Development,

The redevelopment of the 47 acre Finkl Steel site should include significant park space, at least 10 acres. The availability of open green space for outdoor sports activities, children's play area and thriving greenery would benefit all ages of community residents, not to mention adding positive benefits to the environment. These are the types of developments that truly benefit the hard working, tax paying citizens of the community.

Adding a development beyond the base zoning of 3.0 floor area ratio increases density issues and parking space concerns.

These are serious concerns of the community.

Thank you for your attention.

Diane Dybsky

From: Jim F <
Sent: Sunday, April 9, 2017 9:36 AM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD,

During the planning period I submitted a comment explaining the need for Chicago to open up park and recreational space in the North Branch area. There was no reply other than a cursory acknowledgment. Now the full framework plan has come out, and it lacks what everyone I know here in the DePaul area supports: significant open space.

Are you actually planning to permit high rises in this area without providing for sufficient recreational space to balance what would be a considerable increase in population density? If so, why? What about the public good? Your plan will provide profits to developers whose sole reason for being in their business is to make money-- private money.

The Finkl Steel site is a rare opportunity to plan for balanced urban development that includes what is lacking in my heavily taxed but park-poor neighborhood. There is a wealth of literature on the health benefits, physical and psychological, of well-designed green urban space. A park the size of heavily used Oz Park--13 acres--would still leave 33 acres for more population.

Let me add that the Chicago River's North Branch is potentially a rich resource for green development. Historically it is the reason Chicago is situated here, and property values go up where the city and the citizens take care of the river. Narrow pathways along the river, overshadowed by 6-story high-rises, are not anywhere near as valuable as a good-sized park.

So far this has been a truly undemocratic planning process. Please take into consideration the vast majority of citizens in this area who would, if you held a referendum, vote for more open parkland and recreational space.

Jim Fairhall

From: David Williams <
Sent: Sunday, April 9, 2017 10:49 AM
To: DPD
Subject: General Iron

DPD:

As a resident who lives very near the site, I reviewed the recently published North Branch Framework Plan Framework with great interest. Generally, the Plan looks terrific. My one principal concern is General Iron. As has been well-documented, they have been a "bad neighbor" on many different fronts. Their use no longer fits in this dynamic plan and even if it did the "dirty" and irresponsible manner in which they seem to conduct business should not be tolerated.

Thank you for your work.

David

From: Kathy Iatarola <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 6:32 AM
To: DPD
Subject: General Iron

Dept. of Planning,

We need to address the 1 lane (each direction) bridge that connects from the General Iron area to the Kennedy, Elston Ave, etc. No doubt there will be major gridlock throughout the day.

Sincerely,
Kathy Iatarola

From:
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:32 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Please include open/public park space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. I live nearby in the 43rd ward. It is a wonderful neighborhood with MANY families and lots of children. We pay very high property taxes. There needs to be more public space for encouraging our residents to enjoy and value Chicago and remain in the city.

Thank you for considering this request, and I urge you to make it happen.

Margaret Barber

From: William Barry <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:30 AM
To: DPD
Subject:

I think that your draft North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan and Design Guidelines is flawed due to a couple omissions.

In the proposals for the river edge design and uses, there is no mention of accommodation of power boats.

The North Branch is not a mountain trout stream and does not have navigational obstructions. It will continue to be used as always by power boats both commercial and recreational.

There should be acknowledgement that a marina might accommodate restaurant and retail space and be another economic engine.

A second unacknowledged opportunity is at the southern point of Goose Island where there is a fork in the waterway which is similar to downtown where the main branch forks. These forks physically force broad spacing between buildings on opposite sides and create a perfect context for super tall high rises. The downtown fork, being lined by high rises, is one of the most striking riverfronts anywhere, and it could be somewhat replicated. The southern point of Goose Island and opposite shores should be seen as an extension of downtown density wise.

William Barry

From: Jenna Baker <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:11 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch - Industrial Corridor Modernization - Resident Feedback

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a local resident in Lincoln Park, writing in to support the North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Plan. As a local constituent, the following is important to me:

- River Access & Park Space
 - Continuous public pathway/trail from downtown to the northern neighborhoods along the Chicago River
 - There should not be breaks in this path, even for incumbent manufacturing companies; we need to find ways to work with them to get around them in a safe way without impeding their work
 - Expanded public park (>30 feet) along the north branch of the Chicago river where it does not conflict with necessary manufacturing companies that must have river access
 - At least 1 significant park should be set aside in the open lot space in the North sub-zone
 - I do not feel we need space set aside for baseball diamonds or soccer fields as much as beautiful, unobstructed riverbank/hillside with nice new walking/running paths, open grass areas for people to sit, picnic, play catch, etc. and watch the river
 - New fenced in dog park with water access, preferably close to Fullerton where our closest true dog park is almost a mile away
- Transportation
 - Water taxi stops as far north as Webster/Fullerton into the city
 - A light-rail/people mover/trolley concept to connect N/S (Southport & Clyborn to North Ave) and/or NW/SE (Clyborn & Fullerton to North Ave)
 - A new bus route is not exactly exciting or innovative
 - Opening up N/S traffic via Southport to Cortland

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Jenna

Jenna Baker



From: Donna Gallery <

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:21 AM

To: DPD;

Subject: Redevelopment of Finkl Steel site

Appreciating that there needs to be a balance between developer driven commercial profit concerns and neighborhood quality of life considerations, the Finkl Steel site presents a unique opportunity to provide the 2nd, 43rd and 32nd ward constituents with a 10 to 15 acre park site that can benefit adults and families in an increasingly dense area starved for this type of green space. While an operating business, the Finkl firm made every effort to be neighborhood accessible and friendly - not an easy thing for a forger. We would hope that this spirit of neighborhood support could be incorporated in the development plans for the site in a meaningful way. It will be difficult to find another site of a sufficient

size to include park space of significant size in this area. We should not fail to capitalize on this opportunity.

From: Mike Rossmeier <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:42 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Park space for North Branch Industrial Corridor

It's insane to put numerous residential units into that acreage without developing a sizeable park also. Without it those residents will be driving to other parks such as Oz, thereby increasing traffic and contributing to crowded parking around parks in other neighborhoods.

Parks make living spaces less congested, more liveable, and also serve to keep more families in the city. It's still common thinking that if you have a child who wants to pursue athletics seriously, you need to move to the suburbs because of the facilities.

The feeling in my neighborhood is that the City spends and sometimes waste money in other areas, so they can find eliminate some waste to find funds for a major park.

From: Megan Williamson <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:53 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello

I cannot emphasize enough how much more green space we need in this part of the city! I live in Wicker Park and the park itself is much too small to give residents access to green space. I urge you to consider creating a real, authentic place for residents to enjoy an experience with Nature. I believe this to be even more important than sports fields.

Please do all you can to give us all an opportunity to have a place we can get to easily where we can catch our breath and enjoy our city in this way. Let's be an even better 'city in a garden!'

A link to a TED Talk that makes my case:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmmnEJ4rtCl&sns=em

From: bob chirinko <
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 4:26 PM
To: DPD; Ward 43; bob chirinko
Subject: North Branch Corridor Modernization Projec

Dear DPD and Alderman Smith,

I am writing to add my support to the growing chorus who wants to take advantage of a once-in-a-century opportunity -- the construction of a park of approximately 10 acres in the former Finkl Steel site that is under consideration by the DPD.

At the moment, we are short of parkland in the area. As this desirable site attracts more and more residents, that shortage will become more acute. It just makes so much sense to set aside the land now for the use of all of us now and in the future.

Moreover, an environmentally desirable site will attract homeowners, raise property values, and ultimately tax revenues. This is a win-win for both residents and the city.

So I ask you to consider doing the "far sighted" thing -- set aside the 10+ acres now, before the opportunity slips through our hands and down the river.

Sincerely,

Bob Chirinko

Lincoln Park

From: Jahnke Dale, Katie <

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 10:01 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Novak, Theodore J.

Subject: North Branch Framework - Public Comment re PMD Uses

Please see the attached public comment on the North Branch Framework (SEE LETTER #3 above). Please let me or Ted Novak know if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Thanks,
Katie

Katie Jahnke Dale
Associate



DLA Piper LLP (US)

From: Lesley Hamre <

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 12:15 PM

To: DPD

Subject: General Iron - Lincoln Park

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a resident of Lincoln Park, and am extremely concerned about the General Iron plant. I have a small child and am very concerned that her developing lungs are taking in the toxic air spewed by this monstrosity.

It is an assault on the senses - I can taste the fumes in the back of my throat both inside the house and outside, I can certainly smell it, it looks awful and completely out of place in what is now a very residential neighborhood, and there is a constant film of large particles (larger than dust) on my floors and in my home.

All winter long it has smelled terrible - I understand that they incinerate/burn items of unknown origin in their plant. But now that air testing is underway/imminent, the activity has DRAMATICALLY decreased. This cannot be a coincidence.

I understand that General Iron's stance is one of "we were here first". I acknowledge that. However, the area has changed, and is densely populated by families. An industrial plant has no place in Lincoln Park anymore. Zoning aside, I cannot believe that such a plant would be allowed to stay and pollute as they do - so close to a residential area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lesley Hamre

From: Brooke Weiland Houston <
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 2:47 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor plan

To the planners of the new North Branch Industrial Corridor (old Finkl steel site), Thank you for making the plans for this corridor publicly available. As a resident of the neighborhood, I am of course interested to see how the space evolves! I would like express my concern that the plans currently lack significant public park space. Our neighborhood is a thriving space for families with young children (like mine!), but we are already lacking in green space and recreational space.

The addition of more residential housing without the addition of park space concerns me greatly. Please consider revising the current draft plan to make this neighborhood more friendly for families (an additional playground and recreational fields) and for all residents (tennis courts, basketball courts).

Thank you,

Brooke Houston

From: Carolyn Grisko <
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 4:10 PM

To: DPD
Subject: North Branch

Dear Planning & Development Team,

The redevelopment of the old Finkl Steel site along the North Branch of the river provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to expand the City's green space. The plan, as proposed, is woefully lacking in park space and the children, dogs, families and residents looking for respite from the north side's urban landscape deserve better.

Thank you,
Carolyn Grisko
2nd Ward

From: Bryan Young <
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:59 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Comment

Ideas mapped out regarding the development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor seem nice and I appreciate the desire to extend the 606 trail, additional bike and pedestrian bridges over the river and an emphasis on creating riverside paths, but I do believe that additional park space needs to be included. I'm not asking for sports fields but larger grassy areas and wide spaces for plants and trees also are needed. Please don't allow this parcel of the city to just become a cement jungle. I'm fine with increasing the density and going vertical in the corridor redevelopment however emphasis also needs to be placed on public space, transit and multimodal access instead of making this the best opportunity for developers to profit. Please help build and enhance our city for the citizens and public first.

Bryan Young

From: Deborah Clarkson <
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:34 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: NORTH BRANCH PUBLIC CORRIDOR

AS A RESIDENT OF THE 43RD WARD

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS REGARDING THE NORTH BRANCH PUBLIC CORRIDOR

1) . 10 -15 acre park with field house and access to 1 mile of North Branch of river + extension of 606.

I would consider approve higher density (taller buildings) in exchange for open space.

Option: City of Chicago offer Land Swap to accomplish this.

A NEW PARK IS THE CENTRAL ISSUE - Bucktown, Lincoln Central, Sheffield and RANCH are severely under parked.

Only playlots exist, where the children age out by 8-10 years old.

- 2) . Development of TED - (Technical Employment District) to create jobs and to foster the city's new technology base

in the Goose Island PMD, DMDI - UI Labs - This is also of high importance, jobs, jobs, jobs.

- 3) . Limited residential, focused on those working in TED.

Enough residential to foster evening vibrancy and eyes on street safety.

- 4) NO BIG BOX retailers

- 5) Limited retail, so as not to rob existing struggling retail from Armitage/ Clybourn/ Lincoln/ Halsted

- 7) Traffic studies to improve crosstown traffic, possible additional bridge across North Branch or put the

ONUS BACK ON DIVISION STREET TO IMPROVE THEIR BRIDGE.

- 6) Emphasis on the pedestrian!

Emphasis on TOD!

Emphasis on bicycles!

Improved access to Metra stop and crosstown bus-

Link between Bucktown/Lincoln Park

NO PLANNING DISASTER AS THE TRAFFIC REWORK AT FULLERTON/ELSTON/DAMEN

The pedestrian has been completely cut off from accessing Logan Square via Fullerton.

- 7) School study - these residents will attend little Lincoln and LPHS - already stressed to accommodate

the new Children's development.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Clarkson

From: James Walsh <

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 4:50 PM

To: DPD

Cc:

Subject: Industrial Corridor Plan

I am writing to emphasize the need to enhance the allocation of public park space in the redevelopment of the Finkl Steel site. The current slate of green space in Lincoln Park is woefully short of the demands of our daily population. Additionally, the neighborhood becomes significantly more stressed on

weekends (i.e. prime time to be outside with your family or friends) due to the major retail shopping destination which has formed around Whole Foods on Kingsbury. It's not uncommon for me to take my kids to Evanston or to the Chicago Botanic Gardens to ride bikes or to play sports. I have chosen to live in Lincoln Park knowing that outdoor space will always be at a premium and disadvantaged compared to the suburbs. However, with an opportunity such as the Finkl redevelopment, it would seem short-sighted to omit a proper green space (e.g. 10 acres) with benefits extending to Chicago residents for generations to come.

James C. Walsh

From: Susan Schwendener <
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 5:40 PM
To: DPD;
Subject: Comments on redevelopment of former Finkl Steel site

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to reiterate the comments of 43rd ward resident Ms. Erma Tranter regarding the redevelopment of the 47-acre former Finkl Steel site. She stated the City of Chicago's development guidelines require a park within in a half-mile walk of all residents to build a park of approximately 10 acres.

I have lived near Armitage/Sheffield since 1990, and I would love to have a park that is not a playground. We have the Adams Park and other playlots for children.

I would like the park to include several elements: a lawn where people can sit and enjoy the space; a public access ramp to the Chicago River; bike racks; and a space for community gardening.

Please do comply with the City's development guidelines. We need some breathing room!

Thank you,

Susan Schwendener

From: Rob Hart <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 10:36 AM
To: DPD
Subject: You obviously don't give a crap about what people in the area think

You obviously don't give a crap about what people in the area think about the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor and the need to include a substantial park area or to limit the height of the buildings to be constructed. But what else is new! Money talks and everyone else can take a walk.

Yours,
Rob Hart

From: Janice Orenstein <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 9:41 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Recreational

Space

Please expand recreation space and dog Park possibly along the river for the new industrial corridor in Michelle smiths ward

Janice Orenstein

From: Nancy Woollard <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 9:22 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Development

It's astonishing to me that the city can go along with development of such a large parcel of land and not include some green space. That neighborhood is dismal enough as it is. A park and surrounding playgrounds would be a appropriate and welcome addition to that area. Earth day is coming. Let's celebrate it in an appropriate manner.

From: Deborah Yoshizumi <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 9:22 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Draft Framework Plan and Design Guidelines

Hello,

We are residents of the 43rd ward. Our concerns about the North Branch Plan is that there be adequate open space for parks and playgrounds and enough parking to help reduce congestion.

Sincerely,

Curtis and Deborah Yoshizumi

Hi Todd,

Very sorry not to have returned your call sooner. Found your voicemail today.

Copied below this note is my CONCISE note to DPD sent 3/24.

My longer voicemail and qualitative note can be summed up as this: with all these many many newly built, in progress and pending major development projects, how and where is the City prioritizing trees, parks, green spaces, health, community, wildlife friendly, bird-safe development?

How are these plans being integrated into a vision for the city as a whole? Where and how are these projects being assessed against climate change resilience criteria?

Are there mandates from the city for new developments to use bird-safe glass, use permeable pavement, provide x% of green space, provide space for city dwellers with dogs and children to recreate safely and apart from each other, not just on the roofs of private spaces for new condo and apartment dwellers, but at street level...And if not, why aren't there?

Why are we not also articulating where precisely housing for CHA and development in under-served communities will go and when it will be built, and how those projects are actually happening?

How is the city valuing urban historic landscapes and streetscapes, diversity of age and size and height, to preserve interesting streetscapes, build strong community and interaction? Why are we reading that Federal Plaza is endangered, that the famous Calder sculpture may be donated to the Art Institute if the highest bidder may be found so that that iconic, classic, beautiful timeless Chicago landmark urban space can be "redeveloped"? That and the Picasso sculpture, the Miro, the Dubuffet, the Chagall, the now gone Calder in the Willis Tower, the now missing Henry Moore, along with all the other truly great sculpture -- these works are invaluable character notes; they make Chicago special.

Where is the sense that what makes Chicago the most valuable and the most interesting is not seeing how many glass curtain wall highrises can be erected in the least amount of time to sell / rent condos and apartments to affluent urbanites and fancy retail stores, but rather, taking deliberate steps to balance the new wave of very commercial projects that stack glass boxes atop parking or retail, lot line to lot line, with character, charm, green, community, placemaking, art, plazas and more.

Near me, the Clark and Division area? River North? Walter Burnett's Ward? Is it all going to soon look just like Midtown Manhattan, but without Central Park? Or like Sandburg Village? Though at least Sandburg Village was built around a large landscaped plaza with trees and pathways.

Atrium Village, Cabrini -- these developments, for all of their many challenges, were situated in real landscapes, with mature shade trees, lawns, play spaces, parks, set back from the roads and streets. I fear what the riverside developments will turn out to be -- if they will turn out to be a strip of manicured grass along side a boardwalk, with nary a tree, wildlife refuge, wetland, grove, park, dog run, play lot or other space to make the Chicago River banks once again extraordinary respite and refuge for humans and wildlife alike.

I fear the current drive for jobs and tax revenues, the power in the hands of the individual alderman, the pressure for money, is casting aside a more thoughtful and measured approach to planning that prioritizes consideration of city-wide development, of parks and green spaces, of what makes a city interesting, of what makes Chicago special. Issues like the future impact of density, the need to add parks and green spaces apace with rising density, the need for equity and redistribution of development dollars, the concerns over whether too much development in the central zones that all looks alike may bring short term rewards, but with negative long term consequences.

