# **SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #43**

(a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

(TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT)



## SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #43 DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Board of Directors of DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance Commissioners of Special Service Area #43 Chicago, Illinois

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Special Service Area #43 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) which comprise the statements of net position and governmental funds balance sheets as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related statements of activities and governmental funds, revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance, and revenues and expenditures-budget and actual for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the 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 an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits 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 judgment, 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 accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our unqualified audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Special Service Area #43 as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 and the changes in financial position and budgetary comparison for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Other Matters**

#### **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.

#### Restricted Use Relating to the Other Matter

The communication related to compliance with the aforementioned Agreements described in the Required Supplementary Information paragraph is intended solely for the information and use of the Boards of Directors and management of DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance, SSA #43, and the City of Chicago and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

#### Report on Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the combining and combined financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information included on page 10 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the combining and combined financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the combining and combined financial statements. The information, except for the budget information included on page 10 which is unaudited, has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the combining and combined financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the combining and combined financial statements or to the combining and combined financial statements themselves and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the combining and combined financial statements as a whole. The unaudited information referred to above has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the combining and combined financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

#### Emphasis of a Matter

As discussed in Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements, in January 2020, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 to constitute a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern." Given the uncertainty of the situation, the duration of any business disruption and related financial impact cannot be reasonably estimated at this time. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

The A.CT. Gravp, uc

The A.C.T. Group, LLC Certified Public Accountants May 14, 2020



## SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #43 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) Managed by DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance Statements of Net Position and Governmental Fund Balance Sheets December 31, 2019 and 2018

	2019					2018						
ASSETS <u>Current Assets</u>	Go	vernmental <u>Funds</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>djustments</u>		Statement of <u>Net Position</u>	Go	vernmental <u>Funds</u>	-	<u>Adjustments</u>		tatement of <u>et Position</u>
Cash Property Tax Receivable, net of allowance for uncollectable taxes of \$19,447 and \$17,181 Due from SSA #19	\$	268,498 594,756 112	\$	- - -	\$	268,498 594,756 112	\$	304,713 466,738 -	\$	- - -	\$	304,713 466,738 -
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	863,365	\$	-	\$_	863,365	\$	771,451	\$_	-	\$	771,451
LIABILITIES												
Current Liabilities												
Accounts Payable Due to SSA #19 Due to SSA #24 Due to RPBA TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	2,718 114 - 4,702 7,534	\$	- - - -	\$	2,718 114 - 4,702 7,534	\$	10,835 80 79 4,155 15,149	\$	- - - -	\$	10,835 80 79 4,155 15,149
DEFERRED INFLOWS												
Deferred Property Tax Revenue		594,756		(594,756)		-		466,738		(466,738)		-
FUND BALANCES / NET POSITION												
<u>Unassigned</u>		261,075		(261,075)	_	-		289,564		(289,564)		
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		261,075		(261,075)	_	-		289,564	_	(289,564)		-
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS AND FUND BALANCE	\$	863,365					\$	771,451				
<u>Net Position</u> Unrestricted			\$	(855,831)	\$_	855,831	1		\$	(756,302)	\$	756,302

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statements of net position are different because:

lotal fund balance - governmental funds	\$ 261,075	\$	289,564	
Property tax revenue is recognized in the period for which levied rather than when "available."				
A portion of the property tax is deferred as it is not available in the governmental funds.	 594,756	_	466,738	
Total net position - governmental activities	\$ 855,831	\$_	756,302	

## SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #43 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) Managed by DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance Statements of Activities and Governmental Fund/ Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance For the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

		2019				2018						
	Go	vernmental <u>Funds</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>djustments</u>		Statement of <u>Activities</u>	Go	vernmenta <u>Funds</u>		<u>djustments</u>		tatement of Activities
REVENUES:												
Property Taxes Interest Income TIF Revenue Loss Collection	\$	458,502 116 - 2,122	\$	128,018 - - -	\$	586,520 116 - 2,122	\$	443,105 92 2,506 10,427	\$	54,402 \$ - - -	5	497,507 92 2,506 10,427
TOTAL REVENUE		460,740		128,018		588,758		456,130		54,402		510,532
EXPENDITURES												
Services: Customer Attraction Public Way Aesthetics Sustainability & Public Places Economic/Business Development Safety Programs	_	76,512 303,853 2,008 10,652 -		- - - -	_	76,512 303,853 2,008 10,652 -	_	89,609 196,997 2,341 5,176 4,027	_	- - - -		89,609 196,997 2,341 5,176 4,027
Total Services Expenditures		393,025		-		393,025		298,150		-		298,150
Administration: Personnel Admin - nonpersonnel		38,792 57,412		-		38,792 57,412		39,495 52,565		-		39,495 52,565
Total Administration Expenditures		96,204		-		96,204		92,060		-		92,060
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		489,229		-	_	489,229		390,210		-		390,210
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures		(28,489)		128,018		99,529		65,920		54,402		120,322
Change in Net Position		(28,489)		128,018		99,529		65,920		54,402		120,322
FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION												
Beginning of the Year		289,564		466,738		756,302		223,644		412,336		635,980
End of the Year	\$	261,075	\$	594,756	\$	855,831	\$	289,564	\$	466,738	\$	756,302

