City of Chicago  
Department of Planning and Development  

STAFF REPORT  
TO THE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
REQUESTING DEVELOPER DESIGNATION  
February 13, 2018  

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND OVERVIEW  

Project Name: Gotham Greens  
Applicant Name: Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives (CNI)  
Project Address: 107th and Doty ("Lot 1 Pullman Park")  
Ward/Alderman: 9th Ward, Alderman Anthony Beale  
Community Area: Pullman  
Redevelopment Project Area: North Pullman  
Area: Requested Action: TIF Developer Designation  
Proposed Project: The developer proposes to acquire the site, complete the demolition, installation of environmental barriers and necessary site preparation for the eventual end user, Gotham Greens.  
Goal of Project: The goal of the Project is to facilitate construction of a new industrial building on a long vacant property, creating jobs and eliminating blight.  
TIF Assistance: $3,355,000 (gross)  

II. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION  

Address: Near 107th and Doty Avenue  

1
Location: Within the Pullman Park development at 107th and Doty Avenue.

Tax Parcel Numbers: 25-14-100-049-0000

Land Area: 6.2 acres

Current Use: The site is a currently unimproved, vacant parcel.

Current Zoning: PD 1167, Sub- Area A (Business, Residential, Institutional)

Proposed Zoning: PD 1167, to be amended to allow for light manufacturing.

Environmental Condition: The Pullman Park site has been enrolled in the IEPA Site Remediation Program and the developer will be seeking an NFR (No Further Remediation) for this property.

III. BACKGROUND

The North Pullman TIF was designated in June 2009. The general boundaries of the TIF are Doty Avenue on the east; East 106th Street on the south; South Cottage Grove and South Indiana Avenue to the west; and East 101st and East 103rd Streets on the north. Located in the Pullman and Roseland communities, the North Pullman TIF is intended to promote wide-ranging investment in the district's existing buildings and vacant properties. The North Pullman TIF has a general mix of land uses that includes residential, commercial and industrial. Additional funds are targeted for property assembly, building rehabilitation, job training and day care services.

This Project complies with the goals and objectives of the North Pullman TIF in that it will provide the surrounding community with much needed development, infrastructure improvements and job creation.

Pullman is located on the far south side of Chicago, twelve miles south of the Loop, and is adjacent to Lake Calumet. The area is approximately 4.86 square miles with a 2013 population of 6,934. The community area is generally bounded by 95th Street on the north, Stony Island Avenue on the east, 115th Street on the south and Cottage Grove Avenue on the west. The Pullman Community originated as a planned industrial town. Throughout its history Pullman has evolved and currently holds a high stock of historically significant buildings. However, over the last several decades there has been a significant decline in population and general disinvestment in the area.

The median 2016 household income of the community was $38,370 compared to an average of $53,006 for the City of Chicago, a difference of roughly 38%. In 2015, 37% of its residents had household income of less than $25,000 which compares to 29% for the entire city. Between the years of 2000 and 2010, Pullman experienced a 22% decline in population which is greater than the 7% experienced by the city as a whole during the same period. In addition, the population of Pullman is aging, as evidenced by a median age for the area (40.4 versus 33.7) and by the greater number of residents that fall between 65 and 79 years old (12% vs 7%). The current unemployment rate for Pullman is 19.4% as opposed to 12.1% for the rest of the City, and 37.5%
of the community's households live below the poverty line.

The Project site is currently vacant and is owned by Pullman Park Development LLC. The Project site was previously an industrial site and home to Ryerson Steel. Ryerson moved its operations in 2008 and the site was acquired by Park National Bank and then subsequently by U.S. Bank through its acquisition of Park National Bank in 2009.

The Project represents an opportunity to expand an established, indoor urban farming business within the Pullman neighborhood on Chicago's far south side, creating employment opportunities for residents. This facility represents Gotham Greens second location in the City of Chicago. Their existing facility atop the Method facility cannot meet the growing demand for their products.

The Project site is located within the 180-acre Pullman Park Planned Development which is comprised of several sub areas, allowing for up to 400,000 square feet of big box retail, 50,000-75,000 square feet of neighborhood retail, 1,100 new residential units, as well as an indoor and outdoor recreational space. Pullman Park is expected to be an economic development engine for the community, providing many benefits including much needed construction and permanent jobs.