And how does one reach people having these conversations, making these decisions, balancing profit against externalities?

Where are they taking place, how do ordinary citizens make a difference?

Acquaintances and friends who've gone to hearings say their words are not heard, that their input is not valued, that even the Commissioners keep their backs turned at hearings to the very citizens who've taken time to come in person to present their ideas, input and views. They are cynical, disenchanting, angry, frustrated, without hope. Is that true, and if it is, why? Why oh why is that true?

With concerns for a just, verdant and equitable Chicago, and more than a nod to the dear departed Jane Jacobs, I thank you for reading. Apologies for typos and lack of edits.

Sincerely,

Amy Lardner

Amy Lardner

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: DPD <dpd@cityofchicago.org>

To: Amy Lardner <

Cc: Ward43 <

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 9:33 AM

Subject: Re: Bird-safe Building Measures and Wildlife Priority Areas -- North Branch Industrial Corridor Overlay

Thank you for your interest in Mayor Emanuel's North Branch Corridor Modernization in North Branch. Your correspondence has been received and will be reviewed by the appropriate city staff.

From: Amy Lardner <

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:47:35 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward43

Subject: Bird-safe Building Measures and Wildlife Priority Areas -- North Branch Industrial Corridor Overlay

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework plan to include:

- bird-safe building practices * attachment below

designation of wildlife priority areas with limited or low-impact access

real park space for recreation ** attachment below

I live not far from this area; I frequent the Clybourn corridor regularly, relying on it primarily for all of my shopping, as well as volunteering, visiting friends and exercise. I am excited about seeing this part of the river become a vibrant community for all.

Sincerely,

Amy Lardner

* [Bird-friendly building guidelines](#)

** [DNA Info: No New Park Space Disappointing](#)

Amy Lardner

From Allan Mellis:

DPD has done an excellent job reaching out for community input. As the former Director of Planning and Development for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, a member of the Open Space Impact Fee Committee and the Chicago City Space Plan Committee, I found it strange that you are pushing back on the need for additional active recreational open space in community area 7 as indicated in your April 14, 2017 email (below).

I hope that you will continue to address the need for active open space for our community as the NBIC Framework Plan is finalized.

I look forward to continuing our dialogue.

I have attached my analysis of the need for 94 acres of additional open space for community area 7. This is based upon the fact that Lincoln Park (park) is a Magnet Park that serves the entire Metropolitan Area and should not be included in Community Area 7 open space calculations.

Allan Mellis

From: Jeremy Sokolec <

Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 4:33 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I read the CPD Land Acquisition Plan and Open Space Inventory Map you sent regarding the North Branch Modernization feedback you have received. I understand that, according to the City Space Plan, Lincoln Park contains enough park land. I also know, as an adult who tries to play softball on summer weekends, it is impossible to play at Oz and Trebes Parks because the fields are filled with little league games. There is a demand for athletic fields in the surrounding area. The supply should be increased to match it.

Opportunities for large scale land development do not come along often in Chicago. With residences being planned for the North Branch Industrial Corridor, it would be nice if baseball/softball and soccer/football fields can be incorporated to provide more recreation opportunities for adults as well as children. The extra path space fronting the river is important, but will not provide the space needed for community athletic activities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeremy Sokolec

From: Mishaum <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 11:19 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward Services
Subject: Open Space at North Branch Industrial Corridor

The existence of the development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor provides a unique opportunity, particularly in conjunction with plans for the Chicago River Trail connecting the North Branch Trail and the expansion of the 606, for an award winning urban space development, which would leverage the value in particular of whatever residential housing will be built there. It doesn't make sense NOT to make outstanding open spaces in this area. In order for Chicago, which overall is losing population, to retain its upper income residents, park land must be available.

Margaret Walker

From: Warren Baker <
Sent: Saturday, April 15, 2017 10:48:53 AM
To: DPD
Subject: General iron

As a resident living a few blocks north/east of Finkl, I want to shed additional light on how GI's operation impacts its neighbors and the surrounding area.

What people may not know is that every day there are countless semi's lined up for blocks down Kingsbury with unknown origins of industrial scrap metal that is received by GI. The crushing operation is noisy and begins [at 5AM](#) including Saturdays. The scrap is crushed into tiny pieces and thrown airborne into 80' tall stockpiles by high-speed conveyors. The metal is not prescreened for contaminants such as lead or PCB's. Whichever way the prevailing winds blow determines which neighborhood gets to breathe the small particulates of crushed metal. When the wind is coming out of the south, my neighborhood receives the majority of the plume. Then, the crushed metal is fed into a high speed conveyor and thrown into a barge parked dockside. We have observed overflowing metal fall into the river. If it rains, the water washes through these piles carrying debris/contaminants and then runs off either into the river or sewer system.

Please watch this video to understand the types of scrap metal GI is crushing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC9Z7gyhGz4>

Further exacerbating the situation is that GI's dust control consists of 7 lowly snow making machines that when working, throw off minimal water to control the dust. Minimal dust control is better than no dust control but for some reason, the water to the machines are off most if not all of the time. Winter time making snow doesn't help much with containing the dust.

I have had several conversations with Adam Labkon about being a respectful neighbor and making an investment in their facility so that the byproduct of their operations (dust/water/noise) is contained. That is how responsible companies operate in this day and age. Alternatively, if GI doesn't want to make the investment in updating their operations, GI can sell or ground lease their property. But they need to do something because doing nothing means Sterling Bay will have a difficult time attracting commitments from users to the 50 acres. It is tantamount to GI holding the entire +/-50 acres hostage. If SB cannot monetize the area, then neither does the city and then everyone loses.

I also mentioned that the residents who live closest to the area, the stakeholder's with the most at stake, are aware there will be inevitable "costs" associated with developing the area such as significant congestion, property devaluation, access west, etc. We may be okay with the costs so long as the residents can ascertain the "benefits" such as timely infrastructure improvements, additional east/west access road, parks, police stations, schools, etc. The residents will get the opportunity to do their cost/benefit analysis once we see the developer's master plan. Looking forward to seeing the master plan soon.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Warren Baker

Baker Companies

Please note our new address above.

From: Diane Levin <
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 4:58 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Re: North Branch Open House Update and Open Space Data

Dear DPD-

we are not fooled. the more you defend, the more ridiculous this looks.

"relevant pages?" just two "random" quotes" right?

and, best of all, "open space realities" of other neighborhoods.

From: Liesl Olson <
Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2017 9:19 PM
To: DPD; Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor--input from resident

Dear City of Chicago,

I am writing to voice my concern over the development of the area that was formerly Finkl Steel, and which now includes the land along the Chicago River and behind the Home Depot on North Avenue.

As a resident of the 43rd Ward for the past 12 years, I have been very disappointed by the ways in which the short-sighted plans of developers have won-out against a longterm plan for thoughtful urban planing that will benefit the many, many people who live and work within this community.

"New City" is a disaster--an inward-looking mall that looks like most of suburban America and which is only adding to the nasty traffic around the North Avenue/Halsted/Clybourn intersection. This is just one example of bad development.

We need better urban planning built for pedestrians, attuned to the riverfront and its ecology, and which adds much-needed greenspace. Traffic and congestion get worse and worse each year with the arrival of new big box retailers.

I would like to see a 15-acre park with a field house and access to at least a mile of the north branch of the river and extension of the 606. This would be a plan for the future. Parks are the best means of building and sustaining communities--they are the lungs of the city, and the area around the Finkl steel site is in desperate need.

Sincerely,

Liesl Olson

From: Sally Draht <
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 1:49 PM
To: DPD

Cc: Ward 43

Subject: North Branch Framework - Recreational Land Use

I am a 43rd Ward resident and property owner and have some comments about the Industrial Corridor redevelopment plans under consideration.

The effort to establish guidelines and zoning requirements for the redevelopment of the Industrial Corridor is an opportunity to influence a planning process that has long-term ramifications for the economic and social sustainability of the redeveloped acreage as well as adjoining communities. Hopefully, changes wrought through this process will address a host of urban design issues in a thoughtful, balanced manner that will enhance the quality of life for people who visit, work, and live in or near newly developed areas. Change is always challenging – construction and infrastructure improvements are disruptive – and it is important to get it right from the start, as it is easier to fine-tune decisions before the results of ill-conceived actions become irreversible and damaging to a community's economic and social eco-system.

The City's Department of Planning and Development should be, and I hope intends to be, a good steward of our community's social sustainability. Where there are so many constituencies and competing needs to consider, this is a difficult task when the stakes for a massive urban design initiative are so complex.

As a 30-plus-year resident of the Sheffield Neighborhood bordering the vacated Fink property in the North Branch redevelopment area, I applaud the efforts to examine all the issues associated with the redevelopment of this land – transportation, infrastructure (that Cortland bridge and the Clybourn corridor will never comfortably accommodate all the new traffic without improvements), land-use, density, etc.

However, I join Alderman Michele Smith and other area residents in the concern about insufficient public recreational space.

Our community is fortunate to have pocket parks for families with young children. We have Oz Park and Jonquil Park. Some, but not all, schools have open recreational land, but not all are open to the public. Open recreational areas are heavily used and already insufficient to satisfy demand for organized youth and adult sporting activities. But there is a great reliance on Lincoln Park as the primary recreational land, which we share with the city's many other neighborhoods from the west, north and south. The recently announced plan to create separate bike and pedestrian paths along the lakefront is a testament to the dense population that frequents the park to take advantage of the lakefront and the open recreational areas.

Ensuring that there is sufficient, publicly-accessible outdoor recreational space is imperative for the North Branch urban redevelopment plan, and the City should be the catalyst to make that happen.

The Draft Framework speaks of integrating “. . .a variety of public open spaces available year-round, designed for a range of ages and abilities, and to enhance the health of the community and workforce,” as well as the goal to “. . .create publicly accessible space within Planned Development for recreational activity.” All good. But only if the City and private developers are held to a high standard to translate those goals into actual open spaces that are large enough to allow people to use the land for recreation – not just a stroll along the riverfront or passing bike-ride.

Thank you,

Sally Draht

From: Deborah Hill <
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 9:22 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Framework Comment

I live in 60610 and I'd like you to consider four things:

1. link Goose Island up to the 606 trail because everything in Chicago runs north <—> south and we need more east <—> west options
2. Extend the hours for CTA bus 132 – the Goose Island Express. It does a nice job of running into the loop from the Goose Island area. I would also suggest confining it to two stops on Goose Island, we rarely pick up riders from the Cherry and Bliss stops.
3. Widen the bridges along Division to two lanes each direction – they are a big traffic bottleneck and the source of some road rage. Alternatively, you could get rid of the stop light at Division and North Branch or move it back to Division and Cherry where there's actually more north <—> south traffic. I suggest this because the current light at North Branch is like the starting line of the indy 500 as cars jockey to get onto the bridge. Stop them earlier, make the right lane at North Branch a right-turn only lane and I think you'll have better results.
4. Improve connections to the Clybourn Metra station – you could run a nice bike path there by building a couple of bike / pedestrian bridges.

Deborah Hill

From: Christopher Leiseca <
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 3:59 PM
To: DPD
Cc: 43 Ward
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

While I am enthusiastic with the inclusion of the development of bike paths along the river and the extension of the 606 trail in the framework plan, I was disappointed that a large park space was not included in the study. With city population growth increasing westward away from the Lake, we as a

community, need to be planning for increased park and recreational spaces to match the anticipated need. We should be envisioning spaces like Oz Park and the many beautiful parks they we enjoy along the lakefront. The sale of the Finkl site creates an unprecedented opportunity for the allocation of land for such spaces. Imagine how different our lakefront would look now had Daniel Burnham and others not had the foresight to preserve park space for future generations to enjoy? If we do not take advantage of this opportunity today, I'm afraid that future generations will be asking the question of us, "why didn't they?"

I respectfully ask the Department of Planning and Development to consider adding to the final plan space for sports and recreation.

Thank you,

Christopher Leiseca

From: Kevin Donnellon <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 12:44 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Open Recreational Space At Old Finkl Site

Friends,

We are a city of recreation and green and not of more building and concrete.

We will all benefit from a balance, so I encourage you to consider this seriously as you approve plans for this valuable spot.

Sincerely,
Kevin Donnellon
President
Macali Communications



From: Joanne Schlichter <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 12:52 PM
To: DPD
Subject: We need green space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

As a community member, I definitely feel we need more green space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Developers should definitely be required to include park areas and recreational space. Otherwise the area will become overcrowded and unattractive.

We have a unique opportunity here. Please take advantage of it to make development that provides what the community needs and is an attractive addition to our neighborhood.

Thank you --

Joanne Schlichter

From: Luke Lewandowski <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 12:59 PM
To: DPD;
Subject: more recreational space needed for the North Branch Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern:

Please require additional recreational space in the re-development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Doing so will not only enrich the lives of citizens, but will undoubtedly increase the value of and demand for property and commercial space in the area.

Regards,

Luke Lewandowski

From: Erin McInerney <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:06 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am writing to express my strong support of requiring significant increases in green open space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This is a once in a life time opportunity - to create space everyone in the community can use and enjoy - for recreation, beauty and engaging with each other. This is true for children - and as city children the need is especially high, for adults and for seniors. And with riverfront access, these parcels should host this benefit for surrounding neighborhoods. Please count my position along with the many others registered to require inclusion of material alterations to the development proposals and incorporate our neighborhood needs. We count on you to make our city the best it can be!

Erin McInerney

From: Melanie Schurman < Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:08 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Redevelopment Plan

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my opinion on the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. My family owns a home in the Lincoln Park neighborhood and plans to continue to live there for many years to come. This redevelopment is the opportune time to create much need green space in our neighborhood and its surrounding neighborhoods. There is a lack of green space/park space for our populous community. I implore the Department of Planning and Development to include as much green space/park space in the plans for this redevelopment as is feasible.

Thank you,
Melanie Schurman

From: Marlene V. Coulis <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:12 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Department of Planning and Development,

I feel what makes us a unique Chicago neighborhood is the trees and greenery that surroundings us. It's absolutely what drew us to this neighborhood.

I STRONGLY urge you to add green space in your plans, for us and future generations to enjoy. Please do so for your Lincoln Park neighbors, your future property value! and especially in honor of John Muir, who is celebrated today, April 21st. No individual could have expressed the need to protect or provide green space better than him.

Thank you,

Theo and Marlene Coulis

When Muir traveled around the world in his later years, he inspired people all over the globe to protect places of special beauty and wildness. His life is celebrated by the existence of Yosemite National Park, which he was instrumental in establishing in 1890. In 1976, the California Historical Society voted Muir the [greatest Californian](#) in the state's history. [Geographic place names](#) for Muir exist in Alaska, California, Florida, Washington State, Wisconsin, and in his birthplace, Dunbar, Scotland. Now, thanks to legislative action in California, the recognition of John Muir is not confined to geography, but is added to the calendar.

"John Muir Day", celebrated each April 21, provides us with a day to recognize the modern ecological insight that humankind is a part of Nature, and that our well being - indeed our very survival - depends upon an ecologically sound natural environment. By taking some time to appreciate how far we have come in the environmental movement launched by Muir, we can be inspired as we tackle the myriad environmental problems facing us today.

From: Gary M. Sinclair <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:18 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Administrator:

As a resident of the Lincoln Park Community since 1971, a former board member and offers of the Lincoln Central Association, Lincoln Park Advisory Council, LPCA, a member of LPCCC and a board member and former officer of the Menomonee Club, as well as coaching AYSO for 15 years, I believe I am very well qualified to comment on the need for recreational space on the North Side.

Once upon a time, a substantial portion of our community had many manufacturers, but as times have changed, manufacturing has given way to a huge development of residential housing. Yet, despite this change, NO NEW RECREATIONAL SPACE HAS BEEN ADDED to this community. Not only has the land use changed, habits have changed and more and more residents are involved in individual and group recreational endeavors.

The mad rush of event sponsors to arrange for the use of Lincoln Park every weekend; the fact that Menomonee Club has almost all of its indoor facilities fully booked, the fact that the Club could no longer use Oz Park for its outdoor programs due to the increase in other children s programs in the area and the fact that the "Lincoln Park" AYSO had to travel to Foster for its games is overwhelming proof that this community NEEDS MORE RECREATIONAL SPACE!

These are just a few examples that cry out for more recreational space in our community. Yes, space in the city is very hard to find, especially on the Near North Side and in Lincoln Park because the land is so valuable. I consider myself one of the people who worked hard to make this community a wonderful place to live. The city must help, not only by providing real and substantial recreational space in a community that lacks adequate space now, but also to meet the demands due to the increase in residences and changes in lifestyle.

Regards,

Gary M. Sinclair

-- Gary M. Sinclair
Attorney at Law

From: Bernstein, Bob <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:28 PM
To: DPD
Subject: More Park Space

To All:

It is really a concern that such a large development in the north branch corridor will increase density in the area significantly while adding the bare minimum open space allowed for kids, families and residents to enjoy rest, relaxation and play. Corporate goals understandably include maximizing shareholder profits, so it is in the developer's interest to minimize open space. This unfortunately sometime leads to developments such as the north branch corridor project which does not consider the implications of limited open space for the area. It is the City and its Planning department's responsibilities to counteract these tendencies. Please use your powers to require the addition of more open space and recreation areas to this development in order to reduce the density of this new development and improve the lives of the City's residents. Projects like the 606 have enhanced life for many in our great city. Let's hope we can do the same thing with this development. Thanks for listening.

Bob Bernstein

From: Ann Hoffmann <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:29 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To: Department of Planning

Re: Open Space at the new development at North Branch Corridor

From: Ann Hoffmann

I would like to encourage you to plan for outdoor green space and recreational space in the new development. The Lincoln Park area parks are always filled with neighbors, kids and dogs. The green space will help draw this new community together and make it a more desirable neighborhood to live and visit.

I would love to see a walking trail along the river area and tennis courts in addition to playground and ball fields.

We live in a great city with one of its greatest attributes being its parks. Let's keep the city growing this beauty in mind.

