Application form:
Community Planning Program and
Local Technical Assistance Program

DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 25, 2015

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.com/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.com.
Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

1. Name of Applicant:
The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council. The lead agency for this application is the New Covenant Community Development Corporation.

2. Main Contact for Application:

Name: Valerie F. Leonard
Title: Member, North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council
Phone number: 773-571-3886
Email: consulting@valeriefleonard.com

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):

_____ Local government

_____ Multijurisdictional group* Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):


_____ Nongovernmental organization* Name of local government partner(s):

See list of elected officials in question 7 below.

*Applications submitted by multijurisdictional groups and nongovernmental organizations must include a letter indicating support from each relevant local government. See the FAQs for more information.
Nongovernmental applicants are strongly encouraged to contact CMAP, RTA, or CCDPH prior to submitting their application to discuss their project and the demonstration of local support.

4. Project Type (please check any that apply):

Please check all statements below that describe characteristics of your project. (This will help us determine whether your project is best handled by CMAP, RTA, or CCDPH.)

**X** My project involves preparation of a plan.
___ My project helps to implement a past plan.
___ My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
___ My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
___ My project is a bicycle, pedestrian, or active transportation plan in suburban Cook County.
___ My project is not directly related to transportation or land use, but implements GO TO 2040 in other ways.

5. Local Match Requirement (please initial to indicate you are aware of the local match requirements):
I am aware that a local match will be required for most projects, and understand that if my project is selected it is up to the project applicant to contribute a local match. (See the program guide for further details on local match requirements.)

**X** Yes, I understand that applicants will be required to contribute a local match.

6. Project Location:
Please provide a brief description of the location of your project. You may include a map if that helps to describe location, but this is not required. If your project helps to implement a past plan, please include a link to that plan.

The geography of the plan will include the North Lawndale community, as defined by the City of Chicago’s Community Area 29. North Lawndale is located approximately 3.5 miles west of Downtown Chicago, and is bound roughly by Campbell Avenue to the east; 24th Street, Cermak Road and 19th Street on the south; City Limits to the west (near Cicero Avenue) and Fifth Avenue, Taylor and Arthington Avenue on the north. The community is situated about 2 blocks south of the Eisenhower Expressway (Interstate 290). While the focus of the plan will be North Lawndale, the plan will acknowledge planning activities in adjacent communities, including Little Village to the south; the Medical District and Near West Side to the east; East Garfield and West Garfield to the north and Austin and the Town of Cicero to the west. This will position each community to share resources for projects near community borders. A map of the North Lawndale community is found on the following page.
7. Project Description:
Please tell us what you would like to do in your community, and what assistance is needed. If you have more than one idea, please submit a separate application for each project. Please be specific, but also brief (less than two pages per project idea)—we simply want to have a basic understanding of what you want to do. Program staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

(Please include any additional information that is relevant, preferably by providing links to online documents.)

The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) is a group of North Lawndale stakeholders, who have come together to facilitate comprehensive planning across various quality of life sectors in North Lawndale. The group includes representatives from New Covenant CDC, Deer Rehabilitation Services, Inc. Sinai Health System, UCAN, North Lawndale Employment Network, Lawndale Business Renaissance Association, K-Town Historic District Association, Holsten Human Capital Development Corporation, NFP; Lawndale Christian Development Corporation, the Lawndale Amachi Program (LAMP), Foundation for Homan Square, BBF and local residents. Alderman Michael Scott, Jr., Cook County Commissioner Robert Steele, State Representative Arthur Turner, Congressman Danny K. Davis support the Council, and have committed to working with us as ex-officio members.
NLCCC’s work will be led by a steering committee that will guide the strategic direction of the group; develop mechanisms for decision making; provide a framework for comprehensive planning and related processes and make policy recommendations. The “nuts and bolts” of NLCCC’s work will be carried out by sub-committees that will be organized along various quality of life sectors.

Some have asked why North Lawndale should embark upon yet another planning process. There are 6 TIFs that have some or all of their land mass in North Lawndale. Another TIF, in Little Village, impacts some North Lawndale residents, and has recently been terminated. There are a number of other special districts, including expired Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Zones and existing HUB Zones. Furthermore, there are several plans that have been developed over the years, or are in process now. These include the North Lawndale New Communities Program; a plan for Douglas Boulevard; the North Lawndale Gateway; a plan for the Roosevelt Road Commercial Corridor; a plan for urban agriculture along 16th Street and plans for the Ogden Avenue commercial corridor, to name a few. While each of these plans has merit, none of them impacts the entire community. There are some areas in the community that have not been touched by any planning activities, while other parts of the community are poised for growth.

