

West Town Chicago Chamber of Commerce
Special Service Area (SSA) Reconstitution / Expansion Community Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes

Present: Advisory Committee: Stel Valavanis (Chair), Cheryl Jones, Chris Ongkiko, Greg Mack, Darci O'Connell. Commissioners: Darci O'Connell (Chair), Cheryl Jones (Secretary), Meghan Quinn.

WTCC Executive Director – Kara Salgado

SSA Program Manager – Kace Wakem

SSA Reconstitution Consultant – Kimberly Bares

Communications Director - Lisa Pugliese

City of Chicago – Karen Forte, Department of Housing & Economic Development

Alderman Offices: Raymond Valadez (chief of staff) from Alderman Moreno's office, Anthony Arnarri (administrative assistant) from Alderman Burnett's office

I. Presentation Start: Kara Salgado welcomed everyone and began presentation at 11:20am.

II. Power Point Presentation:

- Overview of Special Service Areas: Kimberly Bares (Reconstitution Consultant) gave SSA explanation
- Stel Valavanis introduced Advisory Committee, reviewed need for the SSA, and the SSA Vision
- Darci O'Connell gave background of SSA's past programs, surrounding SSAs and the steps of the Reconstitution so far.
- Kace Wakem reviewed the Needs Assessment survey results
- Cheryl Jones reviewed the proposed 2015 budget & budget pie chart
- Kimberly Bares reviewed how the budget is created, how the property tax works, tax rate comparisons & tax caps between SSAs, tax cap scenarios, impact of SSA levy on property taxes, and impact of TIF districts
- Greg Mack reviewed the SSA priorities for the next 5 years, and the next steps of the reconstitution process.

III. Question & Answers:

- Jack Perno asked about Commissioners & Advisory Committee's stake in the SSA. Discussed disclosure about how the SSA is a choice for the taxpayers.
- Reviewed outreach efforts which included door to door surveying, door to door delivery of brochure & community meeting announcement, mailed brochure & community meeting announcement to all PIN list contact & registered voters within the proposed SSA map.
- Stel Valavanis wanted clarification on TIF districts and how they impact the SSA tax.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, November 18, 2013, 6:30pm at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art