Sincerely,

Ann Hoffmann

From: Janet Brookman <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:40 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Open/Recreational space makes a great difference for its citizens in this city. A place for all, Not just for those along the lake shore. Open/Recreational space in this development should be required. The developers are going to make a bundle on this project, therefore they should give something back to the community for its use.

Please,

Janet

Janet Brookman

From: Michelle W Greenberg <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:43 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Clybourne corridor plan- comments for planning commission needed

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

To: DPD@cityofchicago.org
Subject: Clybourne corridor plan- comments

It is of high concern that the development plan include green and recreational space. With the plan proposing an increase in traffic and density, it is imperative that substantial new park space be included.

Thank you

Michelle Greenberg

From: Tara Guler <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:51 PM
To: DPD;
Subject: Park Space

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for including dedicated park space, including park space large enough for recreation fields, in the development plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. This corridor provides tremendous opportunity to provide more dedicated park resources to residents of the surrounding areas and new residents that will be coming to the corridor in the future as part of new development.

My husband and I own a condo in Lincoln Park and lived in the neighborhood for 14 years. We now have a one year old daughter. Park space is essential to us and our quality of life in the city. My family spends many hours at parks across the city for organized sports, recreation, etc. with a lot of time spent at Oz Park and Lincoln Park. Without this, we would have a hard time raising our family in the city.

We have already seen that Chicago is losing more residents annually than any other major city. The increasing number of developments that include residential components (including North Branch Industrial Corridor, Children's Hospital, Webster Square, Elevate, etc.) will only put more pressure on existing park space. Setting aside dedicated park space in this corridor will help alleviate this pressure and contribute to residents choosing to remain in the city instead of moving elsewhere.

Thank you,

Tara Hibbard

From: Susanna McNeil <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 2:12 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Public soap along Cortland corridor

I believe the community would be well served by an additional green space for recreation and I strongly urge that this be incorporated into the final plan.

Susanna MCNEIL

Sent from my iPad

From: Claudia Roeder <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 2:14 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Green Space needed - North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear DPD,

I have learned about the planned development for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. I am very disappointed to see that there are virtually no green or otherwise open spaces. The proposal for the

North Branch Industrial Corridor presents the same problems latest developments in our area did that are already having a negative impacts on the quality of living.

The North Branch Industrial Corridor proposal will make the living situation in the area even worse. My main objections to this development are:

- The proposed density is out of scale for the area and needs to be offset by green spaces that allow for recreation and nature experiences;
- This is a unique opportunity to create green and open space within the city that would benefit a large number of citizens and make living in the city Chicago attractive. This seems especially important given the crime rates and the recent increases in property tax.

I sincerely hope you will take these considerations and revisit the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Kind regards,
Claudia Roeder

From: Trudy Cools <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 2:50 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch industrial corridor

Please include more green space and recreational space in the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Our communities need more green space!

Thank you,

From: Paula Kahn <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:25 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To the voting members of the Planning Commission

Given the size of the parcels within the North Branch Industrial corridor, it appears that including only references to the 30 foot setback represents the bare minimum already required of new developments. This seems totally inadequate when so much stands to be gained from the protection of more space for use by the local schools, new residents and citizens of the City Of Chicago who will be drawn to the extension of The 606.

Please insist that more than in the corridor be devoted to open green space for recreational uses open to all.

Thank you,

Paula R Kahn

From: Barbara Melcher <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:44 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Corridor

The city of Chicago will be making a mistake that will never be corrected if it does not allocate land for parks in the North Branch Corridor. Chicago is already being overrun with new construction with only young, single or newly married residents in mind. A truly great city needs to accommodate families and green space and good schools are paramount to a family's decision to stay in a city rather than flee to the suburbs (along with their tax dollars.) Imagine if city government had been this short sighted when Lincoln Park was proposed. And more recently, look to the constant use (overuse?) of Oz Park to see how imperative it is to set land aside for parks in the city. Please do not let the developers run roughshod over our citizen's needs by focusing only on short term gains.

Thank you,

Barbara Melcher

Barbara Melcher

From: Linda Roxe <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:50 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Chicago Industrial corridor development

As a long term resident of the area, I strongly urge you to consider park and recreational areas as part of the development of the North Branch Industrial corridor. We need to maintain the spirit and culture for which the city has been known and applauded for over a century and to provide space for residents, young and old to enjoy.

Frankly, given the commitment the city has made for "green' status, I find it surreal when I read that you are going against this priority by considering plans that exclude park/recreational/open space(s).

I might add that the whole area is becoming so overdeveloped with high-rise and commercial buildings that traffic and congestion are more than problematic. The infrastructure is not up to the additional cars/traffic that come with the density.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the next community meeting. I hope you will consider this email as a loud voice in favor of green spaces in the development. People who have made Chicago neighborhoods their homes should take precedence over build-and-leave-developers whose interests are mostly financial.

Linda A. Roxe

From: Doug Patinkin <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 5:05 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Open Space North Branch Industrial Corridor

I hope you will see fit to maximize the OPEN SPACE in the new North Branch Corridor,
Doug

From: Daniel E Varanauski, DN <
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 5:44 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Michele Smith; Ward02
Subject: Turn a Massively Toxic Area into an Ecological and Profitable Haven at the North Branch Industrial Corridor!

To Whom It May Concern;

Re: Recreational space and Infrastructure improvements at NBIC.

I am a parent, a resident of the 43rd Ward and also a business owner in the 43rd Ward. I felt compelled to write to you as I am extremely dismayed at the lack of consideration of local resident's needs in the plan at the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Specifically, the lack of usable recreational space and lack of transportation/infrastructure improvements at this site.

I understand that the developers need to make a profit, but the Department of Planning has admitted that two-thirds, a clear majority, of the comments on the plan are calls for open space. I can only speculate that some of the other one-third is from friends of the developers and those who are intend to make massive profit. Please listen to our needs.

At each and every meeting many in the community have expressed our desire for much more usable park space. The current plan for a 30-foot set-back is totally inadequate as useful space. Sure, a green "corridor" like that may be pleasant, but cannot be used for hardly any activities other than walking and biking. I also understand the Aldermen from the surrounding neighborhoods also are requesting usable space. Why isn't anyone listening to the neighbors/constituents?

The City has helped this entire area become more desirable for families with children. Our schools have improved, our developments have made it accessible for and more families and are businesses thrive with families. But families need recreation space. We don't want families

to have to move out to the suburbs - thus we need this space for picnics, flying kites, playing tag, soccer, catching fireflies, playing Frisbee, skating, skateboarding, and more organized baseball. Where can we do these things now where the parks are not overcrowded? By the way, did you know Oz Park Baseball league seems to be at its max right now because there are no more lots to play in! They could expand exponentially, bringing more money to help the parks since they donate tons, if you would just take this opportunity to add more usable park space!

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Finkle & Sons greatly contributed to the coffers of the city while poisoning of our air and soils for over a century. Creating extremely toxic conditions for our residents. We had among the worst air quality in the nation just 10 years ago. Please strongly consider changing that historical fact and legacy. Turn it into an ecological haven. It is on you.

During the many public meetings about the plan, residents from the surrounding neighborhoods made it clear that there is a massive demand for more usable open green space. Why doesn't the framework of the plan require a greater amount open green space from the developers and an adequate traffic plan configuration?

The lakefront has been overcrowded for years. Accidents happen everyday from cyclists and pedestrians colliding. Please help us relieve the congestion of traffic and the lack of open space further inland.

Sincerely,

Daniel Varanauski

From:

Sent: Saturday, April 22, 2017 11:33 AM

To: DPD;

Subject: Industrial Corridor Redevelopment

Our current outdoor recreational areas are fully used and appreciated. We need more recreational space to accommodate increased condominium and rental developments.

Thank you,

Janet Omer

From: Pierre LeBreton <

Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 10:20 AM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Recreational Green Space

The City's decision to provide such a small amount of Green Space to the NBIC is a serious mistake.

San Francisco was in a similar position when it recently decided to devote the total land surrounding both sides of the Golden Gate Bridge to Green Space.

The present day voters and future generations thanked them.

Pierre LeBreton

From: Kristen Preble [
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 6:33 PM
To: Dickhut, Kathleen
Cc: Caralynn Collens
Subject: RE: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Good afternoon Kathleen,

Thank you for providing UI LABS with the opportunity to offer comments to the North Branch Framework. Attached are UI LABS' public comments of support; please feel free to let us know if you have any comments on what we've drafted.

In addition, I have listed a few questions and edits below, which we're hoping to have clarified. If the answers significantly change our comments, we will update and resend to you.

Thank you in advance for reviewing our attached comments, and the below questions/edits.

Questions:

1. What kinds of retailers/amenities are classified as complementary uses and supporting services, referring to allowed use in PMD 3 (Goose Island)? (Referenced on pages 5, 30 & 57)
2. Is there an expected timeline or action for the "Study Blackhawk Connection from Elston to Halsted" vehicular bridge in the map on page 41? It does not seem to come up again in the plan, specifically in the 1-20 year look ahead maps on pages 42-44.
3. In Appendix 7, on page LXII, it lists our 2016 building use as "Transportation and Utility," rather than Industrial + Manufacturing, or Commercial – Office. Is there a reason for this?
4. How does the city's waste management facilities to the East of UI LABS factor into the city's plan for riverway access?

Comments:

- Please kindly update UI LABS' name from "U of I Labs" to "UI LABS" on page 3, and please change UI LABS to all caps on pages 24, and in a few locations in Appendix 7.
- In the "Trends in Transitioning Industrial Districts in US Cities" document, on the first page, the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI) has been re-branded to Manufacturing USA and now has 14 institutes (second to last page).

Best,

Kristen

Kristen Preble

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER, UI LABS

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From: Beth Rosenthal <

Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4:40 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Fwd: Clybourne corridor plan- comments for planning commission needed

It is extremely important to our community's health that the development plan include green and recreational space. With the plan proposing an increase in traffic and density, it is imperative that substantial new park space be included.

Thank you, Elizabeth Rosenthal

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 11:08 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward43

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Comment - Park Space

To the DPD:

While it is a positive goal to implement enhanced recreational space via river-walk space, the city has an excellent opportunity right now to enhance the livability and attractiveness of our "City in a Garden" by also setting aside larger recreational space that will accommodate the urgent needs of recreational teams such as soccer and baseball/softball and provide free, open, unstructured green space. Chicago has built some amazing parks (Maggie Daley, 606) in the past few years that bring people outdoors to move, be healthy, and play together. Large park space cannot be introduced "after-the-fact." It must be pre-planned. Surely, we of all cities should know this by looking at the incredible and lasting gift of our lakefront. Of all major cities built along a large body of water, Chicago shines with beauty and distinguishes itself because of the foresight of the Burnham Plan which protected public space.

Please include large recreational space in the North Branch planning.

Sincerely,

From: Harris Kay <

Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 8:43 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Proposed rezoning plan

At several of the public meetings held by DPD, when asked about open recreational space, representatives of the City stated that there was nothing they could really do with respect to accommodating requests for open space

because it was all privately-owned land. Notwithstanding the availability of the power of eminent domain to create park space, it appears that Chicago's fleet management facility is located within the area that is part of the proposed rezoning plan. If that is the case, then there exists and has existed, during this entire process, an approximately 18-acre site within the proposed rezoning plan that is publicly-owned land and, as such, would cast doubt on the veracity of such responses given by City representatives.

From: Amy Zernick <
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 12:17 PM
To:; DPD
Subject: Park space at Finkl

To whom it may concern-

I would like to express the frustration with the lack of planning for more park space at the old Finkl site. Living near a park has been one of the benefits of living in the city and with an increasing population of children and families and the hope for residential development at Finkl, it seems short sided to not consider more open green space.

My son plays on Oz Park Baseball and this weekend we played a game at Irving and Sheridan at Gill Park. You have a flourishing neighborhood and not enough recreational space to support the programs. I ask that you strongly consider allowing for more of this space in the 10 plus acres you have to work with.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amy Zernick

From: McQueen, Murray <
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 12:53:05 PM
To: Gorski, Eleanor
Cc: de Vallet, Amy
Subject: Consolidated_Draft_North_Branch MU w Tribune Comments

Eleanor,

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the North Branch Framework. We've appreciated your openness during this process and are supportive of the results of all your team's hard work.

We believe that a mixed-use development on our property at Chicago and Halsted will be transformative for the area and further the city's goals for the North Branch corridor: maximizing economic and job growth, providing better transportation access, and enhancing access to green space and an activated river walk.

As you know, productivity on the site has declined dramatically over time and the property is currently underutilized. We're excited, as we know you are, by the opportunity to create the City's first Innovation District. Similar to developments in Boston, Seattle, and San Francisco, the Innovation District will bridge neighborhoods, spur economic growth, and provide the amenities needed to create what we estimate

to be nearly 20,000 new permanent jobs and 18,000 construction jobs, and over \$1.1 billion in additional tax revenue over 20 years.

We do have a few comments on the framework which we would like to encourage the City to incorporate into its thinking and planning. In particular:

1. With respect to north-south transit connectors, we encourage the City to conduct further study of the most effective routes with respect to impact on private land and existing roadways, and to coordinate the design and implementation of these public improvements with adjacent landowners in order to best consider impacts on future land developments. Timing of infrastructure upgrades should be aligned with private development whenever possible.
2. We are supportive of incorporating publicly accessible, active recreational amenities and have included them in our early site planning with an emphasis on activating the Chicago River. However, not all planned developments may be appropriate for large-scale "fields." We do not believe these would be appropriate for our site.
3. We look forward to a fee schedule which reflects the needs for both Tribune and the City to create a new, economically viable neighborhood with all necessary infrastructure requirements.

We have also provided an annotated copy of the framework with comments, attached to this email, for your review.

Thank you again for the consideration and we look forward to continuing to work closely with the DPD team on making this framework a reality.

Please feel free to contact Amy or me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Murray McQueen

President

Tribune Real Estate Holdings, LLC

From: Janice Orenstein <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 7:37 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Pet and park space

We need more parks for people and pets. Please add more green space to industrial corridor development.

Janice Weiler Orenstein

From: Paul Lundy <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:05 AM

To: DPD

Subject: More Green

I am a concerned citizen about the Cylbourn Corridor space. We need GREEN SPACE. If you look at any other major metro areas that have stood the test of time they preserve this type of space for posterity.

Let's not be greedy !

Give nature their take

Paul Lundy

From: Chasse Amy <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:05 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Need for more open space and athletic fields

Hello,

As a mother with two children on three sporting teams, I request that some of the land in the Industrial Corridor be allotted for open space and athletic fields that teams can use for practices. We travel far for practices and games as a result of lack of space nearby.

Thank you,

Amy Chasse

From: Lea Jesse <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:48 AM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am a member of 32nd ward. I would like to express my support for more open space / park space available for public use in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Thanks,

Lea Jesse

From: Michael P. Walsh <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:56 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Clybourn Industrial Area

I believe that the development needs to include outdoor space that is available to the community.

Best regards,

Michael P. Walsh

From: Merle Tresser <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:14 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Parks Space In Industrial Corridor

It is unconscionable to allow development of the Clybourn Industrial Corridor without mandating space for parks and recreation.

Chicago is one of the most under-parked cities in the country and there is a dire need for more recreational space for city residents. It is your duty to insure that any developer of a space with the magnitude of the Clybourn Corridor include outdoor recreational space in the plans.

Please insist that Sterling Bay make space for the residents of this city to enjoy park space.

Thank you,

Merle Tresser

From: Josie Phelps <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:15 AM

To: DPD

Subject: MORE OPEN SPACE

The north branch industrial corridor redevelopment should include more green and open space!!! Our quality of life is dependent on it.

Thank you,

Josie Phelps
Lincoln Park resident

From: Bridget Barham <
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:24 AM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor: Need for Open Space

I would like to my voice my concern surrounding the current plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. There quite simply is not enough open green, usable space. I would strongly urge you to require developers to incorporate a greater amount of open, usable, outdoor recreation space into the corridor.

Thank you.

Bridget Barham

From:
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:44 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Open Spaces land grab

As a 50 year resident of the 43rd ward and business owner in the 43rd and 32nd wards I am vehemently opposed to the taking of private land for more public open space ie Finkel Steel; just as I am vehemently opposed to the taking of public land for private use ie Lucas Museum .

City government and it's officials should instead be concentrating on using valuable tax payer money on everyday quality of life issues like potholes, overflowing street drains, crumbling sidewalks, rodent abatement, sewer and water main replacement , lead pipe removal,street light replacement ,clean up and beautification of existing parks and open spaces, public safety, youth sports and after school programs, summer jobs, etc, etc , etc. Get the existing house in order before adding to the city's already substantial land portfolio and management burden.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments .

Russell Brandstetter

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ed Uhlir <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:47 AM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

I want to strongly encourage the inclusion of more open space and athletic fields for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. As a long time resident of the area and as the former Director of Research and Planning for the Chicago Park District I am very aware of the need for active recreation space for the Lincoln Park community.

Ed Uhlir, FAIA

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mary Kay McCaw <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 10:40 AM

To: DPD

Subject: More open space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

I fully support more open space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Open space, particularly green space, is critical for a healthy environment, a healthy population, and for building community. Open space brings people together and nurtures friendships, a sense of ownership, and civic engagement. We should fight for the maximum amount of open community space adjacent to the river.

Mary Kay McCaw

From: Barbara Siebel <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 10:44 AM

To: DPD

Subject: New Park land

Dear city commissioners

I am a resident home owner in the 2nd ward, but I was part of the 43rd ward before my crazy shaped ward was formed. I support Michelle Smith's call for a park in the new development area that was the Finkel Steel Company. A wide extension of the river side park is essential, plus a children play yard and an athletic field.

Please do this! Thanks...

Barbara W. Siebel

From: Kevin Donnellon <

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 10:50 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Recreation Space

Hello. Our neighborhood will be improved with major recreation space in the Clybourn corridor. There already is too much development in the area.

From: Marcia Volk [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:33 AM
To: DPD
Subject: More recreational space needed

Hi,

Having raised two children and now taking care of four grandchildren in Lincoln Park, I am certainly aware of the lack of enough recreational space for children. There are an assortment of playgrounds for children in the 2-4 age group that I can reach via a stroller. But at 5 I have to drive them to more appropriate playgrounds. And, there are few spaces where the 5-12 year olds can run and play without danger of being in the way of organized sports. I think we need more space for general and organized recreation. We need places where parents can throw a ball or kick a soccer ball with their children. And, there should be more space for organized sports also. City kids don't get much recess or have green places to play during or after school. Having to limit the number of after school sports teams due to lack of space further restricts our kid's ability to run and play.

Please take these needs under consideration as development of the space previously owned by Finkle and other building areas are zoned and move forward.

Thanks,
Marcia Volk

From: Susan Cass
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 1:06 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park Space

This area is already congested!

It is of high concern that the development plan include green and recreational space. With the plan proposing an increase in traffic and density, it is imperative that substantial new park space be included for the benefit of all neighbors.

Thank you!

From:
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 1:25 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern, I am a homeowner in the 32nd ward of Chicago and I would like to go on record as expressing my support for more publicly accessible open space and/or park space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Thank you,

Andrew Jesse

From: Andy Donakowski

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 1:53 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Comment Letter for North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached letter in reference to the draft North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan and Design Guidelines. We appreciate the time and effort that has gone into developing these plans, and are excited to see that the river is highlighted within the corridor.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important plan. We look forward to working more with the City and the Department of Planning and Development as work progresses.

Best,

Andrew Donakowski

From: Judy Johanson

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 3:58 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch

Please do not lose this opportunity to provide much needed recreational park space in this project. A river walk is nice but a park for all is desperately needed.

Judy Johanson

From: Shashi Caudill

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 4:05 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Finkl site

This email is to voice my support of utilizing the Finkl site for additional recreational space. There are many kid and adult groups that could use the space for their teams. Green space is better for the environment and makes the city more attractive.

Thank you,

Shashi Caudill

From: Chasfeld

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 4:41 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Redevelopment Plan

I am writing to urge that increased provisions for public recreational space be included in the North Branch Industrial Corridor Redevelopment Plan.

Surely, adequate wholesome healthy recreational activities are important for all members of a community, and especially this is true for young people who might otherwise be lured into activities that are not always so wholesome and healthy. It is noteworthy that there are presently no public parks along the North Branch of the Chicago River between North Ave. and Diversey Pkwy. The momentous, once in a lifetime accomplishment of creating the recreational public parks along the Chicago lakefront is one of the highlights of the City. Now there is a once in a lifetime opportunity to create another highlight for the City along the North Branch of the Chicago River.

Please make the maximum use of this wonderful, once in a lifetime opportunity,

Charles M. Schoenfeld

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Josh Ellis"

Subject: MPC comments on DPD's North Branch work

Hello Commissioner Reifman, Eleanor, and Kathy –

I've attached MPC's comments on the North Branch Framework that I just submitted to the main DPD e-mail account. The Metropolitan Planning Council commends everyone at DPD on a job well done, and is happy to lend our support to the plan. We will be testifying in support at the Plan Commission meeting on May 18, using a condensed version of this document.

The attached comments provide comments on the Framework Plan itself, and indicate several places where MPC is ready and willing to work with DPD and others on next steps, including on the fee structure to support investments within this corridor and in the rest of industrial corridor system. I

would love to talk more about these, as the Chicago Community Trust funding in support of Great Rivers (application deadline May 31) may be an immediate opportunity we should take advantage of. I will follow up later this week with Eleanor and Kathy.

The remainder of the analysis we offer here has more to do with the future of the Industrial Corridor Modernization process as you move forward. Much of that is informed by conversations with a range of people and interests across the city about what the industrial modernization assessment in this specific corridor means for the other industrial corridors. In essence, it is our belief that the PMD tool, and manufacturing as a sector more broadly, is definitively valued by the Mayor and DPD, but that in this particular corridor at this time that tool and that use may no longer be the best fit. Our concern is that that has been interpreted as a desire to push all industry out of the city, which we do not believe to be the case. MPC is happy to help strategize how to roll this plan out while simultaneously signaling the City's continued interest in a robust manufacturing sector.

We welcome any feedback or questions you have on these comments, and thank you once again for the opportunity to submit them.

Josh

Josh Ellis

Vice President | Metropolitan Planning Council

From: McQueen, Murray

Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Gorski, Eleanor

Cc: de Vallet, Amy

Subject: Consolidated_Draft_North_Branch MU w Tribune Comments

Eleanor,

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the North Branch Framework. We've appreciated your openness during this process and are supportive of the results of all your team's hard work.

We believe that a mixed-use development on our property at Chicago and Halsted will be transformative for the area and further the city's goals for the North Branch corridor: maximizing economic and job growth, providing better transportation access, and enhancing access to green space and an activated river walk.

As you know, productivity on the site has declined dramatically over time and the property is currently underutilized. We're excited, as we know you are, by the opportunity to create the City's first Innovation District. Similar to developments in Boston, Seattle, and San Francisco, the Innovation District will bridge neighborhoods, spur economic growth, and provide the amenities needed to create what we estimate

to be nearly 20,000 new permanent jobs and 18,000 construction jobs, and over \$1.1 billion in additional tax revenue over 20 years.

We do have a few comments on the framework which we would like to encourage the City to incorporate into its thinking and planning. In particular:

1. With respect to north-south transit connectors, we encourage the City to conduct further study of the most effective routes with respect to impact on private land and existing roadways, and to coordinate the design and implementation of these public improvements with adjacent landowners in order to best consider impacts on future land developments. Timing of infrastructure upgrades should be aligned with private development whenever possible.
2. We are supportive of incorporating publicly accessible, active recreational amenities and have included them in our early site planning with an emphasis on activating the Chicago River. However, not all planned developments may be appropriate for large-scale "fields." We do not believe these would be appropriate for our site.
3. We look forward to a fee schedule which reflects the needs for both Tribune and the City to create a new, economically viable neighborhood with all necessary infrastructure requirements.

We have also provided an annotated copy of the framework with comments, attached to this email, for your review.

Thank you again for the consideration and we look forward to continuing to work closely with the DPD team on making this framework a reality.

Please feel free to contact Amy or me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Murray McQueen

President

Tribune Real Estate Holdings, LLC

From: Scott Schneider

Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 4:57 PM

To: DPD

Subject: comment re: North Branch Framework Plan

As a long-time member of the Bucktown Community Organization's Zoning & Planning Committee, my hope is that additional bridges across the river could be provided for vehicular traffic.

Scott Schneider

From: Marilyn D Ezri <
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 7:21:02 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Park

Please keep the former industrial park open for recreation. We want a park, not more condos!

From: Cathy Cahill
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:28 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

This is to support the proposal for more open space as the North Branch Corridor begins development. The area needs the green space as this part of the city becomes ever more dense in all directions. If we do not account for the need now, before development is underway, the opportunity will be lost for all future generations. Consider me another one of many looking for this to be incorporated into the plans and watching as decisions are made. We all look forward to continued improvement in our area and our city.

Sincerely, Cathy Cahill

From: Adam Tarkowski <
Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2017 7:22 AM
To: DPD
Subject: More athletic fields in the Industrial Corridor

As an area resident, I would like to add my voice to the many that wants to see more athletic fields in the Industrial Corridor. This is an opportunity to build a space that benefits city residents rather than developers. This is a need for our city and I hope the right decision to have more open space is made.

Adam Tarkowski

From: Betsy Costello <
Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2017 5:53 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Plan

I am a resident of the 43rd ward, Lincoln Park neighborhood.

It is essential to the well-being of our community that the North Branch Industrial Plan include open "green" space--parks, playgrounds, sports fields.

Let's honor Daniel Burnham's legacy of civic beauty that continues to protect our beloved City of Chicago from becoming an industrial blight.

Thank you.

Betsy Costello

Life-Long Chicagoan

From: Joanne Tong <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 10:02 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To all it may concern,
I am writing to voice my support for park and open space to be included in the redevelopment of the Finkl site. It is desperately needed in that area as the local neighborhoods of Lincoln Park, Lakeview, Logan Square etc have all experienced a large increase in the number of children and families living there, not to mention single people. We would all benefit from a safe place to play and relax in the city.

Thank you for your attention,
Joanne Tong, board member of Oz Park Advisory Council and team member of One Northside

From:
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 10:34 AM
To: DPD
Subject: open space

humans need open space to thrive as a community - to run - to play - to breath

From: Kathryn Hopper <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 12:35 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Finkel Property Lincoln Park

Hi.

As a former City Planner for the City of New York, Manhattan Borough, I was in disbelief and disheartened when I read that the development of the Finkel property along Cortland to the River will NOT be including green space. Why would you not include a place where children can play and neighbors socialize? The so called planning of this vital property seems outdated and clearly not representative of the area's residents. Submitting this story for national press coverage.

Kathryn Hopper
Sent from my iPhone

From: gary redeker
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 1:18 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Goose Island Redevelopment Plans

We strongly encourage the City of Chicago to require set asides in the redevelopment of the former Goose Island Industrial District for creating green space for public use. The population density already on the up swing in the neighborhoods around Goose Island coupled with additional residents from the redevelopment will only further overload highly used perimeter parks in the area.

Gary and Susan Redeker

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10
From: Jane M. Curry <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 2:56 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Land use and the North Branch proposal

Thank you for listening. See attachment.

Jane M. Curry

Member of [Lincoln Park Village](#) since 2009

From:
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 3:15 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Development of old Finkl site

Comment:

I am writing to voice my strong support to set aside a substantial parcel of land (near the river) for park and recreational activities. This is one of the few chances we have to create a wonderful "neighborhood" near this part of the river. While house and commercial space is important, so is the ability of those residents and others to have green space where kids, neighbors and workers can gather near our improving river-facing land.

Thank you for taking my comment into consideration.

Donna Zahara

From: David Lissner <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 5:11 PM
To: DPD@cityofchicago.org.
Subject: North Branch Draft Framework Plan

Fix traffic, add large park space and end the PMD

Thanks

David M. Lissner

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From: Patty Sternberg <

Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 7:58 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Proposed North Branch Rezoning Plan comments

I am a 28 year resident and taxpayer of Lincoln Park and the Clybourn Corridor

I have reviewed the proposed plans for rezoning of the North Branch Industrial corridor at length. I find them lacking in a number of ways.

My concerns are as follows:

Too much density in proposed buildings

Little to no open recreational space in the proposal

Too much traffic and congestion with no plans to address it.

You are allowing the developers to build without planning for the effect of the many additional residential units being proposed both in this corridor and throughout Lincoln Park.

There is now very little land for open recreational play and you are proposing increasing density at an unprecedented rate without providing additional open recreational space.

The streets throughout the corridor are already bumper to bumper with traffic and the city is not planning to widen streets to allow for the additional traffic.

I understand that the city wants additional investment but it needs to offer carefully planned recreation and

structural additions in order to accommodate the increase in population.

As a long term resident of Lincoln Park and a longer resident of the city, I very concerned about the lack of practical and well thought out urban planning.

In addition, I would like to see evidence in the plan of the exact environmental cleanup steps that have been taken on these prior industrial properties preparing them for non industrial usage

I hope my comments will be taken into account in the city's planning process. Citizen input seems lacking in the development of the city's current plan for the rezoning and development of the North Branch Corridor

Best regards

Patricia Sternberg

From: Chelsea Plax <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 9:51 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Support for more park space

As a Chicago resident for almost two decades who has lived in Wicker Park and currently resides in Lincoln Park with my husband and 3 young children, we have walked across, run across, biked across, and driven across the bridge on Cortland by the old Finkl plant thousands, yes thousands, of times.

When the former Finkl Steel buildings were first demolished, my family and I were heading west one evening and it almost took our breath away to see the wide open space as the sun was setting just beyond Saint Mary of the Angels church. Our 10 year old daughter said "It's like a big park!" Even she could understand the vision and the impact of this wide open space.

What an incredible opportunity for you as a developer to visualize, create and leave a space for families to connect, for people to meet, and for memories to be made for generations and generations in this great neighborhood and city.

Any developer can build a building or a condo or a townhome or a strip mall, but I would imagine it's the great developers who know when to capitalize on the rare opportunities such as you have by choosing the more challenging route and, in this case, including park space in your plans.

Have you ever strolled or jogged through Lincoln Park? Have you ever watched your kid play ball at a park in your neighborhood? Be like those developers -- the ones who realized and understood their impact on the people and the city. What an amazing mark and legacy you could leave by developing some of this land as park space.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Chelsea Earnhardt Plax

From: Jacob Ringer <
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 10:57 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Comments on Mayor Emanuel's Industrial Corridor Modernization North Branch Framework

I would like to applaud the City for undertaking this compressive look at the North Branch PMD. I believe that as cities change, it is responsible and appropriate to re-evaluate the use of the land and special districts. The fact that this review is happening now, as the surrounding area has so significantly grown, gives the City both an incredible opportunity to create amazing enhancements as well as a substantial challenge to not negatively impact the look, feel, and character of the surrounding residential neighborhood. As you may recall, I have participated in multiple of your open houses but would like clarification on the following questions:

1. I would like to see estimates of expected new residents in the north sub area with FAR being as high as 6.5. Is there any reason to think there will not be 10,000 new residents living in this area in a decade?
2. The CDOT Capital Projects on the Planning/Design/Construction Map on page 39 has six Bridge Reconstructions circled but only four listed in the key. Do Cortland and Fullerton bridges have a planned renovation? If so, what are they?
3. I would like clarification on what the maps on pages 42 - 44 are trying to illustrate;
 - a. Cortland Bridge is highlighted as a “proposed improvement” on the short term map. It is my understanding from multiple community meetings that the Cortland Bridge is historical and cannot be widened. What is accurate? Please address what exactly is the plan for improvement is for the Cortland Bridge in the next 5 years.
 - b. It appears from the mid and long term planning maps that a Potential North Branch Ped/ Bike Transitway is planned to end on Cortland Avenue. How does converting or shrinking vehicular traffic on Cortland Avenue ease east-west transit, a stated goal of the framework (pages 3, 6, 20, 38) and Principal 2.5?
 - c. Why are none of the potential vehicular bridges from the Framework, Southport and Blackhawk, found on the near, mid, or long term proposed improvements maps? What is the timeframe for these decisions and what process will be used to make the decision on their feasibility?

I am disappointed by the Frameworks lack of east- west Potential Vehicular Bridges in the North sub area, where all the new development is targeted. Specifically, “Principle 2.5: Manage vehicular traffic and improve circulation by considering increased connections.”(Page 41) seems to be lacking specific steps to solve this current congestion issue.

To that end, I propose the following solutions for the Framework implementation:

1. The North Branch FAR Bonus should trigger a review of all existing or possible right-of-way for long term development. If the Department of Planning and Development finds a bridge is the correct tool to ease east-west traffic in the future this is the only opportunity to develop a right-of-way that could be used.
 - a. When the Viaduct reconstruction at Ashland and Cortland is eventually addressed it will be too late to build an east-west bridge.

2. The North Branch Bonus Fee only allowed use should be in the North Sub area, barring that it should be mandated for using in the North Branch corridor specifically with the goal of enhancing city living for the residence already in the surrounding neighborhoods, to be the proper foundation for growth.

Sincerely,



Jacob Ringer

--

Jacob Ringer

From: Harris Kay <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 7:49 AM

To: DPD

Cc: Reatha Kay

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Proposed Rezoning Plan

DPD's proposed rezoning plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor does not, but should, address the community's need for additional open, recreational space. The magnet park (Lincoln Park) along our community's lakefront was designed to and indeed does attract and serve vastly different populations than our community, regional and citywide parks.^[1] This is underscored by the fact that this portion of Lincoln Park includes, among other attractions, the Lincoln Park Zoo, the Chicago History Museum, the Lincoln Park Conservatory, the Peggy Notebart Nature Museum, the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool and the North Pond Nature Sanctuary. If you exclude its eponymous park from the open space calculation, the entire Lincoln Park community has less than 26 acres of park space^[2] – more than half of which alone (13.32 acres)^[3] is contained in one park – Oz Park. When you calculate the community's open space using this figure, Lincoln Park residents have less than .41 acres of space per 1,000 residents - significantly less than the CitySpace Plan's goal.

The riverwalk, which DPD's proposed plan contemplates, and which DPD states provides approximately 60 acres of open space, is a linear space, not the open recreational space that the community wants and needs. The riverwalk, while open space, is not a substitute for a recreational park. The increase in

density contemplated by DPD in its proposed rezoning plan itself along, notwithstanding the community's existing needs for an open recreational park, clearly supports the need for an open recreational park. Moreover, my understanding is that other neighborhoods surrounding the North Branch Industrial Corridor have been identified by the City as in need of additional open space. Failing to provide open recreational space in the proposed rezoning plan will only exacerbate the existing open space issues and ignore an important need and an important tool used in creating a sustainable development. The failure to include open recreational space in the proposed rezoning plan is especially disconcerting when one considers the fact that there currently exists an approximately 18-acre City-owned parcel within the corridor (the Fleet Management Facility) that the City is planning to soon vacate.

Sincerely,

Reatha Kay

[1] *The Power of Parks: An Assessment of Chicago Parks' Economic Impact*, Chicago Park District, p. 4 (2014).

[2] Information regarding the respective acreage of the parks used in this calculation was compiled from *The Power of Parks: An Assessment of Chicago Park's Economic Impact*, Chicago Park District, App., pp. 26-39 (2014), and includes the following parks: Oz, Trebes, Clover, Clybourn, Goudy, Noethling (Grace (Wiggly Field)), Park 535, Park West, Privet, Schaefer, Supera, Adams, Bauler, Jonquil, and Wrightwood.

[3] *The Power of Parks: An Assessment of Chicago Parks' Economic Impact*, Chicago Park District, p. 28 (2014).

From: Sylvia <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 8:30 AM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

The space along the river of the North Branch Corridor needs to have open spaces for the families of Chicago to enjoy. We do NOT need anymore high rises and traffic to block out the areas which could offer so much to Chicagoans now and in future generations

Sylvia Allen Kinney

From: Mike Elliott <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 8:31 AM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Draft Framework Plan

Good morning,

I have read through most of the NB Framework and found it thoughtfully planned out. I live in Bucktown, worked on redevelopment projects along the North Branch of the Chicago River and I bike

through the study area often. I also frequently ride the Metra NW line to work. My only comment is that the bridges for the Metra line at Armitage are beyond their service life. Honestly, the Metra platform itself is in very bad shape and offers minimal protection from the weather and is not ADA compliant. I really think that these infrastructure improvements need to be moved from the "10-20 year" plan into the "5-10" year planning. I have attached a few pics from Google Earth for a quick reference. The first picture shows the crumbling NW footing with reinforcement bar fully exposed. The second shows the low clearance which regularly traps trucks below. I highly recommend including it in the draft. Since one of the main goals is to improve traffic circulations and pedestrian movements, it should be included.

Look forward to the future redevelopment of the area.

Sincerely,

Mike



Michael Elliott, PE, LEED AP
Terra Consulting Group, Ltd.



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From: Laura Moran <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 9:37 AM

To: DPD; Alderman Michele Smith

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Development -- please ensure plan is a sustainable development

City of Chicago Department of Development,

Please consider the long term impact of the proposed development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Quality of life in the neighboring communities will be significantly impacted by this

development. Open green space and traffic infrastructure improvements should be key components to the development.

Open green space can be used by all citizens in the area. Bike paths are great, but they are linear and accessible to a minority of residents. Bike paths exclude children, seniors, disabled and low income residents that cannot afford bikes (or locks). Open green space provides opportunities for all residents to walk, play, enjoy nature or engage in sports.

A plan to address vehicle traffic and congestion is an important component of sustainable development and needs to be addressed before plans are approved and a zoning change is granted. Traffic infrastructure planning surrounding the North Branch Industrial Corridor should also consider the impact of the developments at the old Children's Hospital and Lathrop Homes sites. Traffic associated with these developments will clearly impact the North Branch Industrial Corridor and surrounding communities.

This is a one-time opportunity to develop a significant parcel of property that could add to the sustainable health of Chicago residents and Chicago's economy. Done poorly, this development could choke growth and reduce the sustainability of a significant tax base driven by neighboring communities.

Please do not approve a plan unless it meets the communities open space needs and traffic infrastructure enhancements.

Regards,

Laura Moran

From: Dru Gilbert <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 10:13 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Comment on Redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a long-time resident (40+ year) of Lincoln Park, I emphatically request that you consider the community's need to include open space in the Redevelopment Plan for the Finkl site.

Our kids, our teens, and our seniors need more green, natural, beautiful and free outdoor space to mitigate the effects of living in a big metropolitan area. We need to commune more with nature. It's a human need. Please consider this in your planning.

Very sincerely

Patricia Gilbert

From: randy steinmeyer <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 11:06 AM
To: DPD;
Subject: FINKL 40 Plea

To All Concerned: the City of Chicago's Department of Planning, Aldermen Hopkins, Waguespack, and Smith, North Branch Works, and Sterling Bay,

Please consider the following request an urgent plea on behalf all the stakeholders involved in the North Branch Corridor; formerly the Finkl Steel Plant, A. Lakin and Son's, and Gutmann Leather. The redevelopment process started by North Branch Works, continued by Chicago's Department of Planning, and ultimately to be realized by Sterling Bay has been woefully shortsighted in addressing open and public recreation areas.

As a participant in many presentations by North Branch Works, Alderman Hopkin's DePaul University sponsored Charrette, and Mayor Emmanuel's [Industrial Corridor modernization initiative](#), the discussions have repeatedly echoed the absence of any creation of open public spaces for recreational use by residents initially in the 2nd, 32nd, and 43rd Wards, but, ultimately for all of Chicago. The residents of these neighborhoods have, according to the North Branch IC Framework Guidelines, 67 parks and open spaces surrounding said site. As the Park Chair for the RANCH Triangle Community Conservation Association, the parent of a child and a grandchild that have participate and still do in many park activities, I've visited and spent time in at least 30 of those parks. They range in size from one basic city lot at Park 535 to the 13 acre Oz Park. Many of these parks are so small that they offer no programming to neighbors and serve children under age 5. They provide just a small playground, usually a very nice one.

The majority parks in this area have no athletic fields, no basketball courts, no tennis courts, no place for a pick-up game of kickball, Frisbee, soccer, or three on three, much less a field house or a pool. The few parks that have these facilities are

heavily used by organized parent and association led leagues. Parks that offer programming for toddlers to teenagers are totally filled. If parents don't sign up the day Park District offerings registration begins, you don't get a spot. When my son was young, we waited overnight at Adams Park for just a spot in summer camp. Those familiar with this process recognize it's stressful, not unlike the stress accessing other limited amenities in Chicago, like enrolling a child in a Chicago Public Magnet School. Just to participate in a park program has become insanely competitive, like trying to get a child into an Ivy League College or scoring tickets for Lollapalooza.

So how do we as a neighborhood, as a ward, as a city relieve this need? Simply by creating more open space for recreation – *but where is this possible?* At the FINKL 40 we have the opportunity for the Chicago Park District to create a gem, a crown jewel. Amidst the planned new home for CH Robinson, and whatever other business Sterling Bay can bring to the spot, we can carve out some space for some athletic fields, a nice basketball court, a soccer field, a playground, and maybe even a field house with a natatorium. A Chicago Park District Fieldhouse with classes for adults, teens, tweens, and toddlers would be exemplary – not only for residents of the surrounding neighborhood, but for the future employees of the businesses, and residents of any housing created on this site. A host of programming for the tax paying residents of this wonderful city we call home. It could even live in high rise with condos or rental units. If it works in *denser* cities like Hong Kong and New York, why can't we make it work in Chicago?

Having sat through many a meeting and presentation the last few years involving the FINKL 40, having argued with friends and neighbors over issues like zoning, job creation, manufacturing, industrial pollution, traffic, access to highways, access to the river, traffic, population density, modes of transportation, open space, did I mention traffic...I've come to the realization that we,

as a community, the City as a whole, and including Sterling Bay, have an opportunity that should not be overlooked, to have public, open, recreational space on a giant piece of property next to the Chicago River, one big park. 40 contiguous acres of recreation for all the residents of the city of Chicago to enjoy - *that* is not going to happen, obviously, and that is not what is being asked for. What is being asked for is significantly more modest.

The one group that has yet to weigh in during this multi-year process is the actual landowner, one Sterling Bay: developers, investors, builders, innovators. The Sterling Bay companies have several offices in Chicago, S. Halsted, Jefferson St., Randolph St., so they are our neighbors. Their developments in Chicago include many exceptional urban campus opportunities for many a Fortune 500 company, Google, McDonalds, Starbucks and Twitter to name a few, according to their website Their investment in the Industrial Corridor could tally a billion dollars according to a September 4, 2015 article in Crain's. They own the property and can do what they please, but first they must change the zoning. This is where the city can negotiate.

My plea to the Department of Planning and Development, the Mayor, our City Council along with the good citizens of Sterling Bay is to PLEASE include some open recreational space in developing the FINKL 40. Work together to create another jewel in the Chicago Park District's Crown to serve us and join Grant Park, Washington Park, Jackson, Humboldt, Douglas, Columbus, Garfield, McFetridge, Warren and the many other beautiful parks, with open, green spaces the serve other residents throughout our beautiful city.

Thank you for hearing my plea and that of my many neighbors.

Sincerely,
Randy Steinmeyer

Cc: Sterling Bay, Chicago Department of Planning and Development, Aldermen Smith, Hopkins and Waguespack, and North Branch Works

From: Christi O'Brien <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:46 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Park Proposal

Hello,

On behalf of my husband and I, who live at, we are in favor of the proposal calling for a large park / recreational area in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. We have been in our condo for a year, and already feel (without children) the lack of green space. Oz Park is crowded even in the winter months, as we are experiencing overcrowding challenges even this early in the season there. Another park space would allow a more equal distribution of recreational use for residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christi O'Brien

From: Amy Ravit Korin <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:46 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park For North Branch Industrial Corridor!

Hi Department of Planning and Development Committee,

Please make green space a priority for our city, and demand the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor redevelopment includes a substantial, family and dog friendly park for residents and visitors to enjoy for generations to come.

As a mother of two young children (2.5 and 5 months old) plus a 60 pound goldendoodle dog, I am fighting to keep our family in the city as long as possible. Having access to a new, state of the art park would help keep us residing in the city limits for years to come and would lessen the burden of no lawn or green space of our own.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Ravit Korin
mobile:

From: Joseph Barr <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:49 PM
To: DPD
Subject: goose island park

Department of Planning:

I highly support a big park on goose island along the river. I live in the Ranch Triangle and with the exception of Oz Park we have little park space. I love the lakeside but it is

1-2 miles away and one can't park there at a modest price.

Joseph Barr

From: John Kinney <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:51 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Sylvia Kinney
Subject: Open Park Space As Part of Any Rezoning for North Branch Industrial Corridor

Any rezoning of the North Branch Industrial Corridor should include open park/recreational space. While the river walk is a good idea, this does nothing to address the acute need for open park space. The same goes for set asides by private developers which are too little and too late.

This is a once in a generation opportunity to add critically needed open space, a need that we are personally familiar with as long-time Ranch Triangle residents and frequent users of local parks. To do nothing is huge mistake that will have huge and persistent negative effects on all Chicagoans, and most directly on the many open-space challenged residents who are located on all sides of the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Thanks for considering our views.

Sylvia & John Kinney

From: Garrett Clark <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:51 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor public comments

I work on Goose Island as part of Wrigley and live near the industrial corridor in what used to be Cabrini Green. I am writing to express my fervent support for a total overhaul of this area. The nearby areas are already a mess of "suburban" style developments -- strip malls with big parking lots that waste massive amounts of vital real estate. We must learn from these mistakes when redeveloping this massive

corridor! This is a once in a generation opportunity to be a world leader in modern, citizen-friendly developments. We have the chance to be ambitious with a vision that will modernize the bridges, create better public access to the river, and correct the massive traffic snarls that happen at some of the weird intersection.

- Add more pedestrian access on and off Goose Island, as well as at key access points across the river.
- Add a large park space (not just a riverfront path) to serve as a nucleus to attract people to the area for recreation.
- Connect to the 606 so bike commuters from the quickly growing neighborhoods along the 606 will be able to access jobs downtown and in river north easily
- No more parking lots!
- Close some roads to create pedestrian walkways and reduce traffic

Garrett

From: Kolin O'Brien <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:54 PM
To: DPD
Subject: More open space in North Branch Industrial Corridor

Department of Planning and Development and Modernization Plan Commissioners,

As a resident of the 2nd ward, I am writing to urge this department include critically needed recreational space in its modernization of the North Branch Industrial Corridor in the form of a major new park. The existing open space available to residents is overburdened as it stands today; with the addition of mixed-use development, there simply will not be enough space to support the area's residents.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kolin O'Brien

From: Nicholas Volsky <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:56:58 PM
To: DPD
Subject: We want a park along the North Branch Corridor!

Hello,

My name is Nico Volsky. I have been a resident of Lincoln Park for 5 years, and have seen the tremendous changes occurring throughout the neighborhood during that time. Among those changes are the recently completed New City development on Halsted and Clybourn, and the two new developments going up at Lincoln and Fullerton, and Lincoln and Wrightwood.

With New City struggling with foot traffic even in its prime location, and two other large mixed use developments going up within a mile of the North Branch Corridor, do we really think that the neighborhood not only needs another one, but would have the necessary capacity to support it?

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a new focal point for a part of the city that is already booming. Strong evidence supports this including the new Marianos that went up on Ashland and Webster, the new Whirlyball location on Webster and Elston, and all of the new up and coming restaurants and bars along Damen between Webster and North. New park space will become the beating hart of a part of the city that is yearning for green space. Look no further than the incredible success of the Bloomingdale Trail!! People need more space to interact and enjoy life in the city, not another place to further commercial interests that already have plenty of other avenues to reach consumers.

Bucktown and Wicker Park need access to a large open space to sustain their incredible pace of development over the recent years. A park along the North Branch Corridor is the perfect solution to join two areas of the city, one Lincoln Park and two Bucktown and Wicker Park along common grounds and ensure continued development in both and a greener future for the city.

Thanks,

- Nico Volsky

From: Terry Stephan <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:57 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

As a nearly 40 year resident of the 43rd Ward, I urge you in the strongest way possible to include a plan for recreational open space in your final decisions. Our area is about to see the begining of the redevelopment of the Children's Memorial Hospitalsite and the site of the former Finkle Steel plant. These projects will bring thousands of new residents into a very small area of the ward.

Couple this with the residential units that will be part of the Industrial Corridor development and the need for new open space is glaringly apparent. Please, for the sake of our neighborhood, strike a balance between squeezing as much money out of the site for residential and commerical development as possible with the health, lifestyle, property values and just plain common sense virtues of including a meaningful, significant nod to open space.

To do otherwise would be a abrogation of your responsibilities as public servants.

I urge you to do the right thing.

Terry Stephan

From: Cathy Grodzins <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:59 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Finkel Steel redevelopment

To whom it may concern,
We would like to voice our support of green parkland to be included in the redevelopment of the Finkel Steel site in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. It would be great to extend the 606 parkway into Lincoln Park, and to have a large public park setting for athletic fields, playgrounds and tennis courts. We have enough mid density town homes and expensive single family homes being built each day in our neighborhood. This opportunity will not come along again, so please choose carefully.

Thank you for your consideration.
Jim and Cathy Grodzins

From: Mark Baker <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 12:59 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Support for Park in North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hi there,

I am supportive of a major new park, including a fenced-in dog area, on the river in the north sub-zone of the north branch industrial corridor. Personally, I feel large open grass and gardens are as needed over ball fields. A running/biking path and view of the water are a must in this space, as there is too much residual concrete from industrial space, 94, and train tracks.

Let's make this section of the river enviable for cities around the world.

Mark
Mark P. Baker

From: Elizabeth <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch development

With oz park maxed out,
The area definitely needs a park for soccer softball etc.
Elizabeth ware

From: Leo Gilbert <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:06 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Plan

To whom it may concern,

My name is Leo Gilbert, a resident of., . I am writing to your department to ask that the new plan for the North Branch Industrial Corridor include a large park (at least 10-acres) for the public to enjoy.

I am 26 years old and have lived in this area my entire life. I have seen the area change and gentrify and think the city has done a great job in bringing new business to the area. It would behove the city, in my opinion, to have a recreational park (something new

From: Sheila Murphy <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:06 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward 43
Subject: Open Space in North Branch Industrial Corridor

I write to join the large chorus of concerned citizens voicing unequivocal support for adding dedicated open space to the plans for the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

The urgent need for this space need not be belabored - suffice to say that if this need/right is not addressed - the city, this region of the city and all the related neighborhoods, residents and businesses will be irreparably short-changed.

The inattention to this fundamental cornerstone of urban renewal and vitality is inexcusable. Ignored now, it will not be easily remedied in the future. This is a major abdication of the city's responsibility to citizens - past, present and future.

Ask yourselves, "What would Daniel Burnham say?"

Sincerely,

Sheila Murphy

Kara Longo Korte <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:07 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Please put large park space in the redeveloped North Branch Industrial Corridor

Please put large park space in the redeveloped North Branch Industrial Corridor. The need is significant; the only major park of 10 acres or more in the surrounding area (Oz Park) is already overburdened and there is clearly a need.

There is significant community support including the area aldermen: Ald. Michele Smith (43rd ward), Ald. Brian Hopkins (2nd ward) and Ald. Scott Waguespack (32nd ward) and groups such as: Wicker Park Committee, the Chicago Sport & Social Club and the Oz Park Baseball Association.

Thanks in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

From: Taylor Sticha <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:15 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Industrial Corridor comments

Good afternoon,

I am a resident of the 43rd ward and would like to leave comments regarding the proposed redevelopment of the Industrial Corridor. I would like to see more recreational space included in the plan for the area.

I live down the street from Oz Park and truly feel a part of the community when I see the students, children, families and adult recreation athletes enjoying the park space. Often, it is extremely crowded, and games go late into the night. Increasing the available park space would build community in Lincoln Park and surrounding areas, and would increase opportunities for organized sports and activities for all residents.

By redeveloping the area to include recreation and park space, it will connect the communities on opposite sides of the river/Kennedy. Currently, I don't find the corridors between the areas suitable to walk/bike down due to the industrial nature of the area. With a park there, I would feel more welcome to enjoy all that the city has to offer.

Please recognize my request for more recreation space in the planned Industrial Corridor redevelopment.

Best,

Taylor Sticha

From: Timothy Rostan <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:21 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Goose Island site(s).

Department of Planning and Development representative:

The redevelopment of the North Branch corridor and additional sites on and near Goose Island represents a major and increasingly rare riverfront opportunity for Chicago, which over recent decades has squandered too many of them with lowest-common-denominator architecture and site planning.

My hope is that enough has been learned via input and past mistakes that this opportunity will be taken fuller advantage of than past ones have been.

For me, the following are some characteristics that a successful outcome would exhibit:

- An embrace of the river as an amenity, with maximal public accessibility.
- Full environmental remediation as necessary.
- Orientation of many/most physical structures toward the river rather than away from it.
- A reasonable amount of open space/park land in balance with an emphasis on the capacity of the built environment to weave the area into its surroundings.
- A de-emphasis on automotive traffic, and parking, but an optimization of mass-transit access, including to Metra and bus lines, as well as, for example, the Armitage L station. Effectively, treating the site(s) as a transit-oriented development rather than, as has occurred with so many sites along the North Branch in particular, town house communities that would be equally at home in suburbia and fail entirely at demonstrating true sensitivity to their locale.
- Elements that reflect the site's industrial history and topographical setting.
- Provision of a safe and welcoming pedestrian/cyclist linkage between Lincoln Park and the Bloomingdale Trail and thus the neighborhoods along the 606 system.

Thanks for the opportunity to offer this input. It's genuinely appreciated.

From: Pat Crannell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:21 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Corridor

Hello

As a Lincoln Park resident I am obligated to share my thoughts on the need for green space in the proposed North Branch Corridor development.

If this area is fully built up as proposed, we will face not only total gridlock around the area and Kennedy access, but deprive city residents of the opportunity for further outdoor space.

I have lived around the world and what makes some of the top cities in the world? Their abundant parks and cultural attractions. Don't miss the opportunity for some short term \$ gain.

Thank you
Pat Crannell

From: Stephen Melonides <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:21 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: North Branch Industrial corridor

Dear Planning Department,

I find it incredible that the city is not pushing hard for a park to be put in the Finkel development. Opportunities like this come about very rarely.

As the city works to make a river trail from downtown to the northside, they should be following the same vision as Daniel Burnham did, as he planned the ring of parks along the boulevards. This would be a ring of parks along the river as it meanders up past legion park.

There are NO parks along the river from downtown until you get to Lane Tech. To let this opportunity pass us by is very short sighted, small thinking and NOT in the tradition of this great city.

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood"

Stephen Melonides - 43rd Ward

From: Iain Whitaker

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:23 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Public Comment on Industrial Corridor

To Whom it May Concern,

As a resident of west Lincoln Park, and a new father, I strongly urge you to consider the creation of open public space in the present industrial corridor area. A river walk would be awesome, but is no substitute for open public land. Oz park is our closest such space and is a considerable distance from our house. As I am sure you are tired of being told the current rezoning exercise is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to save such space for future generations.

I for one am not opposed to residential buildings being developed on the former Finkl site, even though it is very close to my house. But this even further reinforces the need for open space. There should simply be no consideration of new residential buildings in the corridor without new parks. If Sterling Bay want to make a fortune from their investment, can't the City compel them to include public parks within the land they own? Seems like a win-win.

One additional recommendation: can we please open up the streets of the corridor to the public? Why does General Iron, a private business, have exclusive use of Kingsbury south of Cortland? It's only a block of street that's closed but it stops Kingsbury serving as an artery and forces additional traffic onto Clybourn. Local residents and businesses deserve access to this street, and it would be another easy and obvious win for the City. Please consider this.

Best wishes,

Iain

From: Sarah Raehl <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:23 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park within North Branch Industrial Development Plan

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to kindly request that a park, which also includes a gated, grassy dog park, be included as part of the final design for the development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. There is a significant shortage of these types of parks on the east side of the river and the planned revitalization of the North Branch Industrial Corridor will only increase the need for such a space.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Sarah Raehl
Resident of the.

190. From: Brant Serxner <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:31 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Citizen comment on North Branch Industrial Corridor Redevelopment

Dear Department of Planning and Development,

I strongly urge you to include one, or more, large contiguous park spaces in the North Branch Industrial Corridor redevelopment. Selling the land will no doubt bring in a significant amount of cash, and to some extent an ongoing taxpayer (assuming no tax breaks, TIFF's, or other write downs). However, developing park land brings in larger dividends in property values, lower crime, greater community strength and commitment, pollution reduction, support for families and even general mental health for city residents. Larger contiguous parks offer benefits that pocket parks cannot, in terms of sports, community gathering, biodiversity and psychological impact. This is a rare opportunity to demonstrate adherence to the city of Chicago's own motto of the garden in the city and to our history of making no small plans, for small parks. I support my alderman in her attempts to influence the outcome of your deliberations, and I urge you to include at least one sizable park in the new plan.

Sincerely,

Brant Serxner

Brant Serxner M.A., PMP, ACP

From: patrick joyce <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:36 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward02; Ward43
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan

Dear DPD,

This is to request more detail on how you plan to integrate/include Recreational space in the former Finkl Steel Site and other Industrial zones changing over.

I am a nearby homeowner and resident. I would love to see a substantial portion be dedicated to recreational park usage. It seems this was glossed over in everything I have read and heard.

Please consider this my vote for more green space on this matter.

Sincerely,

Patrick Joyce

From: David <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:38 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello,

I am writing to you in regards to the plans to redevelop the North Branch Industrial Corridor. I think it is critical that major parkland area is part of any new redevelopment.

There is a significant amount of development already happening in Lincoln Park, such as the old Hospital site, which will undoubtedly lead to increasing people in the area.

I have lived in Lincoln Park for many years and firmly believe that the open areas and environment this provides for residents and families are key to the success of the area.

Ensuring that any new development and increasing numbers of residents are offset by open and parkland areas is highly important.

Thank you for your time

David Evans

From: mindy munson <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:40 PM

To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Dear Chicago Planning Commission:

We think there needs to be a larger plot of park in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. One of the things that makes Chicago a livable city is neighborhood parks. With the number taxes and fees going up, the city needs to be able to offer more to its citizens.

Urbs in horto!

The City of Chicago motto which means City in a Garden!

Thank you for reading this.

Melinda and James Munson

From: Hisham Petry <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:41 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: Yes to recreational space at Finkl Steel Site

To Whom it may concern,

As a resident on Lincoln Park, I am quit sensitive to the dearth of parks west of the lake. You have a rare opportunity to use recently available undeveloped land for public space, and you should. The number of people living west of the lake is increasing with more developments to come. That growth will put more pressure on already over-utilized recreational spaces. I hope that you will reconsider plans that don't include additional public space.

Thanks,

Hisham Petry

From: Heather McMillan Hoepner <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:43 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Support for a Park in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello!

I strongly support including plans for a large community park in the revamp of the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

As a Lincoln Park resident, I appreciate the value of having the park of Lincoln Park in my community, but also recognize only select residents who live within reasonable walking distance can take advantage

of its amenities. The same is true of Oz Park which is heavily used. Including open space on the west end of Lincoln Park will afford more opportunities for recreation for more Chicagoans, not to mention the environmental benefits of trees and grass.

Please include a vision for a large park in your plans!

Heather

From: Wes Martino <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:46 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor....

We moved from Lincoln Park to Wicker Park when we started having Kids in 2014. The #1 thing we miss about Lincoln Park are the amazing parks.. Oz Park, Lincoln Park, etc..

MAKE THIS A PARK. We need more parks in this city.

Also, extend the 606 into Lincoln Park. It is impossible to safely ride your bike from Wicker Park / Bucktown to the lake. Division St, North Ave... none of them have bike lanes going under the highway and through Goose Island. The bike lanes end in Wicker Park.. and don't pick up again until well into Lincoln Park.

Thanks and good luck.

Wes

From: Chad Surles <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:42 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Please create a 65 acre park near Goose Island

I believe the parks will attract more families to Chicago and make the city over all a better place.

198. From: Dino Delić <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 1:47 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park needed near Goose Island

[I am writing to express my interest in the city planning for more park area to be built around the Goos Island redevelopment.](#)

[This is much needed for the area.](#)

[Thank you](#)

From: patsy dimm <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Parkland

I am writing in support of creating parkland in the planning of the North Branch industrial corridor. We need more green space. Parks in Lincoln park are overburdened. We need to think of our kids and the next generation and provide them with the necessary space needed to participate in physical activity and outdoor activities. This is a an opportunity to provide for the future generation. Do not dismiss the interest. I encourage you to incorporate a large park into the redevelopment plan. It's necessary and vital to the health of our city.

Patsy Dimm

From: Joan Dahlquist <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:04 PM
To: DPD
Cc:
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Needs a 10 acre plus park

Hello DPD Team,

My name is Joan Dahlquist and I live at

I visit Oz Park frequently and over the last two weeks I have had to navigate a sidewalk, with my 4 year old, where shotput and discus was being played by Lincoln Park High School. These sports can be deadly if you are hit with one of these objects.

Recently I have been playing with my son in the grass and been literally pushed out of the way by a league wanting to play soccer. And multiple times I have been forced to stop playing with my son, in the grassy areas, because the baseball teams are practicing. I have also been hit by one of their baseballs last week. The baseball takes over the whole park, not just the baseball diamonds.

Oz park is way over crowded and has become downright dangerous. Many local people are feeling they need to avoid it to keep their children safe, this has also become a factor with many families choosing to move the suburbs. Now is the time to establish another park of consequence, no less than 10 acres, in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. It is just a matter of time before someone gets seriously hurt from the overcrowded conditions.

Please act now and establish a park for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joan Dahlquist

From: Amy Honney <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:34 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

To Whom it May Concern:

As a resident of South/West Lakeview and formerly Lincoln Park I agree with Ald. Michele Smith, Ald. Brian Hopkins, and my Ald. Scott Waguespack that we need a park in the redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. The parks in this area are totally maxed out. We do not need a river walk we need fields where adults and kids can play sports and get exercise. There are miles of lakefront walks and downtown river walks we need large open spaces that can have multiple functions. The neighborhood has spoken so please start listening. It will only get worse as you add more residences in this project.

Sincerely,

Amy Honney

From: Shauna Kelley <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:05 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park in Goose Island

Hello. Wanted to voice my support for a park and open green space in the new Goose island development. thank you

From: ANDREA L. SILL <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:22 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Input regarding North Branch Industrial Corridor

As a longtime resident of the area around the North Branch Corridor, I ask that you strongly consider the community's request for more desperately-needed green space and reserve a sizable portion of the corridor for public park space. In order for families and communities to stay in the city, we need parks that can service a wide variety of public needs, like baseball fields, tracks, playgrounds, and other park facilities. We hope that you will consider this in your development plans for the site.

Regards,

Andrea Sill

[Andrea L. Sill](#) | Partner | T. |
[Barack Ferrazzano Financial Institutions Group](#)

From: Marisa Wiewall <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:23 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Comment on North Branch Industrial Corridor

I am writing to comment on the North Branch Industrial Corridor plans. As a resident of the 43rd Ward in Lincoln Park, I am in agreement with Alderman Smith that the west side of Lincoln Park, Bucktown and nearby Logan Square area are extremely under parked and in need of green space. Another concern, is more development in that area would add to the already awful traffic problem on the Cortland/Armitage exit of the highway, as well as Clybourn, North Ave and Western Avenue.

Please consider a substantial recreational green space for this communities.

Thank you,

Marisa Wiewall

From: Jennifer Mangano <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:27 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Open Space

Good afternoon - I would like to express my support for more open space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Best regards,

Jennifer Mangano

From: Stephen Rynkiewicz <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:29 PM
To: DPD; Ward02
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

As a runner, it distresses me that there are no destination parks in the city between Lincoln Park and Humboldt Park. While I enjoy the 606 and likely will use a North Branch trail, there really has to be something more -- a place to unwind and a refuge for nature.

Years ago I decided where to live by listening to chirping birds. I'm not sure the city would pass the same test. The city was thinking forward when it saved large expanses of developable land. Years from now residents will wonder why that stopped.

Stephen Rynkiewicz

From: Paul Sill <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 2:38 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Corridor / Green Space

As a longtime resident of the area around the North Branch Corridor, I ask that you strongly consider the community's request for more desperately-needed green space and reserve a sizable portion of the corridor for public park space. In order for families and communities to stay in the city, we need parks that can service a wide variety of public needs, like baseball fields, tracks, playgrounds, and other park facilities. We hope that you will consider this in your development plans for the site.

Regards,

Paul Sill

From: ken <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:03 PM
To: DPD
Subject: north branch corridor

Hi,

As a Chicago resident, I'd like to see the north branch industrial corridor turn into public park space, and not be developed. We have enough boring buildings and garbage developments and no good river access in that area.

ken kanno

From: Winifred Godfrey <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:15 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Committeeman Michele Smith
Subject: Re North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Plan

David L. Reifman, DPD Commissioner
City of Chicago
Chicago Plan Commission

c: Michele Smith, 43rd Ward Alderman

Re: North Branch Industrial Corridor Modernization Plan

Dear Commissioner David Reifman,

As you finalize plans for the 50-acre former Finkel Steel plant corridor, I

strongly urge you to remember the key reason that Chicago is the most beautiful city in the world: Daniel Burnham's vision for our great city included the idea of setting aside green space.

Our city motto is "Urbs in Horto" (City in a Garden.)

Parks make our city livable for its people and bring us together amid the noise and the chaos of a busy metropolis.

According to Blair Kamin, Chicago Tribune architecture critic, "half of the city's 2.7 million people live in park-poor areas."

Where is the community park and recreational area that was promised to city residents in the North Branch Industrial Corridor, Commissioner? Make no big plans without park space, please!

As a 30-year resident of Lincoln Park, I am disappointed that our community efforts to set aside 10 acres for a major park are being ignored despite strong neighborhood support at public meetings.

I strongly urge you to put a park in your planning.

Sincerely,

Winifred Godfrey

From: Mary Uhing <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:14 PM
To: DPD; Ward02; [y](#)
Subject: Park near North Branch Industrial Corridor

greetings,

I am a resident and homeowner in the Lincoln Park area of the 2nd Ward. I have attended several of the meetings pertaining to proposed changes in the North Branch Industrial Corridor, and I receive the Planning Department's email communications on this subject.

I believe that there is a real need for additional park space in this area, given DPD's proposal that the northern region of this corridor include up to 50% residential. DPD's "Open Space Inventory Map" does not show much access to open space within a half mile of this new residential region. Moreover, claiming that the 43rd Ward and the Lincoln Park area are already oversupplied with parks due to the presence of Lincoln Park is at best disingenuous, and at worst purposely misleading. Lincoln Park may have a lot of area, but it does not primarily

function as a within easy-walking distance "neighborhood" park for most of this region. Moreover, it's remote from the proposed redevelopment.

Numerous neighborhood associations and alder people from this area have made compelling cases for additional neighborhood park space. Creation of additional River Walk area, while laudable, does not address this need, nor does creation of plaza green spaces associated with the anticipated businesses and residential high rises. These spaces will be small, isolated, and utilized primarily by non-area residents.

Redevelopment of the North Branch Industrial Corridor may be the city's only chance to create appreciable new park space in this region. This opportunity should not be squandered.

Mary Uhing

From: shane lundeen <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:19 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Goose Island park proposal

I support the plan for a park in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

"Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment."

From: Angela Heinig <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:32 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Green space and Park North Branch Industrial Corridor

City of Chicago-

Please consider the opportunity to develop a new park and green space for the North Branch Industrial Corridor. As more young people and families with children continue to stay in Chicago instead of moving to the suburbs the need for parks, sports facilities and green space continues to grow.

This development is an opportunity to create state of the art sports facilities and park for the City of Chicago.

Sincerely,

Angela Heinig

From: Martin Sinclair <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:40 PM
To: DPD

Cc: Alderman Michele Smith
Subject: A Need For Parkland

Dear Department of Planning and Development,

I write today in my personal capacity as a home-owner, tax-payer, voter, and concerned citizen of City of Chicago's near north side. The neighborhood must have a new park. And it must be of a realistically useful size. A river walk is not enough. We need space for baseball diamonds, children to play, additional space for soccer, and dog walking.

In my forty years of life – all in Chicago – [Oz Park](#) has been my hub of activity. It was there that I learned to ride a bicycle, kick a soccer ball, throw a baseball, sled in the winter, and even help build the children's playground as a student at Abraham Lincoln Elementary. It has been a joy to see the neighborhood rejuvenated over the last few decades. To see more families staying and raising their children – dedicating themselves to the city and its community without fleeing to the suburbs. But as more people have stayed, the resources for the community have been overburdened. The open areas of the park are crowded, the grass overrun, and the sidewalks jammed. It's wonderful to see the people, but it's not necessary. It's unsustainable. And it's ripe for conflict with increased density.

If the city seeks to grow and burnish its image, it must plan for the future and the families it seeks to attract. Without expanded outdoor space in the [North Branch](#) Industrial Corridor, the near north side risks back-sliding to a stop-over point for families on their way from River North to Schaumburg.

I encourage the Department to choose wisely, plan ahead, and build a park. It might be hard to commit yourself to that decision now with pressure from developers or the Mayor's office, but I am certain it will be the best outcome for the long term.

Very kind regards,

Martin V. Sinclair, Jr.

From: Jack Schemenauer <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 3:45 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Please for the love of everything sacred turn this into a park.

"A city within a garden" should have as many public green spaces as possible.

Thanks,

Jack

From: Peter Paricka <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 4:01 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - Build More Parks / Public Transportation

Hello,

Build more green space, park lands, and extend the 606. There is enough land for residential and expand public transportation. Otherwise this area will be a traffic nightmare!

Peter Paricka

From: Dennis O'Toole <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 4:11 PM
To: DPD; Y
Subject: A note in favor of a park in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello,

I am writing in support of a major new park for the development of the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Aside from the stresses that all the new housing would place on existing parks in the area, such as Oz Park, this could be a great opportunity to further beautify the city.

Chicago's park system is one of our greatest jewels. It would be exciting to add to Chicago's beauty as new parts of our city and new neighborhoods, are born. So many of our parks are places that our grandparents and great-grand parents set aside with not only their pleasure in mind, but ours. I'm a fourth generation Chicagoan on both sides of my family. I am grateful to all of our Chicago forefathers and foremothers who made the effort (often legal efforts) to ensure that all Chicagoans have places to play, exercise, or simply relax.

If we follow their example and ensure that development projects like the North Branch Industrial Corridor include gifts to future generations in the form of new parks, then we will only add to Chicago's legacy of being an "*Urbs in Horto*."

Sincerely,

Dennis O'Toole

217. From: Amy Abramson <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 4:11 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward02
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE - North Branch feedback below and attached (same letter).

Amy Abramson

May 1, 2017

Dear Commissioner Reifman/Department of Planning and Development,

I am writing to express my concerns about the North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework.

I live in the Ward ("") off the. It is a 2-minute walk to the North Branch of the Chicago River. I have lived in this location for twenty years and my family has lived here for almost thirty years. Because of where we reside, my family and I are directly affected by developments in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

I began attending local community meetings in 2014, when North Branch River Works was soliciting input. Despite strong community interest in the ecological restoration and conservation of the river and its wildlife, in re-purposing historic buildings, in pedestrian-friendly green areas and in creating spaces where artists/"makers"/local small business could flourish, we watched as buildings along Webster and Cortland were reduced to rubble. Finkl was sold and the great polluter, General Iron Industries, bought even more land.

