(Uptown United, Contractor)

**Financial Statements** 

Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

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# **Bravos & Associates**

Certified Public Accountants

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Advisory Commission Uptown Special Service Area Number 34 (Uptown United, Contractor) Chicago, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statement of governmental activities and the major fund of Uptown Special Service Area Number 34 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of activities and governmental funds, revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the years then ended, which collectively comprise the service areas' basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of Uptown Special Service Area Number 34 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago), as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Change in Accounting Principle**

The City of Chicago changed its method of accounting for special service areas to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental entities. Our opinions are not modified with respect to that matter.

#### **Other Matter**

#### Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Bravos & Associates CPH's

April 21, 2015 Bloomingdale, Illinois



(Uptown United, Contractor) Governmental Fund Balance Sheets and Statement of Net Positions December 31, 2014 and 2013

		2014			2013	
	Governmental <u>Fund</u> <u>General Fund</u>	Adjustments	Statements of <u>Activities</u>	Governmental <u>Fund</u> <u>General Fund</u>	Adjustments	Statements of <u>Activities</u>
<u>Assets</u> Cash Property tax receivable, net of allowance for uncollectable taxes of \$ 5,000 and \$ 5,000 Total Assets	\$ 46,140 445,865 492,005	\$- 	\$ 46,140 <u>445,865</u> <u>492,005</u>	\$ 153,545 <u>426,389</u> <u>579,934</u>	\$ - 	\$ 153,545 <u>426,389</u> <u>579,934</u>
Liabilities Accounts payable	\$ 32,740	\$-	\$ 32,740	\$ 5,094	\$-	\$ 5,094
Deferred Inflows Deferred property tax revenue	449,336	(449,336)	-	426,389	(426,389)	-
Fund Balances/Net Position Unassigned	9,929	449,336	459,265	148,451	426,389	574,840
Total Liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balance/net position	<u>\$ 492,005</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 492,005</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the state Total fund balance - governmental fund	ements of net pos	sition are differe	ent because: \$			\$ 148,451
Property tax revenue is recognized in the period for which "available". A portion of the property tax is deferred as is governmental funds. Total net position - governmental activities	ch it is levied rath t is not available	ner than when in the	449,336 \$ 459,265			<u>426,389</u> \$ 574,840

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(Uptown United, Contractor) Statements of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance and Activities Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

	2014							2013					
	Governmental					Go	vernmental						
		Fund				Statements of		Fund			Sta	tements of	
	Ger	neral Fund	Ad	justments	<b>Activities</b>		General Fund		Adjustments		<b>Activities</b>		
Revenues													
Property taxes	\$	420,909	\$	22,947	\$	443,856	\$	427,796	\$	11,407	\$	439,203	
Interest income		186		-		186		1,001		-		1,001	
Total revenues		421,095	22,947		444,042		428,797		11,407			440,204	
Expenditures/Expenses:													
01.00 Advertising and promotion		19,232		-		19,232		37,223		-		37,223	
02.00 Public way maintenance		246,045		-		246,045		330,999		-		330,999	
03.00 Public way aesthetics		82,570		-		82,570		158,819		-		158,819	
04.00 Tenant retention/attraction		359		-		359		317		-		317	
05.00 Façade improvements		17,120		-		17,120		-		-		-	
06.00 Parking transit accessibility		-		-		-		387		-		387	
07.00 Safety programs		2,652		-		2,652		9,230		-		9,230	
08.00 SSA District planning		60,328		-		60,328		-		-		-	
10.00 Personnel		114,618		-		114,618		124,382		-		124,382	
11.00 Administrative non-personal expenses		16,693		-		16,693		20,027		-		20,027	
12.00 Loss Collection		-		-		-		-		-		-	
Total expenditures/Expenses		559,617		-		559,617		681,384		-		681,384	
(Deficiency) Excess of revenues													
over expenditures/expenses		(138,522)		138,522				(252,587)		252,587			
Change in net position				(115,575)		(115,575)				(241,180)		(241,180)	
Fund balance/net position beginning of the year		148,451		426,389		574,840		401,038		414,982		816,020	
Fund balance/net position at end of the year	\$	9,929	\$	449,336	\$	459,265	\$	148,451	\$	426,389	\$	574,840	
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(Uptown United, Contractor) Statements of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance and Activities Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

		<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statements of net position are different because:			
Net change in Fund balance - government funds	\$	(138,522)	\$ (252,587)
Property tax revenue is recognized in the period for which it is levied rather than when "available". A portion of the property tax is deferred as it is not available in the governmental funds.		(22,947)	(11,407)
Change in Net Position	<u>\$</u>	(115,575)	\$ (241,180)

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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

To the Advisory Commission Uptown Special Service Area Number 34 (Uptown United, Contractor) Chicago, Illinois

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information, which follows, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Bravos & Associates CPH's

April 21, 2015 Bloomingdale, Illinois

	2014						2013					
			(		0	Over (Under)					0	ver (Under)
		Budget	Actual		Variance			Budget		Actual		Variance
Revenues:												
Property taxes	\$	571,865	\$	420,909		(150,956)		486,904	\$	427,796		(59,108)
Interest income		-		186		186		-		1,001		1,001
Total revenues	<u>\$</u>	571,865	<u>\$</u>	421,095	<u>\$</u>	(150,770)		486,904		428,797	<u>\$</u>	(58,107)
Expenses & Programs:												
1.00 Advertising & Promotion												
1.01 Website/Social Media	\$	1,350	\$	1,350	\$	-	\$	4,000	\$	3,933	\$	(67)
1.02 Public/Media Relations		850		850		-		1,000		525		(475)
1.03 Special Events		14,000		13,362		(638)		28,183		19,337		(8,846)
1.04 Display Advertising		200		-		(200)		6,000		4,614		(1,386)
1.05 Print Materials		200		200		-		3,000		3,174		174
1.06 Pride Flags, other events		3,470		3,470		-		6,000		5,640		(360)
Totals		20,070		19,232		(838)		48,183		37,223		(10,960)
2.00 Public Way Maintenance												
2.01 Sidewalk cleaning		165,950		165,914		(36)		249,725		249,722		(3)
2.02 Sidewalk Snow Plowing		54,510		53,962		(548)		69,020		54,348		(14,672)
2.03 Sidewalk Power Washing		-		-		-		2,000		-		(2,000)
2.08 Liability/Property Insurance		2,735		3,474		739		1,000		2,883		1,883
2.09 Graffiti Removal		23,000		22,695		(305)		26,650		24,046		(2,604)
Totals		246,195		246,045		(150)		348,395		330,999		(17,396)
												Page 7

			2014			2013					
			 Over (Under)						<b></b>	Ov	er (Under)
Expenses & Programs:		Budget	Actual	-	Variance		Budget		<u>Actual</u>	7	Variance
3.00 Public Way Aesthetics											
3.01 Streetscape Elements	\$	100	\$ -	\$	(100)	\$	48,000	\$	41,976	\$	(6,024)
3.02 Decorative Banners and/or Holiday Decorations		9,040	8,740		(300)		25,000		28,162		3,162
3.04 Public Art		5,190	5,190		-		3,000		2,940		(60)
3.05 Landscaping		-	47,634		47,634		64,500		60,843		(3,657)
3.09 Property Insurance		-	-		-		1,000		-		(1,000)
3.10 Other Service/Maintenance		1	-		-		1,000		-		(1,000)
3.11 Wilson Yard Streetscape		17,535	3,470		(14,065)		15,449		5,640		(9,809)
3.12 Buena Park Planter Maintenance		47,635	17,536		(30,099)		15,449		19,258		3,809
Totals		79,501	 82,570		3,070		173,398		158,819		(14,579)
4.00 Tenant Retention/Attaction											
4.02 Site Marketing Materials		360	359		(1)		2,000		317		(1,683)
Totals		360	 359		(1)		2,000		317		(1,683)
5.00 Façade Improvements											
5.01 Façade Improvements		17,200	 17,120		(80)		_		-		-
Totals		17,200	 17,120		(80)		-				
6.00 Parking/Transit/Accessibility											
6.04 Equipment Purchase/Maintenance		1	-		(1)		4,500		387		(4,113)
6.10 Liability Insurance		-	-		-		1,000		-		(1,000)
Totals		1	 -		(1)		5,500		387		(5,113)
											Page 8

		2014		2013					
			Over (Under)			Over (Under)			
Expenses & Programs:	Budget	Actual	Variance	<b>Budget</b>	Actual	Variance			
7.00 Safety Programs									
7.03 Security Rebate Program	\$ 2,200	\$-	\$ (2,200)	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,390	\$ (610)			
7.05 Panhandling Abatement Program	-	-	-	400	-	(400)			
7.07 Security Subcontractor	2,650	2,652	2	4,500	3,840	(660)			
Totals	4,850	2,652	(2,198)	10,900	9,230	(1,670)			
8.00 SSA Distrtict Planning									
8.01 SSA Work Plans, Visioning, Etc	62,109	55,650	(6,459)	5,000	-	(5,000)			
8.04 District Master Plan, Plans	4,679	4,678	(1)	15,000		(15,000)			
Totals	66,788	60,328	(6,460)	20,000		(20,000)			
10.00 Personnel									
10.01 President - CEO	41,000	41,158	158	40,449	42,533	2,084			
10.02 Administrative - Assistant Director	58,575	58,336	(239)	56,799	56,995	196			
10.04 SSA Program Assistant	15,100	15,124	24	27,170	24,854	(2,316)			
<u>Totals.</u>	114,675	114,618	(57)	124,418	124,382	(36)			