The first phase of Pullman Park, Phase IA, is complete. The $37 million phase included infrastructure improvements, both private and public, required for the delivery of a 15.5 acre pad for a 150,000 square foot Walmart store. Public infrastructure improvements consisted of the rebuilding and re-routing of Doty Avenue from 107th to 111th and two retention ponds. The private improvements included the installation of utilities, environmental remediation, dynamic compaction, grading and construction of parking lot improvements. Construction for this phase started in July 2011 and was substantially complete in September 2012, creating approximately 150 construction jobs. Walmart opened for business in September, 2013, creating 400 new jobs and providing the community with fresh foods and retail goods.

Phase IB was presented and approved by CDC in November 2012. Project costs of approximately $37 million of the Project are both public improvements and private improvements and include site infrastructure work and vertical construction of 67,000 square feet of retail space anchored by a 25,000 square foot Ross Dress for Less and a 20,000 square foot Planet Fitness health club. Phase IB is 100% leased and occupied.

In 2013, Pullman Park was selected as the preferred site for a new 150,000 square foot manufacturing facility for Method, a leading manufacturer of eco-friendly cleaning products. The $11.6 million Project, for which TIF Assistance was approved by CDC in August, 2013, entailed the acquisition, site preparation, and public and private off-site improvements required to deliver a 21-acre pad to Method for the construction of its factory. The LEED Platinum facility began operations in December, 2014 and employs 100 people. In addition to Method, the facility houses Amcor, Method's bottling plant, and rooftop tenant Gotham Greens, a state-of-the-art growing facility.

In 2015, Whole Foods Distribution chose the Pullman Park Development for their new 140,000 square foot Midwest Distribution Center facility on 16.7 acres. That $36M development Project
was recently completed and is currently in operation serving 70 Whole Foods Market locations in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa, and the Canadian province of Ontario. 100 full time jobs were created. This was a TIF-assisted Project of $8.4 million that was heard at the April 12, 2016 CDC hearing.

IV. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Development Entity: The development entity is Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives ("CNI"), an Illinois Not-for Profit Corporation. CNI is a community development organization committed to combating community deterioration in underserved communities. CNI is governed by an independent board of directors consisting of community representatives, banking officials, accountants, attorneys and development professionals. In addition, Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives has successfully completed investing $80 million of New Market Tax Credits into a community center, a neighborhood hospital, a new charter school, and a community health center, creating several hundred new jobs.

Consultants:

TIF Lawyers:
DLA Piper LLP
203 N. LaSalle St., 1900
Chicago, IL 60601

Engineering:
Spaceco, Inc.
9575 W. Higgins
Rosemont, IL 60018

Environmental Consultants:
DAI Environmental Inc.
27834N. Irma Lee Circle
Lake Forest, IL 60045

V. PROPOSED PROJECT

Project Overview: The City of Chicago intends to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Agreement with Chicago Neighborhoods Initiatives, Inc. for the preparation of the 6.2 acre site for a new indoor, urban farming facility. The Developer will acquire the property located near 107th Street and Doty Avenue, complete demolition, site grading, installation of engineered barriers and utilities. The developer will sell the property to Gotham Greens for the vertical construction of an approximately 105,000 square foot facility. The total Project cost of land acquisition, on-site work and off-site work is approximately $3,675,000. Gotham Greens currently operates a 75,000 sq. ft. greenhouse with 50 full-time employees atop Method's rooftop in the Pullman Park Development. This Project is expected to create several benefits, including significant expansion of a high-quality company on the South Side and creation of 60 additional full time jobs. Salaries would range from $27,000-$125,000. Approximately 70 temporary construction jobs would be created for the Project.

Gotham Greens is a worldwide pioneer in the field of urban, indoor agriculture and a leading regional producer of hyper-local, premium quality, greenhouse grown vegetables and herbs. Gotham Green's pesticide-free produce is grown using ecologically sustainable methods in
technologically-sophisticated, 100% renewable electricity powered, climate controlled urban greenhouses. Gotham provides its diverse retail, restaurant, and institutional customers with reliable, year-round, local supply of fresh produce grown under the highest standards of food safety and environmental sustainability. The company has built and operates over 170,000 square feet of technologically advanced, urban greenhouses across four facilities, three of which are located in New York City. The fourth location is the 75,000 sq. ft. greenhouse atop the Method plant.