To restore, protect and foster ecological and economic vitality, I propose that the DPD consider the following goals in their planning framework:

1. Facilitate the relocation of General Iron Industries.
 - General Iron is an environmental and economic hazard which impairs future development – in the North zone in particular.
 - General Iron has essentially created a brownfield, polluting our air, water and earth. Residents can regularly smell its fumes, see particles in the air and hear noise from General Iron. It has been cited numerous times for code violations.
 - It seems unlikely that a business, developer or individual would want to build or reside near General Iron, as it would be a financial liability to all involved.
2. Create a wildlife/nature reserve along our river with designated hiking trails.
 - While most cities have recreational parks (traditionally, with hard surfaces, children's playgrounds and multiple playing fields), an urban wildlife/nature reserve along the river would differentiate our city from other cities.
 - Unlike traditional parks, a nature reserve would place Chicago at the forefront of ecological sustainability, habitat restoration and species biodiversity.
 - Moreover, trails and observation points would serve the general public and could be used at any time by anyone without cost or priority to any one group.
 - As a public asset, an urban wildlife area would afford citizens and visitors alike moments of discovery and quiet reflection as well as more formal educational opportunities to learn about science, sustainability and related ecosystems.

- Not only would nature become an everyday part of “city life,” but a wildlife/nature reserve could also serve as a hub for businesses and individuals whose work focuses on conservation and restoration, green technology and scientific education and research.

3. Ensure that residential/commercial developers minimize ecological footprints, while creating and rehabilitating structures and buildings that are “unique, historical and architecturally significant” (p. 22, North Branch Framework).

- The Framework notes that 60 buildings fall into the latter category. However, we have already seen many such buildings torn down.
- In “buffer” zones, we have cheap strip malls with parking lots all along Clybourn to such an extent that some refer to it as “Little Schaumburg.” Footprints are expansive and unsightly. There is nothing, unique, historical or architecturally significant about these developments.
- Residentially, we have an overabundance of cinder-block cookie-cutter townhomes along streets that abut Clybourn. “Snout” houses and curb cuts mean a loss of trees and more car traffic as well as a more transient and less neighborly environment. Our neighborhood is not as green, pedestrian-friendly or community-oriented as it could be.
- For all the reasons above, we do NOT need more of the same; the need to protect the integrity and unique character of Chicago neighborhoods along the river should be paramount.
- We have a unique opportunity to go beyond big box, large-scale or corporate development – to diversify our community with economically and ecologically viable enterprises such as DIY “makers” spaces. These spaces create community for small businesses, including entrepreneurs, crafts people, artists, educators and scientists, as well as for neighborhood residents, who live in the area, but may not necessarily be employed by some of larger “tech” businesses currently in the area.

I would be happy to further elaborate on any of the above and can be reached by cell or by email. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. I look forward to many exciting days ahead.

Best wishes,

Amy Abramson

From:

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 4:19 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Parkland in North Branch area

Hi, I read that you are looking for comments on including parkland in the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Parkland and green spaces are sorely needed. Once the land is sold to developers there is no going back. This is a rare opportunity to add to the lungs of a city that is becoming more and more built up (literally and figuratively).

Our city has a history of being visionary in setting aside significant spaces for the public good. When Chicago was

founded there were no parks. Urbs in horto was more of an aspirational motto than one in reality.

We can't lose this opportunity to set aside a share of land for pleasure, for relaxation. Rob paraphrase Alfred Caldwell: We need places to escape from the hustle and bustle of the megalopolis. Let's think of the needs of peace and future generations of Chicagoans.

Laurence Leive

218. From: Susu Block
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 5:04 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Philip Block
Subject: Recreational Space in North Branch Industrial Corridor

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to voice our support for more recreational space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Limited park space in our ward limits sports league participation amongst kids and adults. It also leaves little room for people who simply wish to enjoy our parks without being overrun by sports organizations that are at capacity in existing parks and fields. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the city of Chicago to do the right thing by supporting citizens in their calls for more public recreational space in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. We hope we can rely on your support.

Thank you,
Susanna and Philip Block

From: Georgia Stanek-Finkle <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 5:21 PM
To: DPD
Cc: Ward02
Subject: Building Height Maximum 3 stories

Above all, I hope the feel of our historic neighborhood remains. I pray that developers do not let their greed overshadow the community. With that I mean we who live in the area moved here because there are no high-rises looming in our back yards. There are no multi-story shopping malls. There are no towering office buildings. This is not Streeterville. This is a neighborhood filled with schools and churches and shops that line our quaint business districts. Our homes and condominiums and townhomes rarely exceed 3 stories. The larger retail stores that have been built (Mariano's, Best Buy, Kohl's, etc.), while they do not exactly fit in, at least they are on the periphery and not adjoining the residential neighborhood.

I realize a one or two story industrial park to replace Finkl Steel may not be what the developer expected to gain from its purchase but I think not replacing the jobs that Finkl Steel and its neighboring industries provided is a great loss. Before the property was purchased it would have been nice to have the zoning nailed down so that Sterling Bay would not bulldoze its way through and would consider what the neighborhood will stand for.

I know ideas were floated to build a golf course, a movie studio, a brewery and tasting room, a private gated community of single family McMansions, and so forth. All I have seen is a proposal for a vague "multi-use" facility with an incredibly dense footprint. That is so NOT transparent it is almost criminal.

A 40 acre park that is open to play softball and Frisbee, with habitat for wildlife, with greenery to help the air quality – all is probably too much to ask for.

A height limit of 3 stories – whatever is built – would keep the feel of the neighborhood. It would allow sunlight onto our properties and we wouldn't be living in the shadows of buildings that are not within the vibe of the neighborhood. Multi story buildings are not a sign of progress – only of greed.

For what it is worth.

Regards from hopefully not a future ex-Chicagoan,
Georgia Stanek Finkle

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From: Ward Services <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 5:27 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Fwd: North Branch Corridor - Park

One more North Branch Comment.

Office of Alderman Michele Smith

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michele Smith <
Date: Mon, May 1, 2017 at 5:10 PM
Subject: Fwd: North Branch Corridor - Park
To: Ward Services <

please forward this comment to DPD.

Michele Smith

43rd Ward Alderman

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Rubens <
Date: Mon, May 1, 2017 at 5:08 PM
Subject: North Branch Corridor - Park
To: Michelle Smith <
Hello Michelle,

I cannot attend this meeting however, I very much think the city needs to add a park to this huge mass of land!

I feel Chicago is becoming overcrowded - there is absolutely no regard for city planning. Is there really a department that does "City Planning"? So many residents are being added to such small footprints without regard for re-thinking/updating the old parking, traffic patterns & lights, bike lanes etc. As long as there is tax revenue everything else is fine?

Seeings that Illinois and Chicago is winning big at losing the most residents in the country, let's just keep ignoring residents who have lived here and understand what is happening! And one more thing,

do you think you could raise our property taxes a little more while you are at it?????

I've really had enough!

Suzy Rubens

From: MKM <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 5:27 PM
To: Mayor Emanuel;. ; Reifman, David; Gorski, Eleanor
Cc: Burnett, Walter; Michele E. Smith; Hon. Scott Waguespack; Hopkins, Brian; Ward12; Burke, Edward;; Foulkes, Toni;; ; Ward01; Ward21; Solis, Daniel; Mell, Deborah; Austin, Carrie; Laurino, Margaret; Reilly, Brendan; Tunney, Tom;; Harris, Michelle; Krista Elam; Sharon Wheeler; Caroline Vickrey; Schilf, Kim; 'Vi Daley'
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan

Attached are comments on DPD's North Branch Industrial Corridor Framework Plan. These comments seek to bring further changes to the proposed framework plan so that residents and existing manufacturing businesses can continue to thrive in the North Branch Industrial Corridor. The comments address the following key areas that are of significant importance to residents and existing manufacturing businesses in the corridor:

- 1) Increased traffic congestion
- 2) Lack of adequate open space, including the need for a large 10-15 acre park
- 3) Need to better define land uses in the corridor

- 4) Lack of capacity in local public schools
- 5) Lack of documented, enforceable community agreements

The following neighborhood associations and business groups have signed on to these recommendations and encourage DPD to include these recommendations in the final plan that will be presented to the Chicago Plan Commission on May 18, 2017.

Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce
Mid-North Association
Near North Unity Program
North Branch Works

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of these recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Mary Kay Minaghan

This email is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Thank You.

From: Rick Melcher <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 5:45 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor - need for parkland

To whom it may concern,

As a resident with children and grandchildren in the communities affected by the proposed North Branch development, I would like to argue strongly in favor of the need for parks and parkland. The addition of new residential and commercial buildings, on top of other new developments – Finkl, Children’s – will mean substantial new congestion. Without additional parks set aside, the livability of the area, already under considerable pressure, will be even more strained.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Melcher

= = = = = = = = =
Richard Melcher

From: Marguerite Huber <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 6:10 PM
To: DPD
Subject: The North Branch Industrial Corridor

Good Evening,

I would like to comment on the North Branch Industrial Corridor Plan.

I believe that open space and a new, major park, should be the top priority. We have a unique chance to create a space for future Chicagoans to play and relax and that should be put above more housing.

Thank you,

Marguerite K. Huber

From: Chris Hastings <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 6:18 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor Recreational Park space

To the Chicago Department of Planning and Development-

Please accept this message as encouragement to include park space with recreational fields and facilities as a mandatory facet of the North Branch Industrial Corridor redevelopment project. The demand for recreational space far outweighs the supply in the City of Chicago currently, especially on the northside near the Corridor. The addition of park and recreational space in the Corridor is essential to creating a community that will serve all needs of the citizens in and around the area. As an organization serving over 100,000 active, young professionals living and working in and around downtown Chicago on an annual basis, I see every day the positive impact that recreational activities at Chicago Park District locations have on our community and the citizens that we serve. There is a definite need for more space for adults, youth and people of all ages to engage in the recreational activities they love close to home or where they work. Please consider the importance of this in the plans for the Corridor's redevelopment. The benefits will be tremendous and lasting.

Sincerely,

Chris Hastings

Business Owner with offices in the North Branch Industrial Corridor

[Chris Hastings](#)

[ChicagoSocial.com](#) | [DallasSocialClub.com](#) | [SocialSportsAgency.com](#) | [GrabAGame.com](#)



225. From: Ward Services <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 6:39 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Fwd: The need for park space at Finkl

One additional comment on open space at the North Branch Industrial Corridor.

Office of Alderman Michele Smith

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Neeta Rochlani <
Date: Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 8:15 PM
Subject: The need for park space at Finkl
To: Alderman Michele Smith <
To whom it may concern-

I would like to express the frustration with the lack of planning for more park space at the old Finkl site. Living near a park has been one of the benefits of living in the city and with an increasing population of children and families and the hope for residential development at Finkl, it seems short sided to not consider more open green space.

My children are at Mayer Magnet and play school sports in addition to playing OZ park softball and Chicago City Soccer. Finding quality practice and game space always seems to be an issue. You have a flourishing neighborhood and not enough recreational space to support the programs. I ask that you strongly consider allowing for more of this space in the 10 plus acres you have to work with.

Thank you for your consideration,
Neeta Rochlani

From: Ward Services <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 6:49 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Fwd: FW: Redevelopment of Finkl Steel Site

Just making sure this comment is received. Apparently, they were getting kick-backed.

Office of Alderman Michele Smith

43rd Ward

----- Forwarded message -----

From:
Date: Tue, Apr 25, 2017 at 12:10 PM
Subject: FW: Redevelopment of Finkl Steel Site
To: "
Dear Michele,

I sent the letter below to the link that the DPD provided in its announcement today. It was kicked back as undeliverable.

I prepared and sent an email to them several weeks ago along the same lines. It too was kicked back as undeliverable.

Do you have a better email address for them? Perhaps a lot of your constituents are getting their comments kicked back as undeliverable.

Thanks,

Alex

P.S. We met Sunday at the U of C Leavitt Freakonomics event.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 12:00 PM

To:

Subject: Redevelopment of Finkl Steel Site

I strongly urge the City use this opportunity to put in a major park.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do so. When else will such a large parcel become available? Whoever champions this will be the Daniel Burnham of the 21st Century.

To provide more and more housing units without broad green space (and without adequately addressing infrastructure and traffic needs that go with it) is absolutely insane. People will be piled up upon each other with no place to go to enjoy themselves and relax. Look at the crowds from west of the river who are already crowding places like Lincoln Park and the lakefront on nice summer days. Fullerton and North Avenues are jammed. The park is overcrowded.

With more housing will come more demand for recreational and park areas. It will raise property values as a major asset to the neighborhood just like Lincoln Park does. And we shouldn't be satisfied with little park-lots scattered here and there and think that those spotty patches equal a public park that people need to live. An impressive major public park along the lines of Lincoln, Grant, Jackson and Garfield is what's needed. It will enhance livability and Chicago's reputation as a livable city. It will be an attraction. It will be a worthwhile destination for river boats and tourists—a little boat landing won't attract anyone.

Build a grand fieldhouse with activities for all the people. Build baseball diamonds. Build a lagoon. Build a cultural center. Build a bandshell. Build a theater. Businesses will build up around it all. Build scenic roads through it like in New York's Central Park and in the other major parks in our city.

Where are people to go otherwise? Hang out in the streets?

I am not a tree-hugger or an environmentalist or any kind of activist. But a big green park refreshes the city. It would be a major mistake to squander this opportunity.

Alex Zabrosky and Jo Merena

From: Ward Services <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 6:52 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Fwd: North Branch Corridor Park

Office of Alderman Michele Smith

43rd Ward

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mike Rossmeier <
Date: Mon, Apr 10, 2017 at 10:50 AM
Subject: North Branch Corridor Park
To: Alderman Michele Smith <
These are my arguments for a major park:

- 1) Sports facilities keep families in the City. There is still a prevailing sentiment that if you have a child who wants to pursue serious athletics, other than basketball, you need to move to the suburbs for the facilities and coaching.
- 2) With a park, residents of this complex will be driving to other parks such as Oz, increasing the already bad traffic, especially after school during rush hour and on shopping days like Saturdays, and oversaturating the available parking spaces around other parks.

228. From: Holden Metz <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 7:32 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Park Space

To Whom It May Concern:

As a member of the community surrounding the new corridor, I would really like to express my desire to have park space added. I work in the area and there is a need for this. There are very few options for recreational activities in the surrounding area and it would add a lot to whatever other developments are created.

Thank you for your time,

Holden Metz

From: Bill Choslovsky <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 7:33 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch corridor comments

Dear Public Officials,

I will not try to subtly persuade. Instead, let me cut to the chase: if quality of life is at all relevant and actually doing what the vast majority of your constituents need and want is a factor, then more - much more - real green space should be set aside. Specifically, there should be several athletic fields set aside. This should be a no-brainer. I refuse to be polite about this or try to subtly persuade. You should embrace this. Happily.

The "bargain" here is if they want density, then this is the price of admission. They need you. So make them play ball.

Insist on real green space. And not the phantom "green space" from downtown high rises.

Walk tall. Do the right thing. This is an at least 100 year issue. Let's get it right.

William Choslovsky

From: Jodi Fiser <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 7:34 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North branch corridor - new park!

Hi,

I live in the Ranch Triangle with my husband and 15 month old. We would love the old industrial park with Finkel's factory to be turn into a park. It is a great way to keep families in the city!

Thank you for your consideration,

From: Ruthie Friedell <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 7:54 PM
To: DPD
Subject: New plan

Hello, I would hope that whatever is the plan
Park or housing that the Courtland stretch be somehow widened since it is already always congested
Thank you

From: Jeff Guttadauro <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 8:03 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Chicago needs more green space!

Please do the right thing and consider using some of the North Branch Industrial Corridor for parkland. Not often does the city have a chance to make a big, beautiful, and lasting impact with such a large parcel of land. There are so many people in Chicago that would benefit from having another place to go to play soccer games or a pick-up game of ultimate frisbee or catch with friends, or to just lie out in the sun with a good book on a nice summer day. That's what makes cities great... not how many office buildings it has! It would also be a great opportunity to work in the riverfront and turn that into a stunningly gorgeous landscape that the city can be proud of, perhaps also tying in to the river walk project for the rest of the Chicago river.

I understand that funds are tight for the city, so I do see the need for revenue, and parks bring in less revenue perhaps than an office building that will have to pay taxes. I have to think there's a way to work in some decent green space though. Could you possibly solicit business sponsors for sections of the park? Or, do some other fundraising... maybe ask Obama. He's getting his library down south - how about a park (Obama Park!) up north? There has to be some way to make it work, and I think it will be well worth it to the city in the long run if some time is spent now to figure out how to make it happen.

Thanks and kind regards,

Jeff Guttadauro

From: Matt Beresh <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 9:17 PM

To: DPD

Subject: Clybourn Corridor PMD

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a Bucktown resident with two children that attend. For the last seven years, I have driven ten times per week down Cortland past the former Finkl property. I have said since day one of that commute what a phenomenal stretch of land with such great promise. As that promise becomes reality over the coming years, it is critical that we consider the parties that will benefit from the land carefully - retail, developers, and residents alike. One of the things that Chicago has always maintained above most other large cities is fantastic parks and playgrounds interspersed in the city. Not just a huge massive park in two areas that 90% of the residents must commute long ways to get to, but parks in every neighborhood that give a family ease of access and selection. The Clybourn Corridor PMD is no different. It needs more than just riverwalk green space, but needs playgrounds and fields and ballparks.

Most of my friends that come to visit call Chicago "livable", unlike San Francisco or NY. Our city is dense and populated, but the green space makes every neighborhood feel more like, well, a neighborhood.

Without neighborhood parks and playgrounds, parents have to commute kids to other neighborhoods to

play sports or just play on adequate playgrounds. The interspersed fields and parks and playgrounds make everything feel more communal - a very important factor in making Chicago area residents feel proud of their city.

The opportunity in front of us at the Clybourn Corridor PMD is one we cannot squander. Let's build something the residents can be proud of. A residential area, with retail like all of our others, but one that families will be happy to move to, live in, raise their kids in, and attract others too.

I vote for the consideration of ball fields and parks and playgrounds to be a major components of this exciting opportunity.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matt Beresh

From: Thomas Velev <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 9:32 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Additional Park Space

To the Chicago Department of Planning and Development-

Please accept this message as encouragement to include park space with recreational fields and facilities as a mandatory facet of the North Branch Industrial Corridor redevelopment project. The demand for recreational space far outweighs the supply in the City of Chicago currently, especially on the northside near the Corridor. The addition of park and recreational space in the Corridor is essential to creating a community that will serve all needs of the citizens in and around the area.

