Expansion Approved for South Side Senior Apartment Complex

The seven-story, second phase of the Montclare Senior Residences of Avalon Park complex will move forward under financial measures approved today by City Council.

The $29 million expansion, planned for a City-owned land at 1201 E. 77th St., will create 122 apartments, 109 of which will be rented to seniors earning up to 60 percent of area median income.

“Safe and comfortable senior housing is an essential component of the City’s affordable housing agenda,” Mayor Rahm Emanuel said. “These measures support these goals.”

The City will sell the 1.76 acre site valued at $1.95 million for $1, provide a $6.7 million loan, and issue $1.4 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credits that will generate $14.8 million in equity for the project.

Additional City support will include $650,000 from the Low Income Housing Trust Fund, which provides rental subsidies to landlords who rent to low-income tenants.

The L-shaped structure, to be developed by Avalon Park Phase II LLC, will include a mix of studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments for independent seniors at least 62 years of age.

The 102-unit first phase of the complex was competed in 2009. The two phases will share a lobby, activity rooms and laundry facilities located in the original building.

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TIF Approved for New Lighting at Southwest Side Park

West Lawn Little Leaguers will enjoy baseball under the lights through a financial proposal approved today by City Council.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in the amount of $110,000 will support the installation of outdoor lighting fixtures at Chicago Park District facility #484 at 4701 W. 67th St. The lights will illuminate the nine-acre park’s main baseball diamond to accommodate a growing baseball program and create a safer playing area. Total project cost is $110,000.

The park site includes five baseball fields with backstops, dugouts, and bleachers; an arboretum; walking paths; and picnic areas. The park also serves as a portion of the Mariano Azuela Elementary School campus.

Park #484 is also known as Michael J. Madigan Sr. Park. Madigan was a lifelong resident of Chicago, prominent community member, and civic leader from the Southwest Side. He died in 1966 at the age of 60.

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