The Site is currently vacant and is owned by Pullman Park Development, LLC. It was previously an industrial property and home to the Ryerson Steel Plant. Ryerson moved its operations in 2008 and the site was acquired by Park National Bank later the same year, then subsequently by U.S. Bank through its acquisition of Park National Bank in 2009. The site was acquired in July 2011 by Pullman Park Development, LLC for the purpose of developing the property into a mixed-use development.

The total cost of completing the Project as well as the vertical construction is approximately $12.55 million. The costs associated with the vertical construction are not part of the TIF request and are not reflected in the attached budget. The developer will complete the site preparation and then convey the Property to Gotham Green for construction of an approximately 105,000 square foot greenhouse with offices.

**Environmental Features:** Gotham Greens’ innovative crop production methods save land, save water, eliminate agricultural runoff and chemical pesticides, and offer the benefits of efficient, high-yield, local, year-round food production. The company’s greenhouses are all powered by renewable electricity and its proximity to the market reduces environmental impacts from transportation.

- Re-circulating hydroponic methods employed in controlled environment greenhouses are capable of producing approximately double the yields of conventional agriculture in less time while using a 1/10 of the land and 1/20 of the water.

- By relying primarily on passive ventilation and evaporative cooling; utilizing on-site renewable energy production, high efficiency pumps, fans, and other greenhouse equipment; Gotham Greens reduces electric consumption.

- The average food item in today’s supermarket travels several thousand miles from farm to table. Gotham Greens proximity to the retail market will sharply reduce transportation fuel consumption and associated air emissions, while improving product quality.

- As a result of these energy saving innovations, Gotham Greens produces vegetables with a lower total energy input, per kg of delivered product, than *either* conventional greenhouses or conventional field agriculture, with a much lower carbon emissions profile.

- The environmental benefits are rounded out by the land and water savings, and the elimination of fertilizer, pesticide, and storm water runoff.
VI. FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

This Project encompasses site preparation/grading, utility installation, engineered barrier installation and dynamic compaction prior to construction of the foundation and building pad. The site is currently at a competitive disadvantage with other large industrial properties in the neighboring municipalities and states. The Developer, a not for profit entity, has limited ability to borrow funds to complete this phase and is limited by the debt remaining from previous phases of the overall Pullman Park development. This deal would not be financially feasible but for the benefit of the TIF assistance.

The TIF assistance will be used to prepare the 6.2 acre site for a new indoor urban agricultural facility to be acquired and occupied by Gotham Greens. The developer will acquire the site for $607,662 and complete the site preparation/grading, utility installation and dynamic compaction of building pad. Once the Project is completed, Gotham Greens will acquire the site for $875,000 and construct an approximately 105,000 square foot facility.

The City intends to negotiate an RDA with Developer in connection with the Project and anticipates reimbursing Developer for a portion of its TIF-Eligible costs in an amount up to $3,355,000 which is approximately 26.7% of the cost of completing the Project together with the vertical construction, to be completed by Gotham; the total cost of the Project and the Facility is currently estimated to be $12,550,000. The costs associated with the vertical construction are not part of the TIF request and are not reflected in the attached budget. Developer will acquire the Site, complete the site preparation, and then convey the prepared Site to Gotham for construction of an approximately 88,000 square foot greenhouse and 17,000 square feet of office/support space.

The City will issue a tax-exempt note with a face value of $3,355,000 to be funded into a construction escrow upon closing of the RDA. This note would include $2,800,000 in principal value, up to and no more than $219,500 in issuance costs, and up to and no more than $335,500 in debt reserves.

In addition the City may choose, at its election and in its sole discretion, to pursue the original multi-note refinancing structure. Any note issued in the original multi-note refinancing structure would be limited to note issuance costs of $514,350. The proceeds of any multi-note issuance will be funded into a construction escrow upon closing of the RDA, which would coincide with the issuance of a new tax-exempt City note that will retire existing Pullman development tax-exempt notes held by Nuveen.

