

6 ALDERMAN WARD RODERICK T. SAWYER CHICAGO

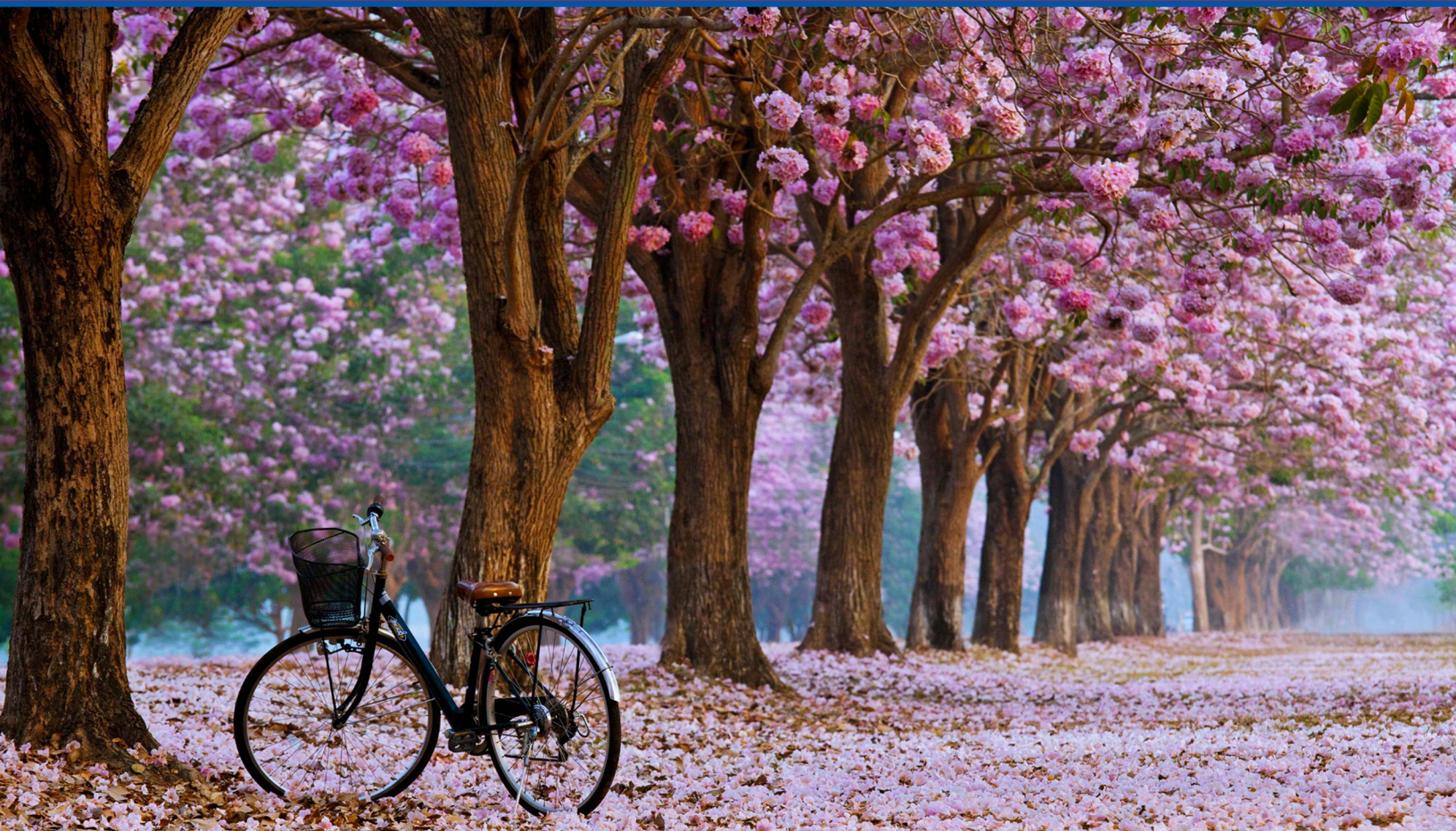


Community News Report

SPRING ISSUE 2017

Featuring

- **TROUBLED BUILDING INITIATIVE**
- **THE RETAIL THRIVE ZONE INITIATIVE**



Upcoming 2017

6 Ward Calendar of Events

May 11th
6 Ward Senior Meeting
11am - 1pm
706 E. 79th Street

May 13th
Troubled Buildings Educational Summit
9am - 12:30pm
Friendly Temple Church of God in Christ
7745 S. State Street

June 13th
City Sticker Day
10am - 2pm
706 E. 79th Street



6 WARD SENIOR MEETING

Thursday
May 11th, 2017

11am - 1pm
706 E. 79th Street



Troubled Building Initiative

Over the years, troubled buildings have become a city-wide epidemic. While being unsightly, troubled buildings also have the capacity to create dangerous and hazardous conditions for residents, neighbors, and first responders. With the warmer months approaching, it is important to be knowledgeable of and proactive in the Troubled Building Initiative (TBI). The TBI is a tool used by the City of Chicago to help salvage troubled and abandoned buildings that may threaten the wellbeing of our communities. TBI works with existing owners and lien holders to prevent these buildings from deteriorating into a state of disrepair which may lead to displacement, the loss of affordable housing, and unnecessary demolition.

