

** Alderman **
Michele Smith
Chicago's 43rd Ward



Children's Memorial Update

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Lincoln at Seminary Closure

Lincoln at Seminary will be fully closed from Tuesday the 21st until Friday the 24th to allow for sewer main work. It will be closed 24 hours a day. Sheffield and Diversey will serve as the planned detour routes.

No Parking - Filming Notice

Please be aware of NO PARKING/TOW ZONE on the following streets from January 22nd to the 24th.

1/22-1/24, 4am-11pm

- West side of Orchard from 1849 to 1909
- Both sides of Eugenie from Cleveland to Mohawk
- Both sides of Cleveland from Eugenie south 1/2 block

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who participated in our January 14th Community Meeting on the redevelopment of the former Children's Memorial site. Over 600 people thoughtfully listened to the presentation, asked questions and offered comments on the revised plans from McCaffrey Interests. Many people also joined the conversation via the internet. You can see the a video that was presented at the meeting [here](#), the entire presentation [here](#), and watch the webcast [here](#).

Our office is compiling all the verbal, written, and internet feedback that will be added to the hundreds of emails and letters we have received from across the Ward.

While neighborhood support for moving this plan forward is strong, feedback from the meeting and throughout the Ward reveals a number of concerns. The developer has promised to continue discussing these issues. Therefore, we will promptly engage in negotiations with McCaffery Interests to address outstanding items in order reach an acceptable agreement about this development.

Additionally, the precedent in our community is to create agreements with community groups covering issues such as demolition, noise abatement, construction schedules and the like.

While there is still work to do, we as a community can all be proud of the effort it took to bring us to this point. My final support for this plan will depend upon the satisfactory conclusion of the next round of negotiations and I will keep you updated on our progress. As always, please feel free to contact my office with questions and feedback.

Stop Hard-Hat Rodents Dead in their Tracks

1/23, 4am-11pm

- North Side of Willow from Orchard to Larrabee
- East side of Larrabee from Eugenie to Menomonee
- Both sides of Menomonee from Larrabee to the alley

Click [here](#) to read more specific details and times.

DePaul Theatre School Neighborhood Night

DePaul's office of Community & Government Relations is partnering with the Theatre School for a Neighbors Night at the DePaul Theatre. There will be a reception at 6:30pm, followed by the production "A Free Man of Color", with an optional post-show discussion with the actors. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Thursday, February 6th
6:30 pm
2350 N. Racine Ave**

New Training Dates for the Colleen Henry Writing Center

Opportunities are still available to volunteer in the new Colleen Henry Writing Center at Lincoln Park High School. The Center would be more than happy to welcome more volunteers, so help out if you can! Click [here](#) to read the flyer announcing more training dates.

At yesterday's City Council Meeting, I introduced an [ordinance](#) that will help prevent neighbors homes and gardens becoming inundated with rats from construction projects. Rodents are a significant public health nuisance and concern, and the neighbors shouldn't have to suffer every time a new building goes up.

The proposed ordinance holds developers accountable for proper rodent abatement measures to take place during land altering, land clearing, demolition, and construction. Projects will not be allowed to begin until abatement is properly established. Additionally developers will be required to maintain the baited areas throughout construction or face a stop work order.

Read more in the recent [Sun-Times article](#). Let's stop the rats dead in their tracks!

Changes to Disability Placard Parking

The City of Chicago has begun enforcing a new Illinois law limiting the use of disability parking placards. The new law only allows for free metered parking for drivers who receive placards based on their doctor's recommendation. Anyone ticketed for violating the new law can receive upwards of a \$65 fine.

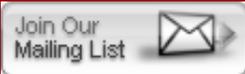
There are new Secretary of State-issued yellow and gray placards that allow qualified drivers to park for free at a pay to park meter. If you have a blue placard you will still be allowed to park in parking lots, but they will not allow you to park for free in metered spots.

For more detailed information on and application instructions for the yellow and gray placards please refer to www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Sincerely,



Michele Smith
43rd Ward Alderman



43rd Ward Office
2523 N. Halsted
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Office Hours:
Monday
9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday
9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Friday
9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

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