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statements of activities are different because:

Net change in Fund balance - governmental funds	\$ (28,489)	\$ 65,920
Property tax revenue is recognized in the year it is levied rather than when it is available for governmental funds	128,018	54,402
Change in net position	\$ 99,529	\$ 120,322

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Nature of Reporting Entity: Special Service Area #43 is a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago located in Chicago, Illinois. Its scope of services is to fund various activities to improve and enhance the West Ridge commercial district. The SSA is funded by property taxes levied on properties within the SSA boundaries, which are collected by the Cook County Treasurer, and then distributed by the City of Chicago to the SSA.

Special Service Area #43 is governed by a Commission whose members are appointed by the Mayor of Chicago. The City of Chicago contracted with DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance (RPBA) to perform administrative duties as the service provider for this SSA during the reporting period. RPBA is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation that is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

- (b) Basis of Presentation: The government-wide financial statements report information on all 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 are on major governmental funds. The commission reports one major governmental fund, the General Fund.
- (c) Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year they are levied.

The governmental fund financial statements are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting with only current assets and liabilities included on the balance sheet. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e. both measureable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Available means collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Property taxes are susceptible to accrual and recognized as a receivable in the year levied. Revenue recognition is deferred unless the taxes are received within 60 days subsequent to year-end. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(d) Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements: The financial statements of the SSA have been prepared in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units, hereinafter referred to as GAAP( generally accepted accounting principles). The accepted standard-setting body for the establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles is GASB (the Governmental Accounting Standards Board).

The SSA accounts for its activities in one fund, its general fund.

#### (e) Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position:

**Cash, Cash equivalents and investments:** The SSA'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.

**Receivables:** All property tax receivables are shown net of allowances. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, the allowance is estimated to be 4% of the outstanding property taxes.

**Prepaid items:** Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Fund Equity/Net Position:** Government fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned. Nonspendable fund balance cannot be spent because of its form. Restricted fund balance has limitations imposed by enabling legislation or an outside party. Committed fund balance is a limitation imposed by the SSA board through approval of resolutions. Assigned fund balance is a limitation imposed by a designee of the SSA board. Unassigned fund balance is a net resource in excess of what can be properly classified in one of the above four categories.

When both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available for use, it is the SSA's policy to use restricted fund balance first, then unrestricted fund balance. Furthermore, committed fund balance is reduced first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

For the government-wide financial statements, net position is reported as invested in capital assets net of related debt, restricted or unrestricted. Invested in capital assets, net of related debt, if applicable, is comprised of the net capital asset balance less any related debt. Restricted net position is when restrictions are placed on net assets from 1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or 2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The remaining net position is classified as unrestricted.

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Use of estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

The Organization maintains its cash in a bank deposit account, which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Organization had not experienced any losses in such accounts. The Organization believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk in cash.

#### 3. Deferred Inflows of Revenue

As deferred inflow of resource/property tax revenue represents an acquisition of fund balance that applies to a future period and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that future time.

#### 4. Fund Equity / Net Position

The SSA is required to present information regarding its financial position and activities according to the between the SSA and the City of Chicago. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, the SSA total fund balances of \$261,075 and \$289,564, respectively. These funds will be utilized in this special area during future years as well as act as a reserve for any emergencies.

#### 5. 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 estimate based on the prior year billed levy (55%) and is due in March. The second installment is due on August 1, 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 the County. Bills are issued and collected by Cook County who remits the SSA's share to the City who then remits the monies to the SSA.

#### 6. Related Party Transactions

The SSA is affiliated with DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance (RPBA), which provides certain administrative services for the SSA.

As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, \$4,072 and \$4,155 was payable for services by RPBA, respectively. The balances resulted from the time lag that 1) goods and services are being provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, 2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system and 3) payments are being made.

#### 6. Related Party Transactions (continued)

As of December 31, 2019, \$114 and \$0 was payable to SSA #19 and SSA #24 respectively for goods or services provided by this SSA. As of December 31, 2018, \$80 and \$79 was payable to SSA #19 and SSA #24, for goods or services provided by these SSA's.

In addition, as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 \$112 and \$0 was due from SSA #19 respectively, for goods or services provided to those SSA's.

#### 7. Prior Year Reclassifications

For comparability, the prior year's financial statements reflect reclassifications where appropriate to conform to the financial statement presentation used this year.

#### 8. Subsequent Events

The SSA has evaluated the December 31, 2019 and 2018, financial statements for subsequent events through the May 14, 2020, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The SSA is not aware of any additional subsequent events that would require recognition or disclosure in the accompanying financial statements.