North Lawndale has not had a comprehensive planning process in nearly 60 years. Currently, there is no entity to develop guiding development principles and policies, let alone coordinate the development activities to maximize impact of development and to ensure an equitable distribution of resources throughout the community and provide a sense of “place” for North Lawndale. Moreover, over the years, the North Lawndale community has evolved from one with an entrepreneurial and industrial spirit to a community that is overly reliant upon social services.

We envision a comprehensive planning process that will: 1) help us take stock of all the plans in the community and develop a snapshot of current conditions and capacity; 2) be in alignment with the regional GOTO 2040 Plan and national Livable Communities Program and include strategies for transportation, housing, infrastructure, technology, education, workforce development open space and public safety; 3) lay a framework that will guide future development; 4) establish goals, objectives, policies and performance metrics to guide us towards a desired end (to be determined during the planning process); 5) incorporate sustainability goals that allow us to have a positive triple bottom line, as measured by environmental impact, social equity and economic impact; 6) help us diversify our economy; 7) develop our local residents such that they can take advantage of housing, entrepreneurial and employment opportunities that will naturally evolve from the implementation of the plan; 9) improve local governance, transparency and accountability in community planning; 10) develop a framework within which to evaluate results and measure the financial impact of the implementation of the strategic plan on an ongoing basis. The process should be participatory and engage rank and file residents in meaningful ways, “early and often.”

In addition to examining optimal combinations of land uses that would allow North Lawndale to diversify its economy, we would need guidance in developing strategies that would integrate technology, infrastructure, historic preservation, public art and transportation. While we do not presume to identify strategies or projects in advance of the planning process, we do envision examining ways to reduce the time to commute to work; reduce traffic congestion; enhance rapid transit service in underserved areas; encourage private development and encourage the use of the public right of way to expand internet bandwidth in underserved areas.
The New Covenant Community Development Corporation is the lead agency for this application. New Covenant Community Development Corporation (NCCDC) was founded January 2012 by Dr. William S. Winston. Dr. Winston developed the vision, which is to sponsor economic revitalization and bring financial empowerment to the Lawndale Community. The mission of New Covenant CDC is to empower individuals and families through educational programs, real estate/business development and job readiness/creation initiatives that will promote financial stability and sustainable economic development.

The organizational structure for the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council and links to some of the community plans that have been proposed, implemented, or in process are attached as appendices.

We have attached letters of support from interested stakeholders and letters of commitment from members of our team.
Appendix 1: The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council

- Executive Committee
- North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council Steering Committee
- Sub-Committees:
  - Housing
  - Infrastructure
  - Technology
  - Education and Youth Development
  - Communications
  - Health and Wellness
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Workforce Development/Job Creation
  - Public Safety
  - Arts and Culture
  - Economic Development
Appendix 2: Partial Listing of Proposed and Existing Community Plans Impacting the North Lawndale Community
(Including Survey of Existing Conditions)

- http://condor.depaul.edu/fdemissi/lawndale5.pdf
- http://condor.depaul.edu/fdemissi/lawndale2.pdf

Questions regarding this proposal may be addressed to Valerie F. Leonard, Expert in Community and Organizational Development and the Co-Founder of the Lawndale Alliance. She may be reached at consulting@valeriefleonald.com or 773-571-3886.
June 18, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing this letter to demonstrate my commitment to the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC). The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) is a group of North Lawndale stakeholders, who have come together to facilitate comprehensive planning across various quality of life sectors in North Lawndale (Community Area 29). One of the first activities in which the NLCCC has engaged is the submittal of an application for technical assistance through your Local Technical Assistance Program.

NLCCC envisions a comprehensive planning process that will be in alignment with the federal Livable Communities program and the regional GO TO 2040 Plan. The plan will have a triple bottom line, with measureable impacts to the environment, local economy and social equity. In addition to examining highest and best land uses that would allow North Lawndale to diversify its economy, NLCCC is looking for guidance in developing strategies that would integrate technology, infrastructure, historic preservation, public art and transportation.