The following table on the next page identifies the sources and uses of funds.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>S/SF of Land Area**</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proceeds of $3,355,000 Note Sale*</td>
<td>$2,800,000</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale Proceeds</td>
<td>$875,000</td>
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<td>Total Uses</td>
<td>$3,675,000</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Uses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% of TPC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Acquisition</td>
<td>$607,662</td>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Demolition and Earthwork</td>
<td>$1,057,075</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
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<td>Drainage Improvements</td>
<td>$207,000</td>
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<td>Watermain Improvements</td>
<td>$238,500</td>
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<td>Sanitary Sewer Improvements</td>
<td>$84,875</td>
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<td>Dry Utilities</td>
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<td>Pavement</td>
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<td>Landscaping</td>
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<td>Public Right of Way</td>
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<td>Hard Cost Contingency</td>
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<td>Total Hard Costs</td>
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<th>Soft Costs/Fees</th>
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<th>% of TPC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture and Engineering</td>
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<td>Permits</td>
<td>$62,500</td>
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<td>Legal, Title, Closing Costs</td>
<td>$155,000</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
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<td>Contingency</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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<td>Total Soft Costs</td>
<td>$642,500</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>$2.38</td>
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| Developer Fee           | $108,574       | 3.0%     | $0.40                |

| Total                   | $3,675,000     | 100.0%   | $13.61               |

*The Note, with a face value of up to $3,355,000, will be sold to an undetermined investor, yielding $2,800,000 in proceeds.

**Site Area is 270,072 square feet
VII. PROJECT BENEFITS

The proposed Project will provide the following benefits:

Property Taxes: The Project will expand the tax base because the investment in the property will result in an increase in its assessed value.

Environmental Features: The Project will complete the clean-up of a site currently enrolled in the EPA Site Remediation Program and the developer will be seeking an NFR (No Further Remediation) for this property.

Permanent Jobs: The Project is estimated to generate 60 permanent jobs over a 3 year period after the completion of the vertical construction. The department’s Workforce Solutions specialists will work with the developer on job training and placement. Gotham Greens will implement a hiring plan and are required to provide 35% of new jobs to area residents. However, Gotham will strive to provide 70% of new jobs to area residents (Area residents are those residing in the following Southside zip codes: 60628, 60619, 60627, 60643 and 60617).

Construction Jobs: The Project, as well as the vertical construction, will produce 70 temporary construction jobs.

Affirmative Action: The developer will comply with the requirements of Chicago’s Affirmative Action ordinance, which requires contract participation of 26% by minority-owned business enterprises (MBEs) and 6% by woman-owned business enterprises (WBEs). The developer has provided notification of the proposed Project, by certified mail, to several associations of minority and women contractors. A sample version of the letter and copies of the post office receipts for the certified letters are presented as exhibits to this report.

City Residency: The developer will comply with the requirements of Chicago’s City Residency ordinance, which requires that at least half of all construction-worker hours be filled by Chicago residents. The developer will also comply with the requirement that all construction jobs are paid the prevailing wage.

Neighborhood Development: The Project will continue the reuse of a vacant, blighted parcel within Pullman Park, in turn helping the continued revitalization of the Pullman Community.

VIII. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Alderman Beale endorses the Project and has provided a letter of support (see exhibits for copy). Additionally, the following organizations support the proposed Project: Create Real Economic Destiny (CRED), Metropolitan Family Services (Calumet), Pullman Arts, Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce and the Historic Pullman Foundation (support letters enclosed).

IX. CONFORMANCE WITH REDEVELOPMENT AREA PLAN

The proposed Project is located in the North Pullman Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment

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Project Area. The proposed Project will satisfy the following goals of the Redevelopment Plan:

- Eliminate conditions that qualify the North Pullman Redevelopment Project Area (RPA) as a conservation area and provide the mechanisms necessary to support public and private development and improvements in the RPA.
- Provide opportunities for women-owned, minority-owned, and locally owned businesses to share in job opportunities associated with the redevelopment of the North Pullman RPA, particularly in design and construction industries.
- Support job training programs and increase employment opportunities for area residents.
- The recommended land uses for the Area are generally consistent with the existing zoning and current uses of the land and the areas adjacent.

The implementation strategy for achieving the goals of the Plan includes the need to provide TIF financial assistance to create jobs and spur development in the Project Area.

The proposed Project also conforms to the plan's land use map, which calls for industrial development at the subject site.