The Troubled Building Initiative is overseen by the Department of Planning and Development and implemented through agency contracts through a citywide Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The City Agency Participants are as follows:

- **Department of Planning and Development**
- **Department of Law**
- **Department of Buildings**
- **Department of Family and Support Services**
- **Police Department/CAPS**
- **Department of Water Management**

Through TBI, the City has acted aggressively to improve and acquire vacant and abandoned structures and turn them into needed affordable housing. Since 2004, the program with the assistance of City Agencies, has preserved more than 16,000 rental and for-sale units across the City of Chicago.

Those who are interested in redeveloping an abandoned property should take advantage of the forfeiture program. Properties preserved through TBI may be eligible for the forfeiture process if the property is developed into affordable housing. Forfeiture is a legal remedy, which allows the City to file a petition in the Circuit Court of Cook County based on dangerous and hazardous conditions that have not been addressed, and request that the property be forfeited to an eligible third party. While the goal of forfeiture is the reduction of criminal activity and disfigurement associated with these nuisance buildings and the preservation of viable housing stock whenever possible, it is appreciated and recommended that residents participate in order to alleviate overall crime rates in the Chicagoland area.

* To learn more about TBI and/or the forfeiture process, please visit https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dcd/supp_info/troubled_buildinginitiativevetbi.htm

*To report a troubled building, please call 311 or report it online by visiting <http://311request.cityofchicago.org/>.



ALDERMAN RODERICK T. SAWYER

6TH ALDERMANIC WARD OFFICE



“TROUBLED BUILDINGS EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT”

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017

If you live in the 6th Ward and are facing building issues such as Vacant/Open, Drug & Gang, Nuisance, Absentee landlords, Slumlords, etc. or you have City Service concerns for Vacant & Abandoned Buildings this is the summit that you do not want to miss. Various city departments will be on hand to input your complaints right on site, so we ask that you have the correct addresses and as much detailed information as possible.

**COME PREPARED WITH A NOTE PAD AND PEN FOR THERE
WILL BE PLENTY OF INFORMATION GIVEN OUT AT...**

FRIENDLY TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

7745 S. STATE STREET

REGISTRATION: 9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.

PROGRAM: 9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

VISIT THE FOLLOWING VENDORS/SPEAKERS TABLES: 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

POLICE DISTRICT SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

COMMANDER DARREN DOSS (3RD)

COMMANDER WILLIAM BRADLEY (6TH)

COMMANDER KENNETH JOHNSON (7TH)

SPEAKERS AND VENDORS

Department of Buildings
Drug Gang Housing Enforcement Section
CART (Area Central & South)
Streets and Sanitation
Department of Planning & Development
Family and Support Services
CHA (Chicago Housing Authority)
States's Attorney Office
NHS (Neighborhood Housing Services)

Law Department
CDP Abandon Buildings Officers
Area South Detectives Unit
Chicago Fire Department
(911) OEMC - (311) City Services
Cook County Land Bank Authority
Cook County Recorder of Deeds
Cook County Assessors
GADC

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: 6TH ALDERMANIC WARD OFFICE (773-635-0006)
006TH DISTRICT CAPS (312-745-3641) 003RD DISTRICT CAPS (312-747-7004) OR 007TH DISTRICT CAPS (312-747-6722)



MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL • cityofchicago.org/cnn

RETAIL THRIVE ZONES

The Retail Thrive Zone Initiative

The City of Chicago has sought out to configure ways to better the development of communities in need. The Retail Thrive Zone Initiative is a three-year pilot program aimed to do just that and more. With hopes of strengthening the economic vitality of eight neighborhood corridors, the City plans to offer an evolving package of financial assistance to entrepreneurs and businesses. As a result, it is expected for economic conditions that lead to crime, as well as the quality of life in our neighborhoods to improve. Overall, the Thrive Zone Program is intended to promote entrepreneurship, build community-based wealth and employment, and improve access to amenities within the area of focus for this project.