		2014		2013					
			Over (Under)			Over (Under)			
Expenses & Programs:	Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance			
11.00 Administrative Non-Personnel									
11.01 SSA Annual Report	<b>\$</b> 1	<b>\$</b> -	(1)	\$ 1,000	\$ -	(1,000)			
11.02 SSA Audit	2,900	) 2,900	-	3,200	3,200	-			
11.03 Bookkeeping	1,900	) 1,895	(5)	3,000	2,660	(340)			
11.04 Office Rent	6,300	6,214	(86)	7,344	6,802	(542)			
11.05 Office Utilites/Telephone	2,350	) 2,319	(31)	2,700	2,779	79			
11.06 Office Supplies	400	) 230	(170)	570	655	85			
11.07 Ofice Equipment Lease/Maintenance	1,200	) 980	(220)	1,140	1,052	(88)			
11.08 Office Printing	1	-	(1)	60	-	(60)			
11.09 Postage	1	-	(1)	120	120	-			
11.10 Meeting Expense	700	903	203	330	1,137	807			
11.11 Subscriptions/dues	1,200	) 1,240	40	1,350	1,622	272			
11.12 Bank Service Charges		- 12	12	-	-	-			
11.13 Monitoring/Compliance			-	100	-				
Totals	16,953	16,693	(260)	20,914	20,027	(787)			
12.00 Loss Collection									
12.01 Loss collection			-	30,821	-	30,821			
Totals			-	30,821	-	30,821			
Total Program and Expenses	566,593	559,617	(6,975)	784,529	681,384	(41,403)			
Excess of Revenues over Expenses (deficit)	\$ 5,272			\$ (297,625)					
		-				Page 10			

#### **Summary of Accounting Policies**

#### Nature of Organization

Uptown Special Service Number 34, (Commission) formed to create to a dynamic public space to attract, revitalize, and attract new businesses and shoppers to strengthen the residential community. The city of Chicago formed a taxing district that allows property taxes levied and collected to fund added services for a defined area.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The government-wide financial statements report information on all of the activities of the Special Service Area. Governmental activities include those items funded by the tax levies. While separate governmental activities incorporate data from the governmental funds. The fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. The commission reports one major governmental fund, the General Fund.

#### Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as *current financial resources or economic resources*. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Commission considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Property taxes associated with the current fiscal period are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the Commission.

#### **Budgetary Information**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the General Fund. The Commission submits a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year to the City of Chicago for approval. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them for the General Fund. The annual appropriation lapses at fiscal yearend.

## Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balance

#### Cash and Investments

The commission's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position and or balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows* of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position and or balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of Resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenues) until that time. The Commission has only one type of item, which arises under the modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, *unavailable property tax revenue*, is reported in the governmental fund's balance sheet. This amount is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amount becomes available.

#### Net Position Flow Assumption

In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted-net position and unrestricted-net position in the government-wide financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the Commission's policy to consider restricted-net position to have been depleted before unrestricted-net position is applied.

#### Fund Balance Flow Assumptions

Sometimes the Commission will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the Commission's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

## <u>Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balance</u> <u>Continued:</u>

### Fund Balance Policies

Fund balance of the governmental fund is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The Commission itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Commission's highest level of decision-making authority. The Board of Directors is the highest level of decision-making authority for the Commission that can, by adoption or resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the resolution remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another resolution) to remove or revise the limitation.

Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Commission for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. Intent can be expressed by the Board of Directors or by an individual or body to which the Commission delegates the authority. The Board of Directors may also assign fund balances as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally only exist temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

## Special Service Area Agreement

The Commission entered into an agreement with the City of Chicago, whereby the City established a special service area (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) designated as Uptown Special Service Number 34 to provide special services in addition to those normally provided by the City. Uptown United has been designated as the Contractor which services the special service area.

#### Property Taxes

Property taxes become an enforceable lien on real property on January 1 of the year it is levied. Taxes are payable in two installments in the subsequent year. The first installment is an estimated based on the prior year billed levy (55%) and is due in March. The second installment is due on August1, or 30 Days from the mailing of the tax bills if issued later than July 1. The second installment is based on the remaining amount of the levy on file with Cook County. Bills are issued and collected by Cook County who remits the Commission's share to the City of Chicago who then remits the monies to the Commission.

## Uptown Special Service Area Number 34 (Uptown United, Contractor) Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and 2013

## Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balance Continued:

### **Estimates**

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported revenues and expenditures/expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Comparative Data

As required by the City of Chicago, comparative data for the prior year has been presented in the statement of revenue and expenditures – budget and actual-general fund.

## **Detailed Notes on all Activities and Funds**

#### **Deposits**

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Commission's deposits may not be returned to it. The Commission does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, the Commission's bank balance was \$46,140 and \$153,545 respectfully.

### **Receivables**

Property tax receivables are presented net of an allowance for uncollectible taxes in the amount of \$ 5,000 and \$ 5,000 respectfully.

## **Related Party Transactions**

During the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 the Uptown United charged the Commission \$ 149,892 and \$ 112,187 for employee and administrative costs respectfully.

#### Use of Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Organization maintains its cash balances at two financial institutions in the Chicago metropolitan area, which are federally insured up to prescribed limits.

## Budget and Actual Expenses General Fund

Actual expenses on page 10 indicated a deficit of \$ 138,522 which is balanced by a carryover of tax revenue from the prior year. The SSA is required by the City of Chicago to spend funds in excess of the tax revenue levy it receives, via an approved budget. In 2014, \$134,000 was budgeted as carryover from the prior year.

## Finding # 1

We have reviewed the Agreement for Special Service Area Number 34 between the City of Chicago and the Contractor for the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

We noted no exceptions.