X. CONDITIONS OF ASSISTANCE

If the proposed resolution is approved, DPD will negotiate a redevelopment agreement with the developer. The redevelopment agreement will incorporate the parameters of the proposed Project as described in this staff report.

It is DPD policy that no business will be conducted with a development entity whose any principal has outstanding municipal debts (such as unpaid parking tickets, unpaid water bills, unpaid business licenses, and others), is in arrears of child support payments, or who is a debtor in bankruptcy, a defendant in a legal action for deficient performance, a respondent in an administrative action for deficient performance, or a defendant in any criminal action.

Closing will not occur before the City Council has approved the redevelopment agreement, the developer has obtained all necessary City approvals including zoning and building permits, and the developer has presented proof of financing. The documents will include a development timetable.

XI. RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Planning and Development has thoroughly reviewed the proposed Project, the qualifications of the development team, the financial structure of the Project, its need for public assistance, and DPD requests that the CDC recommend to the City Council the designation of Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives as Developer for the development of the vacant parcel at 107th and Doty Avenue.
EXHIBITS

Redevelopment Area Map
Neighborhood Map or Aerial Survey or Plat
Site Plan with Elevations
Sample M/WBE Letter
Copies of M/WBE Certified Receipts
Community Letters of Support
Alderman's Letter of Support
January 29, 2018

Mr. Omar Shareef
African American Contractors Association
7445 S. South Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60619

Re: Pullman

Dear Mr. Shareef:

Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives (CNI) is pleased to announce the proposed redevelopment of approximately 6 acres of land located on 107th & Doty in Chicago’s Pullman’s neighborhood. Construction on the industrial project is anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2018.

The project will require the participation of the following trades:

- Environmental remediation
- Dynamic Compaction
- Earthwork
- Landscaping
- Site paving
- Site concrete
- Underground utilities

This project is subject to a minimum minority business-owned enterprise (MBE) participation of 26 percent and women business-owned enterprise (WBE) participation of 6 percent.

CNI will meet with a representative of your organization to present the project scope and schedule, once it has been approved. CNI will also provide your organization with one copy of the project bid documents (including plans and specifications), upon request. CNI is requesting that you make your member companies aware of this upcoming project so that they may submit bids, for appropriate subcontracting opportunities, as they should become available.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Clare Boatright 773-341-2065

Sincerely,

David Doig, President
Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, Inc.
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<td>A. Signature</td>
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<td>■ Print your name and address on the reverse</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>so that we can return the card to you.</td>
<td>Agent</td>
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1. Article Addressed to:  
**Ms. Beth Davis**  
Alliance of Women and Minority Contractors  
850 S. Michigan Ave., Ste 2000  
Chicago, IL 60607  
9590 8402 1688 8362 9112 96

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)  
7006 1630 0004 0990 2078

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7590-02-000-0008  
Domestic Return Receipt

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1. Article Addressed to:  
**Ms. Diana Davis**  
Alliance of Business Leaders + Entrepreneurs  
150 N. Michigan Ave., Ste 2000  
Chicago, IL 60601  
9590 8402 1688 8362 9112 89

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)  
7006 1630 0004 0990 2081

PS Form 3811, July 2016 PSN 7590-02-000-0003  
Domestic Return Receipt

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1. Article Addressed to:  
**Mr. Omar Sharif**  
African American Contractors Assoc.  
7445 S. Chicago Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60619  
9590 9403 0265 5155 0391 98

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)  
7006 1630 0004 0990 2074

PS Form 3811, April 2016 PSN 7590-02-000-0003  
Domestic Return Receipt
February 8, 2018

Commissioner David L. Reifman
Department of Planning and Development
City of Chicago
121 N LaSalle Street, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Pullman Park – Gotham Greens

Dear Commissioner Reifman:

I am writing to convey my support of Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives Inc. ("CNI") to redevelop approximately 6 acres of land at 107th Street and Doty Road in order to accommodate a new greenhouse for Gotham Greens.

The project will provide much-needed construction and permanent jobs for my community. When completed, the Gotham Greens Facility is expected to employ approximately 60 people, and Gotham Greens has committed to significant community resident hiring.