In January 2020, the World Health Organization has declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern," which continues to spread throughout the world and has adversely impacted global commercial activity and contributed to significant declines and volatility in financial markets. The coronavirus outbreak and government responses are creating disruption in global supply chains and adversely impacting many industries. The outbreak could have a continued material adverse impact on economic and market conditions and trigger a period of global economic slowdown. The rapid development and fluidity of this situation precludes any prediction as to the ultimate material adverse impact of the coronavirus outbreak. Nevertheless, the outbreak presents uncertainty and risk with respect to the Company, its performance, and its financial results.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

## SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #43 (a taxing district authorized by the City of Chicago) Managed by DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual For the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

		2019				2018						
		BUDGET		ACTUAL	١	VARIANCE		BUDGET		ACTUAL	١	/ARIANCE
REVENUES:												
Property Taxes Interest Income TIF Rebate Late Collection Loss Collections	\$	462,715 - 23,470 23,470	\$	458,502 116 - 2,122 -	\$	4,213 (116) - 21,348 23,470	\$	461,714 - 2,506 7,303 7,303	\$	443,105 92 2,506 10,427 -	\$	18,609 (92) - (3,124) 7,303
TOTAL REVENUE	_	509,655		460,740		48,915	_	478,826	_	456,130		22,696
EXPENDITURES:												
Customer Attraction		77,364		76,512		852		109,106		89,609		19,497
Public Way Aesthetics		308,077		303,853		4,224		317,606		196,997		120,609
Sustainability & Public Places		3,000		2,008		992		8,000		2,341		5,659
Economic/Business Development		19,000		10,652		8,348		5,000		5,176		(176)
Safety Programs		15,000		-		15,000		25,000		4,027		20,973
SSA Management		61,600		57,412		4,188		28,500		52,565		(24,065)
Personnel		35,614		38,792		(3,178)	_	35,614	_	39,495		(3,881)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		519,655		489,229		30,426		528,826		390,210		138,616
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditures	\$	(10,000)	\$	(28,489)	\$	18,489	\$	(50,000)	\$	65,920	\$	(115,920)
CARRYOVER		10,000				10,000		50,000				50,000
Net revenues in excess of expenditures	\$		\$	(28,489)	\$	28,489	\$		\$_	65,920	\$	(65,920)

#### SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

As part of our audit and request by the Special Service Area Annual Audited Financial Statement Guidelines prepared by the City of Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development dated June 2013, we have read the requirements contained in the Agreement for Special Service Area #43 between the City of Chicago and DevCorp North D/B/A Rogers Park Business Alliance.

#### Current year findings:

- We noted the SSA participated in Ioan activity as amounts Due to other Special Service Areas managed by the same Service Provider were identified.
- We noted that there was no invoice issued by the service provider to the SSA for shared costs which is required by the of Chicago.
- We noted certain expenditures for which actual expenses exceeded budgeted amounts.

#### Management response:

- Our corrective action plan is to more closely monitor amounts due to and from Special Service Areas.
- We also will make sure to collect invoices from the service provider before the payment is made and to pay attention to the program guide, page 19, "paying for shared costs" section
- Rodgers Park Business Alliance will also pay closer attention to monthly financials from our accountant and adjust the budget as needed.

#### Update of prior year findings:

- We noted certain expenditures for which actual expenses exceeded budgeted amounts.
- We noted the SSA participated in loan activity as amounts Due to other Special Service Areas managed by the same Service Provider were identified.

#### Management response:

- Rogers Park Business Alliance will pay closer attention to monthly financial statements from our accountant and adjust the budget as needed.
- Our corrective action plan is to more closely monitor amounts due to and from Special Service Areas.

Based on our understanding of the agreement and the facts surrounding the performance under the agreement, we noted no other exceptions. Many contractual items were included in the agreement which dealt with non-accounting and non-financial matters of which we had no knowledge.



## Exhibit A

## Budget

# Special Service Area # 43

Service Provider Agency: Rogers Park Business Alliance

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### 2019 BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget and Services Period: January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

		2018	Levy				
CATE	EGORY	Collectable Levy	Estimated Loss Collection	Carryover Funds	TIF Rebate Fund #A20	Estimated Late Collections and Interest	Total All Sources
1.00 Custor Attraction	mer	\$58,894	\$8,470	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$77,364
2.00 Public Aesthetics	Way	\$269,607	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$23,470	\$308,077
3.00 Sustai Public Plac	-	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
4.00 Econo Business D	mic/ )evelopment	\$19,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,000
5.00 Safety	Programs	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
6.00 SSA M	anagement	\$61,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$61,600
7.00 Persor	nnel	\$35,614	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$35,614
	Sub-total	\$462,715	\$23,470				
GRAND TOTALS	Levy Total	\$486	,185	\$10,000	\$0	\$23,470	\$519,655

LEVY ANALYSIS	
Estimated 2018 EAV:	\$46,508,873
Authorized Tax Rate Cap:	1.500%
Maximum Potential Levy limited by Rate Cap:	\$697,633
Requested 2018 Levy Amount:	\$486,185
Estimated Tax Rate to Generate 2017 Levy:	1.0454%