Sincerely,

Thomas Velev
Currently residing and employee of a business in the north branch industrial corridor

Sent from my iPhone

From: luda1050 <
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 10:05 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Redevelopment of North Branch Industrial Corridor

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Lincoln Park community. I am writing to express my support for public recreational space in the Clybourn Corridor Planned Manufacturing District. Public recreational space is

much needed in the Clybourn Corridor and surrounding areas. Our neighborhood population is growing. The number of children in the community is multiplying. Our neighborhood public schools are already something to be proud of and getting better every day. But, if residents don't have parks for sports, exercise, and relaxation, we cannot sustain the population growth. The National Recreation and Parks Association notes that "[j]ust as water, sewer, and public safety are considered essential public services, parks are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in a community, ensuring the health of families and youth, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and a region."

The redevelopment of the Clybourn Corridor PMD is a unique chance to not only provide large scale public recreational space, but to do so along the Chicago River. This is an opportunity not to be missed — an opportunity that will benefit our community both in the near and distant future. Just as A. Montgomery Ward fought to protect Grant Park more than 125 years ago, John Muir and President Theodore Roosevelt had the vision to create the National Park Service over 100 years ago, and a public-private partnership envisioned and made the 606 a reality, it is incumbent on our current leaders to recognize the need for additional public recreational space in the Lincoln Park neighborhood and to not miss the opportunity presented by the redevelopment of the Clybourn Corridor PMD to add vital green space to our community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luda Kleyman

From: Grace Ohs <

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2017 11:42 PM

To: DPD

Cc: Ward02; [yo](#)

Subject: Clybourn industrial corridor - north branch

I didn't have the opportunity to attend any meetings or perhaps even review all the available information about the current plan details but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to make a few comments. I live at, we've lived here since 2015. We are in the 2nd Ward. I wish I better understood the actual locked in details of the plan.

My biggest concern is the current condition of walkable routes from our home to businesses along Clybourn and in the North Ave area and Bucktown. I took my two young daughters down Clybourn last Friday afternoon to Trader Joe's. The walk is unpleasant and difficult. The clearance is extremely tight and slope and condition of the sidewalk is bad.

Also heading over on Cortland. This route is also very unpleasant and inaccessible at locations. We'd certainly walk to the 606 or Walsh Park and other locations if we didn't have all these obstacles but we default to driving because the walk is difficult and feels unsafe and is extremely unpleasant. I think the

plan addresses improvements but somethings need immediate attention. We never hesitate to walk north or east from our home but the west and south usually means a car ride. I would take the Metra to work but the walk to the station is too unpleasant and isolated so I walk east to the CTA.

I read in one report:

- Traffic congestion is caused by the lack of open space in the surrounding neighborhoods since parents have to drive their children to other neighborhoods for recreation programs.

I'm not sure how the reason for congestion is determined but when I see cars backed up in Webster every day and for most of the weekend, It doesn't appear to be parents driving to recreational programs. I feel like a significant recreational area will just bring more cars. We have the 606 and the lakefront and many parks. I can walk to several wonderful parks in 10 minutes - Clover Lot, Jonquil, Adams, Wightwood, Oz Park and Trebes and Supera. Sometimes we go and we are the only people at the park.

I'd also like to see less mattress stores and for Cortland Bridge not to be closed for any extended period of time. And finally I'd like to have the future planning include a location for water taxi service so it might be extended from North Ave if that's not in the plan. I thought some of the possible green spaces were wonderful.

I'm sending this email but I think in reading it over there are much bigger issues in other parts of the city. The plan by DPD should remain focused on job growth and linking the communities in need with those jobs.

Thank you for your time. \

From: Bob Ziegler <
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 12:06 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Vertical Park
Hi DPD,

Think out of the box. Vertical! Multi story: gym, field house and of course sport court on roof. Perfect for needed roller hockey and other sports.

Bring Back Beach Hockey!

From: Kate McCarter <
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 2:26 AM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Corridor Framework feedback

Dear Department of Planning and Development:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the framing and design guidelines for the North Branch Corridor.

I appreciate the thoughtful consideration you've given to transportation needs and your acknowledgement of the growth of information and technology jobs within the North Branch's PMDs. However, I feel that short shrift has been given to the social and environmental need for new parkland.

From a recreational and preservation standpoint, the Plan of Chicago turned its back on the river. At the time, the river was clogged with manufacturing barge traffic, sewage, and the infamous stockyards waste that created 'Bubbly Creek.' But there has been a paradigm shift about our formerly industrial river. Unfortunately, planning has not adequately caught up with new attitudes and societal goals. Had Montgomery Ward foreseen the river's potential, he too might too have designated it "forever open, clear, and free." He would have fought for open space and sight lines with the same zeal that preserved our lakefront.

The neighborhoods surrounding the North Branch Corridor are very low on park space. Page 21 of your report illustrates the low availability of open space near the corridor, and complete absence within the corridor proper. The DPD describes the 'transportation walkshed,' an ideal 10-minute walking radius around transportation stations/hubs, as most conducive to an accessible and healthy population. Similarly, socializing and fitness enabled by accessible open space is an important goal, but is not adequately addressed. Open space and recreation deserves the same attention to metrics and accessibility that is given to transportation. While page 48 of the Framework describes: "the three residential areas within the planning area that are currently beyond a 10-minute walk from open space would be within that threshold through trail construction projects," this sets the bar too low. Access to the riverfront trail will be an asset, but the user must travel further to reach large contiguous acreage. The qualitative and practical experience of a busy linear park does not offer the same respite or range of activities as a wide expanse. Even with a new Riverwalk, I question whether parts of the aforementioned under-served areas would fall into a 10-minute walkshed.

The Lincoln Park neighborhood stretches about two miles west of Lincoln Park proper. While the park presents a tremendous asset, it is not easily accessible for the western side of the neighborhood. Using your 10-minute walk measurement, accessibility stretches $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the west, which is only $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the western reach of the neighborhood to the river.

Neighborhoods to the west of the river suffer similarly. While the Bloomingdale Trail and 606 system are celebrated, the trail is crowded and the parks are but 'pockets.' As the DPD discusses bringing in more workers and a new residential population, we will need contiguous outdoor space for athletics, picnicking, socializing, meetings, gardening, and performances. This is our chance to more fully embrace the river's potential beyond the, albeit bright, current proposals.

Regarding the projected "open space" within the current 'Framework,' I was surprised to find out that the surface area of the Chicago River is calculated as part of those numbers. Given, the water has recreational potential, but it is not accessible to the same degree and certainly not entirely in an ADA compliant manner. It will be a large asset of the area, but cannot accommodate people and activities to the same degree as land acreage. Reading through some of the media coverage of this project, I saw that reporters have the same misconception. Your final draft might provide clarification of this matter so that people are comparing apples to apples, so to speak.

In addition to minimal green space, the neighborhoods surrounding the Corridor suffer from a dearth of fieldhouses, publically accessible meeting spaces, and affordable fitness opportunities. The demolition of the New City YMCA at Halsted and Clybourn, for example, was a big loss for the community. Continuing lack of affordable fitness opportunities exacerbates social stratification and neglects lower income neighbors within these neighborhoods. Likewise, the community relies on private facilities for meetings – most notably, churches, restaurants, homes for the elderly, and DePaul University. Meetings for the two largest planning projects in recent years, the Bloomingdale Trail and this North Branch Corridor Plan, serve as cases in point.

Among many paradigm shifts, Chicago has changed its stance towards the necessity of physical activity. In 2012, Chicago reversed its elementary school policy of years of no recess, to a required 20 minutes daily. But schools suffer from lack of facilities. The parking lot is the new schoolyard. A school busses its children to Ping Tom Park Fieldhouse for recess. The private LakeShore Athletic Club on Fullerton is used for school gym classes. And, as children suffer from limited access, adults have even fewer options.

The redevelopment of the so-called ‘Rezko-land,’ the huge open space east of the river between Roosevelt and 18th St., has parallels to the North Branch Industrial Corridor. Formerly an extensive railyard, the land was drastically reshaped as the river was channelized at this section. As the city looks towards redevelopment, the area has and will benefit from the recent addition of the 17-acre Ping Tom Park. As DPD designers well know, Ping Tom Park is a full-featured park that embraces its unique site. Chinatown and Pilsen are now served by the indoor Ping Tom Park Pool and the outdoor Dvorak Park pool. I actually drive the six miles to the park to use their facilities and have hoped that the North Branch Framework would aspire to a similar pool and river-embracing park. As ‘Great Rivers Chicago’ set a goal date of 2040 for a swimmable Chicago River, we will need more places to teach the next generation to swim. Having lived west of the river for 15+ years, I found the West Town pool offerings, with the indoor Eckert Park, outdoor Pulaski and Holstein Pool, to be limited. But there are even fewer offerings east of the river, with the junior (kiddie) pool at Wrightwood Park, as the only option. Page 50 of your report shows a rendering of an “example of publicly accessible recreational space and Riverwalk.” While attractive, the playground and dog park have a limited audience. Such areas are vital, but parks must also accommodate people without their children or canines in tow. The presented park shows a small percentage of the open space I hope the City is able to realize within the Corridor.

Speaking of specific and limited uses, I am a kayaker and hope to find much greater access to the river in years to come, particularly from publicly accessible launches. From a practical standpoint, planners might note that the new boathouses at Clark Park and River Park have been criticized for inadequate water access and insufficient parking. For the river to actually welcome kayaks, people need vehicular access at a ramp and a place to stow their car while they’re on the river. Kayaks are unwieldy and hefty, weighing in a minimum of 50 pounds. Looking at the Framework Plan, I was happy to see Design Guidelines which weren’t covered as widely at community meetings (likely given the constraints of time). Given the importance and uniqueness of this river site, the principles laid out in Chicago’s green Sustainable Development Policies, demand further embrace beyond their initial parameters.

The Chicago River is an important migratory bird passage. Reclaiming and rehabilitating the river's edge will be key to maintaining this flyway. I appreciate your renderings of the water's edge, similar to Jeanne Gang's rehabilitated water's edge at the Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo. I question whether the 30-foot setback required of new construction will be adequate to accommodate pedestrian and bike paths, an additional sliver of accessible green space, and such wetlands. The Corridor might emphasize environmental and habitat concessions from developers such that this width could regularly reach 40 feet (in addition to necessary new parkland).

These last two days, we've had the kind of extreme storms that have become all too common the last ten years. The City increasingly struggles to accommodate such deluges. As I surveyed flooding two blocks away, I also thought of streets within the Corridor that regularly flood from rain. The North Branch Corridor presents the opportunity to widely institute the City's "Green Stormwater Infrastructure Strategies" and present their efficacy.

The PMD 'buffer zones' have been inadequate to the amount of pollution coming from some Corridor manufacturers' operations. And at no small expense to health. While one particular industry touts its 100 years in business as a justification for its lax standards and pollution of the surrounding community, it fails to recognize that the residential areas it pollutes predate the business. I live in an 1880s home a few blocks from the buffer zone, but have suffered deleterious effects in spite of the buffer. While the buffer zone should be adequate to protecting the community from responsible and new industries, the DPD should recognize that it has not been adequate to protect the community from companies still in operation, which will be permitted in their current form until (and if) they relocate.

In this regard, additional anti-pollution measures could help mitigate health problems. In particular, an article in Science Magazine presents the surprising effectiveness with which trees absorb pollution. Please see 'Tree Leaves Fight Pollution':

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2010/10/tree-leaves-fight-pollution>. Additionally, the Kennedy Expressway daily releases particulate and fumes deleterious to pulmonary and cardiovascular health. As we look into activating the river's edge so close to the expressway, I encourage the DPD to consider other ways in which pollution might be mitigated. New strategies could "shield" both sides of the Kennedy, the buffer zones of the Corridor, and within the manufacturing zones themselves. A system of groves or allées composed of appropriate VOC-absorbing deciduous trees would both increase the City's canopy and address the specific pollution and storm water management needed within and around the Corridor.



[Tree Leaves Fight Pollution | Science | AAAS](#)

www.sciencemag.org

Environmental organizations keep reminding us that we need to reduce pollution and greenhouse gases. But plants are already doing their part. Research published ...

My last note of concern regarding the draft proposal concerns the proposed Floor Area Ratio bonuses in the Sub-North zone of the Corridor, which could increase FARs from 3 to 6.5. As the city's density generally lessens on a radius from downtown and increases in the vicinity of transit stations, I question the extent of the concessions the City is willing to grant to developers within this area. Developers are already champing at the bit. I appreciate your rendering which contrasts lower elevation structures *without* green space and vertically distributed FAR *with* open space (as shown on page 11 of your design guidelines). But, given the desirability of these plots, open space concessions could be increased. Additionally, the elevations proposed are incongruous within an area surrounded by RS-3s and RS-4s, particularly given the distance from downtown and that the sub-north zone would not be considered an area suited transit-oriented development (TOD). A DPD planner and I discussed that the Kennedy and river act as divisions such that the zone would feel delineated and compatible within itself. Within Lincoln Park, however, some of those residential zones abut on the Corridor, such that an elevation buffer within the Sub-North zone might be appropriate. I am aware that the renderings present a huge improvement over the strip malls blighting Clybourn Avenue, but hope that we can embrace the best of Jane Jacobs and also achieve maximum park space without increasing density excessively.

Lastly, I particularly appreciate your discussion of "street connectivity" and "walkable scale blocks" within the report. Reinstitution of a full grid and disallowing closure of streets by private entities could help improve the navigability and west-east connections. Two businesses within the Corridor disrupt such flow. The Webster Avenue emissions testing facility, while currently closed, might reopen after new legislation passes downstate. The facility, particularly at the end of the month when plates expire on untested vehicles, backs up Webster for miles. The facility does not staff all the testing bays, nor does it institute common sense traffic measures, such as encouraging cars to pull up, or creating additional lanes within its lot that

merge only in front of the bay. Similarly, semi trucks carrying scrap metal to General Iron often back up nearly all the way from Clifton to North Avenue. Planners are likely aware of the accidents and roads closures caused by the trucks navigating the North Avenue Kennedy exit and turning from North Avenue onto Kingsbury or another parallel private road. Transportation and access is not aided by businesses that take over blocks upon blocks of street, encourage indefinite idling of diesel engines, and drop metal shards onto the public roadway. While not specifically a zoning issue, the DPD might consider any measures that would encourage businesses to accommodate private uses *within* their property, and not spill excessively onto public land.

In conclusion, we make big moves here. In recent years, redeveloping Bridgeport's quarry into the 27-acre Palmisano Park; building four new boathouses to embrace the river; carving dirt bike jumps in the woods at the Garden; covering railyard and creating the programmatically varied Millennium Park; and controversially transforming Meigs Field into Northerly Island. Big park projects are, necessarily, small in comparison to the projects of Frederick Law Olmsted, William Le Baron Jenney and Jens Jensen. But new parks continue to be established and received with acclaim. The North Branch Corridor and surrounding area present the metrics of need of parkland at a scale not hinted at within the draft Framework Plan. Pocket parks wrested piecemeal from developers would fail to deliver on the unprecedented scale of redevelopment in the area. I keep in mind Chicago's motto, *Urbs in Horto*, or *City in a Garden*, and hope that Chicago, with the guidance of Department of Planning and Development, can deliver on that goal. I hope to see more attention given to the need and potential of open space in your final report.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kate McCarter

From: Diana <
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 7:28 AM
To: DPD
Subject: Goose Island Industrial Corridor

I support the call for a city park in this development. One that includes ball fields, a field house and other recreational options. Increasing population density without planning for usable open spaces is irresponsible and will diminish the property values of residential development in the corridor. A nature walk along the river doesn't cut it.

Sincerely,

Diana Faulhaber

From: Jennifer Brothers <
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 10:31 AM

To: DPD

Subject: Clybourn Corridor

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Lincoln Park community. I am writing to express my support for public recreational space in the Clybourn Corridor Planned Manufacturing District. Public recreational space is much needed in the Clybourn Corridor and surrounding areas. As resident, I watch our small and much loved park get overused by sports teams, the nearby school, camps, and the community at large, because park space, and even more so, green space in this area is so limited. Our neighborhood population is growing. The number of children in the community is multiplying. Our neighborhood public schools are already something to be proud of and getting better every day. But, if residents don't have parks for sports, exercise, and relaxation, we cannot sustain the population growth. The National Recreation and Parks Association notes that "[j]ust as water, sewer, and public safety are considered essential public services, parks are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in a community, ensuring the health of families and youth, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and a region."

The redevelopment of the Clybourn Corridor PMD is a unique chance to not only provide large scale public recreational space, but to do so along the Chicago River. This is an opportunity not to be missed — an opportunity that will benefit our community both in the near and distant future. Just as A. Montgomery Ward fought to protect Grant Park more than 125 years ago, John Muir and President Theodore Roosevelt had the vision to create the National Park Service over 100 years ago, and a public-private partnership envisioned and made the 606 a reality, it is incumbent on our current leaders to recognize the need for additional public recreational space in the Lincoln Park neighborhood and to not miss the opportunity presented by the redevelopment of the Clybourn Corridor PMD to add vital green space to our community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brothers

From: Lisa Lindemann <

Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 7:38 PM

To: DPD

Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

Hello,

We are writing to express our concern regarding the North Branch Industrial Corridor space. We have 4 young children and love living in the city. However, it is becoming extremely difficult to engage them in sports and

outdoor activities given the lack of appropriate open spaces to do so. This seems to be a rare, unique opportunity to allocate space towards something valuable for the community. Having access in the neighborhood goes a long ways towards keeping families in the neighborhood and in the city. We would be happy to speak more about this and willing to support the effort in any way possible.

Thank you,
Lisa & Craig Lindemann

From: Lisa Lindemann <
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 7:38 PM
To: DPD
Subject: North Branch Industrial Corridor

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Thank you,
Lisa & Craig Lindemann

From: Anne and John Huston <
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 2:54 PM
To: DPD
Subject: Open Space Needed

I believe we are in need of more open recreational space in the planned development off the Clybourn Corridor where the Finkel plant once stood. This is very important for the neighborhood, and more is needed in Lincoln Park.

Anne Huston