

** Alderman **

Michele Smith

Chicago's 43rd Ward



Important Upcoming Community Meetings

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Ginza Festival This Weekend

Join the Midwest Buddhist Temple at their 58th annual Ginza Festival this weekend. Stop by for famous teriyaki chicken, martial arts and dance demonstrations, and more! It's a great family-friendly festival. Click here for more information.

Friday, August 9th:
5:30pm-9:00pm

Saturday, August 10th
11:30am-9:30pm

Sunday August 11th
11:30am-6:00pm

**Midwest Buddhist
Temple**
435 W. Menomonee

Proposal for Mandatory Energy Assessment in High-Rises

Fortunately, the mandatory sprinkler proposal has been dropped, thanks to the active involvement of our community.

Now there is another proposal on the horizon with which larger high-rises would have to comply. The Energy Benchmarking Program would require all buildings over 50,000 square feet to take steps to measure and post their energy use.

While all of our large buildings are taking steps to reduce energy costs, and while green efforts are important, we need to understand what the program's benefits and costs are. The information we do have can be found [here](#) on our website.

We have scheduled a briefing on this proposed ordinance and we invite you and your neighbors to attend and learn more. Karen Weigert, Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Chicago, and representatives from the Department of Buildings and the Center for Neighborhood Technology will be present to answer your questions.

Wednesday, August 14th
6:00pm-8:00pm
The Public Hotel, 2nd Floor
1301 N. State Parkway

The Future of North Lake Shore Drive Planning Meeting

Do you drive on North Lake Shore Drive? Bike or walk on the Lakefront Trail? Use any of the lakefront parks? Or

Hot Dog Fest at the History Museum

The first annual Chicago Hot Dog Fest features more than eight different takes on the American hot dog, live music, games, and a cash bar. Bruce Kraig and Patty Carroll, authors of Man Bites Dog, will speak about hot dog culture in America, and the Museum house band Rusty and the Artifacts will delight you with classic Chicago blues. Click [here](#) for more information.

Sunday, August 11th
11:00am - 3:00pm
Chicago History
Museum
Uihlein Plaza
1601 N. Clark

2 Day Blood Drive At DePaul Art Museum

Give blood and make a difference next Wednesday and Thursday at DePaul. Click [here](#) to make an appt. (use code 0403446) or contact Kathy Schubert at (773) 248-5499 or kangarookathy@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, August 14th
12:30pm - 5:30pm
DePaul Art Museum
935 W. Fullerton
&
Thursday, August 15th
3:00pm - 8:00pm
Ray Meyer Fitness Center
2235 N. Sheffield, Rm 135

Air and Water Show
Next Weekend

value living by and using Lake Shore Drive? We want your input! The Illinois Department of Transportation and the Chicago Department of Transportation have initiated a long-term study to improve North Lake Shore Drive from Grand to Hollywood. Tell us how you use North Lake Shore Drive and what the issues are, then share your ideas for change.

Much of the infrastructure on the Drive was constructed in the 1930s, and the bridges may need complete reconstruction. The proposed project involves improvement of seven miles of the 8-lane Lake Shore Drive, including 12 junctions. The project will evaluate the condition of the 22 bridges and tunnels along the Outer Drive as well as the operation of the Inner Drive. The study will also evaluate the use of the drive by buses, and of the bike and running trails. Click [here](#) for more information.

Peggy Notebaert
Nature Museum
2430 N. Cannon Drive, South Gallery
Thursday, August 8th
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Some public stakeholders are already weighing in. Here is a [statement](#) from the Active Transportation Alliance and a coalition of transit and planning organizations.

Clark Street North Ave. to Armitage Assessment

In coordination with BikeWalk Lincoln Park and the Active Transportation Alliance, we are seeking community input to make Clark Street as safe as possible for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers. Starting at the Green City Market site, we will walk Clark St. from Armitage to North Avenue. This will allow us to evaluate accessibility to Lincoln Park, traffic concerns, pedestrian safety, and bike infrastructure. Following the walk we will reconvene at the Hotel Lincoln to discuss our findings and formulate recommendations for CDOT. For more information contact our office at yourvoice@ward43.org or Brenna Conway from Active Transportation Alliance at Brenna@activetrans.org. I hope to see you there!

Tuesday, August 20th
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Green City Market Site
1791 N. Clark

The Chicago Air and Water Show is almost here! The main event will be held on North Ave. Beach and extend to Oak St. Beach, along the lake shore. Bring the whole family for this fun-filled Chicago tradition. Click here for more information.

**Saturday and Sunday
August 17th and 18th
10:00am-3:00pm
North Avenue Beach**

**Oscar Mayer LSC
Community
Representative Position
Available**

Oscar Mayer Elementary - an innovative Montessori and IB magnet school - seeks a committed education advocate to serve on it's Local School Council in the role of Community Representative. The LSC plays a role in decision-making at the local school level. If you live within the school's boundaries, are passionate about education, and have always wanted to contribute to your community, please consider it. The term is for one year (August 26, 2013 to June 30, 2014). For questions and more information, contact oscarmayerlsc@gmail.com.

Ventra Roll-Out This Week

This week marks the [launch](#) of the new Ventra fare payment cards for CTA and Pace transit systems, replacing the current Chicago Card and Chicago Card Plus systems. The program will continue to expand until it is available for all CTA and Pace customers on September 9th online, at many retail locations (for a \$5 fee which can be refunded online) or by phone.

The Ventra card allows you to load any available CTA pass (single day, 7-day, 30-day, etc.) as well as individual fares, directly to your card at any Ventra machine, thousands of retail locations, online or by phone. Fares can be added using cash or credit.

If you are a Chicago Card and Chicago Card Plus user you should have received an email asking you to confirm your mailing address. New cards will begin to be sent to customers the week of August 19th. If you are a Chicago Card or Chicago Card Plus user who has yet to confirm your account information, you can do so at www.transitchicago.com or by calling (888) YOUR-CTA. Questions? Call (877) NOW VENTRA (669-8368) or visit www.transitchicago.com.

Sincerely,

Michele Smith
43rd Ward Alderman



43rd Ward Office
2523 N. Halsted
www.ward43.org

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.

Contact us:
phone
773-348-9500
email
yourvoice@ward43.org

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Michele Smith | 43rd Ward Alderman | 2523 N. Halsted | Chicago | IL | 60614