As you may know, Chicago CRED has been working with young men in the Pullman area for more than a year, providing a holistic approach to job readiness by addressing issues of homelessness, conflict resolution skills, substance abuse, transportation, and education. We believe that many of the jobs available at Gotham Greens would provide a vital stepping stone for Chicago CRED participants into the workforce.

This is a very important project for the Pullman community and will serve as a catalyst to attract other industrial companies to the neighborhood and to the entire Calumet Region. We look forward to working with CNI and Gotham Greens.

Sincerely,

David Snyder
Chief Operating Officer
January 31, 2018

Commissioner David Reifman
Department of Planning and Development
City Hall
121 N LaSalle, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Gotham Greens

Dear Commissioner Reifman,

Metropolitan Family Services empowers families to learn, to earn, to heal, to thrive. Part mentor, part motivator, part advocate, since 1857 Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that empowers Chicago-area families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities.

Metropolitan Family Services has more than 890 full- and part-time professional staff dedicated to providing quality services to families throughout Chicago, DuPage County, Evanston/Skokie and the southwest suburbs. Metropolitan serves more than 72,000 families and individuals as diverse as the communities in which they live, with 81% being part of the working poor or lower-middle class.

As executive Director of the Calumet Center located in Roseland, I am pleased to write this letter of support of behalf of Gotham Greens. Metropolitan Family Services is excited that Gotham Greens, a company that produces pesticide-free produce using ecologically sustainable methods in technologically-sophisticated climate-controlled urban greenhouses, chose the Pullman for the site of the second Chicago greenhouse. Gotham Green's new facility will help propel the revitalization of the community and create 60 new jobs. Metropolitan Family Services looks forward to building a great relationship with Gotham Greens, and we warmly welcome them into the community.

Sincerely,

Audrena Spence
Executive Director

families empower to learn, to earn, to heal, to thrive.
February 1, 2018

Commissioner David Reifman
Department of Planning and Development
City Hall
121 N LaSalle, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Gotham Greens

Dear Commissioner Reifman,

The Board of PullmanArts is pleased to write this letter of support on behalf of Gotham Greens. PullmanArts is excited that Gotham Greens, a company that produces pesticide-free produce using ecologically sustainable methods in technologically-sophisticated climate-controlled urban greenhouses, chose the Pullman for the site of the second Chicago greenhouse. Gotham Greens' new facility will help propel the revitalization of the community and create 60 new jobs. PullmanArts looks forward to continuing our great relationship with Gotham Greens, and we are very excited about their expansion.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Erica Roewade
President
PullmanArts
info@pullmanarts.org
January 31, 2018

Commissioner David Reifman
Department of Planning and Development
City Hall
121 N LaSalle, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Gotham Greens

Dear Commissioner Reifman,

Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce strives to develop innovative ways to increase commerce among community businesses. Through marketing, networking and sponsorship opportunities the Chamber increases business owner’s visibility and encourages profitable relationships within the Roseland community. I am pleased to write this letter of support on behalf of Gotham Greens. Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce is excited that Gotham Greens, a company that produces pesticide-free produce using ecologically sustainable methods in technologically-sophisticated climate-controlled urban greenhouses, chose Pullman for the site of the second Chicago greenhouse.

The business owners and residents of Pullman and Roseland are ecstatic over the announcement of Gotham’s growth in the Pullman community. Gotham Green’s new facility will help propel the revitalization of the community and create 60 new jobs. Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce looks forward to building a great relationship with Gotham Greens, and we warmly welcome them into the community.

Sincerely,

Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce

Andrea D. Reed
Executive Director
January 31, 2018

Commissioner David Reisman
Department of Planning and Development
City Hall
121 N LaSalle, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Gotham Greens

Dear Commissioner Reisman,

The mission of the Historic Pullman Foundation is to promote public awareness of the historical significance of Pullman as one of the nation’s first planned industrial communities, now a designated national monument and City of Chicago, State of Illinois and National landmark district.

As the President of the Historic Pullman Foundation I am pleased to support Gotham Greens expansion. The Historic Pullman Foundation is excited that Gotham Greens, a company that produces pesticide-free produce using ecologically sustainable methods in technologically-sophisticated climate-controlled urban greenhouses, chose the Pullman for the site of the second Chicago greenhouse. Gotham Green’s new facility will help propel the revitalization of the community and create 60 new jobs.

