



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Grant Would Enable New City Design  
Company Expansion**

A New City design studio would double the size of its design and production space through a \$1.67 million Neighborhood Opportunity Fund grant proposed to City Council today by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

Bridgewater Studios and South Oakley Ventures LLCs would use the grant to rehabilitate a 50,000-square-foot building at 4834 S. Oakley Ave. for offices and fabrication space. The approximately \$2.85 million project would include timber truss repairs, asbestos removal, tuck pointing, window replacement, HVAC upgrades, landscaping, and fence repair.

The company plans to add up to 20 new, permanent jobs at the location, in addition to maintaining an approximately 50-person facility at 1719 W. 35th St.

Up to \$250,000 of the grant would be allocated as a local hiring bonus.

Bridgewater Studios has worked with the Shedd Aquarium, the Museum of Science and Industry, the film and television industry, and other clients. The company also trains and hires disadvantaged and unemployed people through the Jane Adams Resource Center, the Greater West Town Training Program, and other partners.

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**Childhood Learning Center Proposed for Former Calumet Heights Public  
School**



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Calumet Height's vacant Kate S. Buckingham School would be revitalized as a youth learning center through a land transfer proposed to City Council today by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

The one-story Board of Education property at 9207 S. Phillips Ave. would be transferred to the City and then sold for \$1 to Chicago Youth Centers, which has operated a network of citywide learning programs for nearly 65 years.

The \$5.2 million project would focus on early learning programs, afterschool and summer enrichment activities, and family and community support services. The proposed project would include six classroom spaces, a state-of-the-art technology hub, a multi-purpose recreational room for community uses, a family support center, offices, a kitchen, and ADA-compliant restrooms.

Exterior improvements would include new playgrounds, bike racks, landscaping, lighting, signage, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and entryways.

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### **North Lawndale Church Poised for Landmark Status**

North Lawndale's Pentecostal Church of Holiness would be designated as an official City of Chicago landmark under a proposal submitted to City Council today.

Located at 4208 W. 15th St. and originally named Our Lady of Lourdes church, the Romanesque Revival-style building was designed by architect Louis Guenzel in 1932 for a predominantly Czech-speaking parish.

Over the ensuing decades, Our Lady of Lourdes became a predominantly African American parish. In 2006, the building was sold and operated as a Baptist church. In 2016, it was purchased by the Pentecostal Church of Holiness led by Pastor Dr. Chaun L. Johnson.

Today, the church is committed to serving local residents and strengthening the neighborhood.

The designation would protect the building's exterior elevations and adjacent rectory from demolition or significant alteration.

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