2007 Annual Report

Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area

Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)

JUNE 30, 2008
June 30, 2008

Mr. Arnold L. Randall  
Commissioner  
Department of Planning and Development  
121 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Commissioner:

Enclosed is the annual report for the Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area, which we compiled at the direction of the Department of Planning and Development pursuant to Section 5(d) of the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act (65 ILCS 5/11-74.6-1 et seq.), as amended. The contents are based on information provided to us by Chicago Departments of Planning and Development, Finance, and Law. We have not audited, verified, or applied agreed upon accounting and testing procedures to the data contained in this report. Therefore, we express no opinion on its accuracy or completeness.

It has been a pleasure to work with representatives from the Department of Planning and Development and other City Departments.

Very truly yours,

Ernst & Young LLP

Ernst & Young LLP
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**ANNUAL REPORT – WESTERN AVENUE/ROCK ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION (d) OF 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5.**

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June 30, 2008

The Honorable Daniel Hynes
Comptroller
State of Illinois
Office of the Comptroller
201 Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Comptroller Hynes:

We have compiled the attached information for the Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area (Report) pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d).

Sincerely,

Arnold L. Randall
Commissioner
Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area
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(1) DATE OF DESIGNATION AND TERMINATION - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(1.5)

The Project Area was designated on February 8, 2006. The Project Area may be terminated no later than December 31, 2030.
(2) AUDITED FINANCIALS - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(2)

During 2007, no financial activity or cumulative deposits over $100,000 occurred in the Project Area. Therefore, no audited statements were prepared pertaining to the Special Tax Allocation Fund for the Project Area.
(3) MAYOR’S CERTIFICATION - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(3)

Please see attached.
CERTIFICATION

TO:

Daniel W. Hynes
Comptroller of the State of Illinois
James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 15-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Attention: June Tallamantez, Director of Local Government

Dolores Javier, Treasurer
City Colleges of Chicago
226 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 1125
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Timothy Mitchell, General Superintendent & CEO
Chicago Park District
541 North Fairbanks
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Peter C. Nicholson, Director
Cook County Department of Planning & Development
69 West Washington Street, Room 2900
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Arne Duncan, Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Board of Education
125 South Clark Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Dan Donovan, Comptroller
Forest Preserve District of Cook County
69 W. Washington Street, Suite 2060
Chicago, IL 60602

Jacqueline Torres, Director of Finance
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
100 East Erie Street, Room 2429
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Martin Koldyke, Chairman
Chicago School Finance Authority
135 South LaSalle Street, Suite 3800
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Douglas Wright
South Cook County Mosquito Abatement District
155th & Dixie Highway
P.O. Box 1030
Harvey, Illinois 60426

I, RICHARD M. DALEY, in connection with the annual report (the “Report”) of information required by Section 11-74.4-5(d) of the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et seq. (the “Act”) with regard to the Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area (the “Redevelopment Project Area”), do hereby certify as follows:
1. I am the duly qualified and acting Mayor of the City of Chicago, Illinois (the "City") and, as such, I am the City’s Chief Executive Officer. This Certification is being given by me in such capacity.

2. During the preceding fiscal year of the City, being January 1 through December 31, 2007, the City complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of the Act, as applicable from time to time, regarding the Redevelopment Project Area.

3. In giving this Certification, I have relied on the opinion of the Corporation Counsel of the City furnished in connection with the Report.

4. This Certification may be relied upon only by the addressees hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature as of this 30th day of June, 2008.

Richard M. Daley, Mayor
City of Chicago, Illinois
(4) OPINION OF LEGAL COUNSEL - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(4)

Please see attached.
June 30, 2008

Daniel W. Hynes
Comptroller of the State of Illinois
James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 15-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Attention: June Tallamantez, Director of Local Government

Dolores Javier, Treasurer
City Colleges of Chicago
226 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 1125
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Peter C. Nicholson, Director
Cook County Department of Planning & Development
69 West Washington Street, Room 2900
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Douglas Wright
South Cook County Mosquito Abatement District
155th & Dixie Highway
P.O. Box 1030
Harvey, Illinois 60426

Re: Western Avenue/Rock Island
Redevelopment Project Area (the “Redevelopment Project Area”)

Dear Addressees:

I am Corporation Counsel of the City of Chicago, Illinois (the “City”). In such capacity, I am providing the opinion required by Section 11-74.4-5(d)(4) of the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et seq. (the “Act”), in connection with the submission of the report (the “Report”) in accordance with, and containing the information required by, Section 11-74.4-5(d) of the Act for the Redevelopment Project Area.
Attorneys, past and present, in the Law Department of the City familiar with the requirements of the Act have had general involvement in the proceedings affecting the Redevelopment Project Area, including the preparation of ordinances adopted by the City Council of the City with respect to the following matters: approval of the redevelopment plan and project for the Redevelopment Project Area, designation of the Redevelopment Project Area as a redevelopment project area and adoption of tax increment allocation financing for the Redevelopment Project Area, all in accordance with the then applicable provisions of the Act. Various departments of the City, including, if applicable, the Law Department, Department of Planning and Development, Department of Housing, Department of Finance and Office of Budget and Management, have personnel responsible for and familiar with the activities in the Redevelopment Project Area affecting such Department(s) and with the requirements of the Act in connection therewith. Such personnel are encouraged to seek and obtain, and do seek and obtain, the legal guidance of the Law Department with respect to issues that may arise from time to time regarding the requirements of, and compliance with, the Act.