Because a lot of the time small businesses or property owners are unable to easily secure incentives that would assist them in development, it is essential to improve the effectiveness and accessibility of those incentives. Incentives available to small businesses and property owners include:

Class 7 Property Tax Reduction

The Class 7 Program is a property tax incentive that encourages the growth of the City's commercial corridors. Both, business and property owners who undertake a rehabilitation of existing buildings or construction of new buildings are potentially eligible to have their property tax bill reduces by as much as 60% over the next 12 years. The eligibility criteria for this specific incentive *consists of identifying the financial viability and development potential of the project, establishing that the project would not be possible unless the applicant received the financial assistance, and demonstrating that the project will create employment opportunities.*

Thrive Zone Small Business Grants

This grant is tailored to the unique needs of businesses and property owners in economically challenged corridors. The Thrive Zone Small Business Grants offer up to \$250,000 with which the City has identified lending partners to provide front-funding in order to make the grants more accessible. *These fund grants can cover up to 75% of eligible costs that are paid as a reimbursement after completion of a project. It is encouraged for those needing assistance with financing their project to contact lenders that are associated with the new Bridge Loan Program.*



Neighborhood Opportunity Fund

In 2016, Mayor Rahm Emanuel implemented reforms to the City's Zoning Code in order to ensure that the growth downtown produces equitable development throughout the City. The Neighborhood Opportunity Fund is a product of the funds from the downtown development that is used to support commercial corridors in need of financial assistance in Chicago's disadvantaged neighborhoods. Business and property owners may apply for grant funding that will finance the development or rehabilitation for real estate and projects that support new or expanding business or cultural assets. *Any property that is located in a Retail Thrive Zone is also eligible for Neighborhood Opportunity Fund assistance.*

Enterprise Zones

The Enterprise Zone Program was created to stimulate economic growth in distressed communities. The main benefit of this program is a sales tax exemption on all building materials needed for a commercial redevelopment project. *In many cases, the benefit can help save up to 10% on the total cost of materials. Larger projects, however, may also qualify for not on sales tax exemptions on building materials, but for equipment and utilities as well. However, there are certain criteria that must be met in order to be eligible for those additional exemptions.*

For business and property owners within the 6th Ward, Thrive Zones are present in business corridors from 75th and Michigan to Eberhart and 79th and Vernon to Cottage Grove.

***Please visit <https://thrivezones.com/about> and <https://thrivesones.com/incentives> for any other inquiries in regards to Thrive Zones and the incentives available to develop those business corridors**

Out with the Old, In with the New

Spring is here, which means it's time to clean up the mess winter created! Mayor Rahm Emanuel, the Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) and the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) held the spring Clean and Green day of service on Saturday, April 22 in neighborhoods throughout Chicago. This day of service allowed residents to come together with City agencies in every neighborhood to help clean and beautify areas throughout their community.



Through the day of service, the City provided the necessary tools to enable community groups and neighbors to further improve their neighborhoods. Residents were encouraged to clean viaducts, curb lanes, vacant lots, parkways and any other community areas that needed a good cleaning. Though the Clean and Green day of service has past, Chicago residents should still take the initiative to keep their neighborhoods tidy. Any groups or organizations that weren't able to participate in the most recent Clean and Green and would like help clean neighborhoods in the future, 6th Ward superintendent Paul Bryson emphasized, "Although there was already a Clean and Green service day, anyone can still request cleaning tools even after the event. All we ask is that you order them at

least two weeks prior to you wanting to partake in your own Clean and Green".

With spring cleaning on the agenda, also be mindful that during this season, weeds tend to grow tall and fast. It is our responsibility as a community to assure that our grass and lawns are trimmed. "Vacant lots with weeds growing 12 inches and higher are subject to a \$600 dollar ticket", says Superintendent Paul Bryson.

In addition to having the opportunity to beautify our communities collectively, the Department of Streets and Sanitation began street sweeping April 1st to further assist with the spring clean-up. Chicago utilizes mechanical street sweepers to remove debris and litter from streets. From April 1st through mid-November, bright orange temporary parking restrictions are posted the day before sweeping service is scheduled to begin on any street to ensure curb-to-curb cleaning. Main streets, such as 71st, 75th, 79th, Cottage Grove, and King Drive will be swept regularly. Paul Bryson, 6th Ward superintendent stated, "vehicles parked on the street where signs are present after 9am on days of street sweepings are subject to a \$60 ticket".

*** The street sweeping schedule is available online at www.cityofchicago.org**

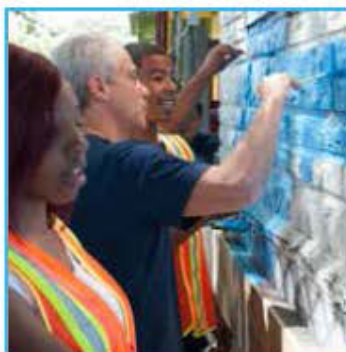
SUMMER JOBS APPLY ONLINE NOW APPLICATIONS OPEN UNTIL MAY 15

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AGES 14 TO 24

OneSummerChicago.org



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ONE SUMMER
— ★ ★ ★ ★ —
CHICAGO



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City of Chicago
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor