

SSA #22 andersonville

**Andersonville Special Service Area #22
September 26, 2022**

Attendance: Mike Sullivan, Farah Essa, Pete Valavanis, Nadeen Kieren.

Commission applicant: Marianne Candido

Absent: Frank Uhler

Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan: Pursuant to the applicable law and my determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster caused by COVID-19, this meeting is conducted by videoconference.

Approval of September 26 30, 2022 meeting minutes Vote
Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan asks for a motion to Approve September 26, 2022 Minutes. Farah Essa motions and Pete Valavanis seconds the motion. All in favor. No one opposed.

Financial Update

Property Tax is still stalled as the City of Chicago and the Assessors office continue to figure out the 2021 assessments and those filing property tax extensions. This is a problem across the city with all SSAs and impacts all organizations that rely on the funds such as public service, schools, and hospitals. The last update is that they are looking towards the end of the year to release funding. The Sole Service Provider, Andersonville Chamber of Commerce has loaned the SSA \$25,000, and will loan to cover necessary maintenance of the district, so that the SSA does not need to take out a line of credit as is suggested by the City. Programming will be updated to reflect that payment. Payment will be delayed for any business applying for rebates until cash starts hitting the account again. Laura Austin did report that we did receive a \$40,941 TIF deposit. No further deposits have come in. We will be working with our vendors during any transition times for cash flow from 2022 into 2023.

Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan asks for a motion to Approve September 26, 2022 Minutes. Farah Essa motions and Pete Valavanis seconds the motion. All in favor. No one opposed.

RFPs for 2023

SSA Auditors-The SSA had been advised by the previous executive director to switch up SSA auditors every three years in order to make sure the audits have a pair of fresh eyes. We have worked with the ACT Group in the past and have for the past three years have worked with Thomas Bravos as our auditor. We value our relationship with both businesses but would like more information on if other folks switch up their auditors as we had been suggested or if we should continue our relationship with a company that we are confident in auditing our SSA.

Bids

Thomas Bravos	\$3400
The A.C.T Group	\$4000

Action Item: Find out from other SSAs if they have kept the same auditor or follow the 3 year rule.

Landscaping-Last year we went with City Grange that had an unexpected family situation where they had to discontinue services with us. We have hired their referral for continuing our Native and pollinator project in Vivant Gardens that have worked with us for this year. Unfortunately, we did not have access to water for consistent watering. We received two bids for landscaping from Vivant and one from Patch Landscaping.

Vivant Gardening	\$17,900
Patch Landscaping	\$24,456

Action Item: See if Patch Landscaping will go down in price and include all services weeds, watering and landscaping.

Watering & Weeding Service-This year we have a new RFP for watering planters and parkway gardens as finding a watering service last year with our boutique Landscaping service needs had become difficult to find. Patch Landscaping has provided a quote:

Watering	\$6,510
Weeding	\$1,590

Snow removal-Continuing our relationship with Patch, SSA 22 is excited to work with Patch Landscaping and Snow Removal for our 2022-23 winter season to provide snow removal and deicer when snow is 2" or above. We will continue our per push contract up to our cap of \$30K reflected in our budget to the city.

Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan motions to Approve Patch Landscaping and Snow Removal as our Snow Removal Contract for the 2022-2023 Season. Farah Essa seconds the motion. All in favor. No one opposed.

Litter Abatement-We have our option to renew with Cleanslate to continue services through 2023. We have had a great relationship with them and they have been the most active with working with us during the pandemic. Their bid for the 2023 season is \$38,748

Pressure Washing- is done every year right after Midsommarfest \$8,874

Holiday Decor-Patch Landscaping has held this contract and is great to work with every year. \$6,320

Service Report

Customer Attraction | 2022 special events calendar

Andersonville Arts Weekend is this next weekend where we have a beautiful weekend and have been advertised in Madison, 3 Oaks Michigan, and Iowa to attract folks to join us as we open the district to all kinds of artistic expression.

Halloween in Andersonville will happen on October 28, 2022 and this year we will continue to partner up with AlleyCat Comics and provide a fun filled space on Catalpa for kids and families to be entertained for the Holiday before they go off into the district for Trick O Treat along Clark Street. We will be introducing Punkin the non binary pumpkin person in a scavenger hunt that kids can find.

Holidays in Andersonville will begin shortly after Halloween with the launch of this year's Holiday Brochure, small business campaign, and various events. We are coming up on the 20th Anniversary of the Andersonville Study so we will be looking into doing another study following the same data points to see what it looks like today.

Choose Chicago Tours- We have been working well with Choose Chicago Tours that invites folks from all over the world to join us in Andersonville. We are always looking for Ambassadors if any SSA commissioner is interested in hosting.

Public Way Aesthetics

Landscaping in the district will continue to the Holidays where our planters and lights will be transformed the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Streetscape elements has nothing new to report

Rebate Programs we have a few folks that are interested in applying for the rebate programs

Sustainability & Public Places

Catalpa Public Space Project is moving forward with the news that it will be closed off from traffic. They will choose folks from the directly impacted neighborhood block clubs, Peirce, as well as one representative from the Board and SSA 22 thanks to Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan that spoke up to voice the necessity for a SSA representative on this project as the SSA will be responsible for maintaining the space.

Commission Chair, Mike Sullivan motions to appoint Nadeen Kieren as our SSA representative for the Steering committee for the Andersonville Catalpa Project. Farah Essa seconds the motion. All in favor. No one opposed. Nadeen abstains from voting.

Clark Street Crossroads-Paul Riese is leaving the project and will be replaced by Martin Sorge and another person from CDOT. The appointed group will be finishing their findings and will be presenting their findings to the steering committee in November.

Economic & Business Development

Chicago CityScapes is a new platform that we have that can help us identify and work with the city's information to get up to date information on property owners, pin numbers, business licenses, etc and will help us with Economic Development.

Safety Programs has nothing new to report

Commissioners

Marianne Candido is joining us today as we have submitted her application to the city and is looking forward to being a part of the commission.

ACC News

Roll out with Health Care

I. Adjourn

Future meeting dates:

2022 Andersonville SSA #22 Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 1PM