In my capacity as Corporation Counsel, I have relied on the general knowledge and actions of the appropriately designated and trained staff of the Law Department and other applicable City Departments involved with the activities affecting the Redevelopment Project Area. In addition, I have caused to be examined or reviewed by members of the Law Department of the City the certified audit report, to the extent required to be obtained by Section 11-74.4-5(d)(9) of the Act and submitted as part of the Report, which is required to review compliance with the Act in certain respects, to determine if such audit report contains information that might affect my opinion. I have also caused to be examined or reviewed such other documents and records as were deemed necessary to enable me to render this opinion. Nothing has come to my attention that would result in my need to qualify the opinion hereinafter expressed, subject to the limitations hereinafter set forth, unless and except to the extent set forth in an Exception Schedule attached hereto as Schedule I.

Based on the foregoing, I am of the opinion that, in all material respects, the City is in compliance with the provisions and requirements of the Act in effect and then applicable at the time actions were taken from time to time with respect to the Redevelopment Project Area.

This opinion is given in an official capacity and not personally and no personal liability shall derive herefrom. Furthermore, the only opinion that is expressed is the opinion specifically set forth herein, and no opinion is implied or should be inferred as to any other matter. Further, this opinion may be relied upon only by the addressees hereof and the Mayor of the City in providing his required certification in connection with the Report, and not by any other party.

Very truly yours,

Mara S. Georges
Corporation Counsel
SCHEDULE 1

(Exception Schedule)

(X) No Exceptions

( ) Note the following Exceptions:
(5) ANALYSIS OF SPECIAL TAX ALLOCATION FUND - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(5)

During 2007, there was no financial activity in the Special Tax Allocation Fund.
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(6) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(6)

During 2007, the City did not purchase any property in the Project Area.
(7) STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)

(A) Projects implemented in the preceding fiscal year.

(B) A description of the redevelopment activities undertaken.

(C) Agreements entered into by the City with regard to disposition or redevelopment of any property within the Project Area.

(D) Additional information on the use of all Funds received by the Project Area and steps taken by the City to achieve the objectives of the Redevelopment Plan.

(E) Information on contracts that the City’s consultants have entered into with parties that have received, or are receiving, payments financed by tax increment revenues produced by the Project Area.

(F) Joint Review Board reports submitted to the City.

(G) Project-by-project review of public and private investment undertaken from 11/1/99 to 12/31/07, and of such investments expected to be undertaken in year 2008; also, a project-by-project ratio of private investment to public investment from 11/1/99 to 12/31/07, and an estimated ratio of such investments as of the completion of each project and as estimated to the completion of the redevelopment project.

SEE TABLES AND/OR DISCUSSIONS ON FOLLOWING PAGES.
(7)(A) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(A)

During 2007, no projects were implemented.

(7)(B) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(B)

Redevelopment activities undertaken within this Project Area during the year 2007, if any, have been made pursuant to i) the Redevelopment Plan for the Project Area, and ii) any Redevelopment Agreements affecting the Project Area, and are set forth on Table 5 herein by TIF-eligible expenditure category.

(7)(C) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(C)

During 2007, no agreements were entered into with regard to the disposition or redevelopment of any property within the Project Area.
(7)(D) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(D)

The Project Area has not yet received any increment.

(7)(E) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(E)

During 2007, no contracts were entered into by the City’s tax increment advisors or consultants with entities or persons that have received, or are receiving, payments financed by tax increment revenues produced by the Project Area.
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(7)(F) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(F)

During 2007, no reports were submitted to the City by the Joint Review Board.

(7)(G) - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(7)(G)

Since November 1, 1999, no public investment was undertaken in the Project Area. As of December 31, 2007, no public investment is estimated to be undertaken for 2008.
(8) DOCUMENTS RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED BY THE MUNICIPALITY - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(8)(A)

During 2007, there were no obligations issued for the Project Area.
(9) ANALYSIS OF DEBT SERVICE - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(8)(B)

During 2007, there were no obligations issued for the Project Area.
(10) CERTIFIED AUDIT REPORTS - 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(d)(9)

During 2007, there were no tax increment expenditures or cumulative deposits over $100,000 within the Project Area. Therefore, no compliance statement was prepared.
(11) GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND MAP

The Western Avenue/Rock Island Redevelopment Project Area’s boundaries are irregular and generally include the area bounded on the east by the alley right-of-way of South Western Avenue, on the west by the right-of-way west of South Western Avenue, on the north by West 96th Street and on the south by West 119th Street, extending west along West 111th Street to South Sacramento Avenue and extending east along West Monterey Avenue to South Vincennes Avenue, north along the Rock Island Railroad tracks to West 95th Place and south along the Rock Island Railroad tracks to West 119th Street. The map below illustrates the location and general boundaries of the Project Area. For precise boundaries, please consult the legal description in the Redevelopment Plan.