



Coalition for Equitable Community Development

Promoting an economically and racially diverse community of Hyde Park—Kenwood

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1525 E. 53rd ST. Room 902
Chicago 60615
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Dear Friend of the Coalition for Equitable Community Development,
It's been a while since we've been in touch with you, but a lot has been going on in Hyde Park ever since our last Annual Meeting. New construction has started on 51st and Lake Park Ave. at the new City Hyde Park site across from Kenwood Academy, a high-rise building with 20% affordability of the total unit capacity. A new Whole Foods store bringing another grocery alternative to the neighborhood – along with some much-needed entry and managerial level jobs in that industry – has also been planned for the site. On 53rd street, you can see the change that has been brought about by community involvement in new construction. Starbuck's moved from Harper Ave to an expanded Lake Park location. New restaurants and shops are keeping the area busy: Chipotle, Red Mango Café, Pork Chop Restaurant, Ulta, and the A.T. & T. store are anchoring the northwest corner of 53rd and Lake Park alongside staples of the neighborhood such as Valois Cafeteria, Bonne Santé, Mellow Yellow, and Pizza Capri. Across the street, Akira on the ground floor and Core Power Yoga upstairs have made a name for the old bookstore location. And the new Promontory Restaurant and Club brings much-needed entertainment along with the renovated Harper Theater across from the new Hyatt Hotel, providing more hotel rooms for neighborhood and University guests.

All of this business providing jobs and increasing the tax-base did not come about by accident. The CECD was influential in making conferences, attending proposal meetings on new high-rise construction, and monthly ward and T.I.F. (tax increment financing) meetings. Our past annual meetings focused on issues such as affordable housing for new families, singles and students, and accessible and affordable housing for seniors, in the process, identifying developers who believe in our fundamental principles. Please plan to attend our next annual meeting on Saturday, January 10th, 2015, 10:00AM - 12 Noon at Augustana Lutheran Church on 55th and Woodlawn. As in the past, the meeting is open to the public. Our collective voice has been and is being heard. Our diverse board is composed of community members with backgrounds in the arts, education, business development, and social service.

We want to continue the progress we've made so far and would like for you to be with us, either by renewing your membership or joining us and being a part of preserving the racial and economic diversity that is Hyde Park – Kenwood. Peace

Board Member Clark Morris