In the 1880s the Pullman Model Town Plan experimented with urban agriculture by using processed sewerage to irrigate and fertilize adjacent farm fields. Gotham Greens brings 21st century proven urban agriculture technology to Pullman and helps reestablish the tradition of innovation and prosperity. The Historic Pullman Foundation looks forward to building a great relationship with Gotham Greens, and we warmly welcome them into the community.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Shymanski
President
Historic Pullman Foundation

Foundation@pullmanil.org
mike@shymanski.net
c 312 203-4083
January 30, 2018

Commissioner David L. Reifman
Department of Planning and Development
City of Chicago
121 N LaSalle Street, Room 1000
Chicago, IL 60602

RE: PULLMAN PARK - GOTHAM GREENS

Dear Commissioner Reifman:

I am writing to convey my support of Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives Inc. ("CNI") to redevelop approximately 6 acres of land at 107th Street and Doty Road in order to accommodate a new greenhouse for Gotham Greens. Specifically, I am writing to convey my support of CNI’s application for approximately $3,355,000 in gross Tax Increment Financing assistance which yields approximately $2,800,000 in net proceeds for the development for TIF eligible site preparation and financing costs.

The project will provide much-needed construction and permanent jobs for my community. CNI has committed to Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) contract participation of 26%/6% respectively, in accordance with the attached Construction (MBE/WBE) Budget dated 1/30/18. When completed, the Gotham Greens Facility is expected to employ approximately 60 people, and Gotham Greens has committed to utilizing best efforts to achieve 70% community resident hiring.

This is a very important project for the Pullman community and will serve as a catalyst to attract other industrial companies to the neighborhood and to the entire Calumet Region.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Beale
Alderman, 9th Ward

AAB/mkh
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE
CITY OF CHICAGO

RESOLUTION NO. __ - CDC -

AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A
REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD
INITIATIVES, INC.

AND
RECOMMENDATION TO
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO
FOR THE DESIGNATION OF CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES, INC.
AS DEVELOPER

WHEREAS, the Community Development Commission (the "Commission") of the City of Chicago (the "City") has heretofore been appointed by the Mayor of the City with the approval of its City Council (the City Council referred to herein collectively with the Mayor as the "Corporate Authorities") as codified in Section 2-124 of the City's Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is empowered by the Corporate Authorities to exercise certain powers enumerated in Section 5/11-74.4-4(k) of the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, as amended (65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et seq.), (as amended from time to time, the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council, upon the Commission's recommendation pursuant to Resolution 09-CDC-28 and pursuant to the Act, enacted three ordinances on June 30, 2009 pursuant to which the City approved and adopted a certain redevelopment plan and project (the "Plan") for the North Pullman Redevelopment Project Area (the "Area"), designated the Area as a redevelopment project area and adopted tax increment allocation financing for the Area. The street boundaries of the Area are described on Exhibit A hereto; and

WHEREAS, Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, Inc. (the "Developer"), has presented to the City’s Department of Planning and Development (the "Department") a proposal for redevelopment of the Area or a portion thereof that is in compliance with the Plan, consisting of the preparation of the site (the "Project") which is ready for conveyance to the end user for the construction of an approximately 105,000 square foot indoor, urban agricultural facility (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, DPD requests that the Commission recommend to City Council that the Developer be designated as the developer for the Project and that the Department be authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver a redevelopment agreement with the Developer for the Project; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

Section 1. The above recitals are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

Section 2. The Commission hereby recommends to City Council that the Developer be designated as the developer for the Project and that the Department be authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver on the City’s behalf a redevelopment agreement with the Developer for the Project.

Section 3. If any provision of this resolution shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this resolution.

Section 4. All resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. This resolution shall be effective as of the date of its adoption.

Section 6. A certified copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the City Council.

ADOPTED: __________________, 2018

Attachment: Exhibit A, Street Boundary Description
EXHIBIT A

Street Boundary Description of the
North Pullman Tax Increment Financing
Redevelopment Project Area

The Area is generally bounded by East 101st and 103rd Streets on the north, South Doty and Stony Island Avenues on the east, East 106th, 108th, and 111th Streets on the south, and South Cottage Grove and Indiana Avenues on the west.