As State Representative for the 9th Legislative District, I will help the group to identify state resources from a number of agencies that might provide financial and technical assistance. From time to time I will include NLCCC on agendas for public meetings that I host to provide updates of the state of the 9th Legislative District. I am an ex-officio member of the NLCCC, and I participate in meetings and other activities as my schedule permits. My colleagues at the federal, state, county and local levels are committed to working together to ensure that the planning process and the implementation bring about positive, sustainable change for local North Lawndale residents.

As an elected official, I am acutely aware of the importance of the need for coordination of local community planning processes with state, county and federal policies and programs. The NLCCC, the comprehensive planning process and your technical assistance will go a long way in increasing the capacity of local residents to take control of their economic environment. I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call me at 773-277-4700.

Sincerely,

Arthur Turner
Assistant Majority Leader
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. Holsten Human Capital Development, NFP, has been a service provider in the neighborhood for four years, providing housing support and stabilization services for tenants of Holsten properties in Lawndale. Our work is centered in strengthening families by expanding their access to viable resource that promote self-sufficiency, wellness and stability.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. Our staff is committed to serving on Workforce Development & Job Creation Committee.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential in solving some of the many pressing issues that North Lawndale faces. I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community. Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that HHCD is committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kendra J. Freeman  
Executive Director
June 18, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman, Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing this letter to demonstrate my commitment to the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC). The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) is a group of North Lawndale stakeholders, who have come together to facilitate comprehensive planning across various quality of life sectors in North Lawndale (Community Area 29). I am a member of the Executive Committee, and share responsibility for developing organizational infrastructure and project management.

NLCCC has submitted an application for technical assistance through your Local Technical Assistance Program. NLCCC envisions a comprehensive planning process that will be in alignment with the federal Livable Communities program and the regional GO TO 2040 Plan. The plan will have a triple bottom line, with measurable impacts to the environment, local economy and social equity. In addition to examining highest and best land uses that would allow North Lawndale to diversify its economy, NLCCC is looking for guidance in developing strategies that would integrate technology, infrastructure, historic preservation, public art and transportation.

I am an engaged community resident as well as a consultant to community organizations. I am a co-founder of the Lawndale Alliance, a group of North Lawndale residents who have come together on issues of concern to the community, including education, TIF reform and mortgage foreclosure. As a consultant to nonprofit organizations, I work with community-based organizations to improve their capacity to better serve their clients and communities. I provide an array of services, including nonprofit start up, strategic planning, community assessments, board development, and program development and evaluation. I am the host of the Nonprofit “U” radio blog talk show, and teach online courses in nonprofit operations management for the UIC Online Certificate in Nonprofit Management. I am happy to share the skills and relationships gained in these experiences to ensure the success of the comprehensive planning process.

In closing, I thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call me at 773-571-3886.

Sincerely,

Valerie F. Leonard

4111 West 21st Place Chicago, IL 60623
Phone: 773-571-3886 E-Mail: consulting@valeriefleonard.com
Website: www.valeriefleonard.com
Ms. Erin Aleman, Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am committed to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I was born and raised in the North Lawndale community and continue to live and work in the community currently.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents.

NLCCC has submitted an application for technical assistance through your Local Technical Assistance Program. NLCCC envisions a comprehensive planning process that will be in alignment with the federal Livable Communities program and the regional GO TO 2040 Plan. The plan will have a triple bottom line, with measurable impacts to the environment, local economy and social equity. In addition to examining highest and best land uses that would allow North Lawndale to diversify its economy,

I am engaged as a community resident as well as a business owner. I am President of Deer Rehabilitation Services Inc. an outpatient substance abuse and community mental health center located within Lawndale. In addition I am a community activist as well as a developer of commercial and residential real estate. I also serve as President of the Board of the New Covenant Community Development Corporation a Non-Profit located in Lawndale. I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dennis Deer LCPC, CRC, CPAIP
President
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to the community for more than 25 years working in the Social Service sector with the YMCA and now Chicago Youth Centers.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Education and Youth Development committee as well as in other capacities as needed.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because the potential for economic development and community growth, under the current leadership of talented and committed local leaders, far outweighs the negative light the community is often portrayed.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kimberly George
College Readiness Specialist
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, Ill. 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to urge you to consider the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council's application for a planning grant. North Lawndale has a wealth of people, talent and resources that are capable of bringing a high quality of life to all of its residents.

The NLCCC will bring together elected officials, residents, business people and others to develop a plan that meets the social, cultural, economic development and educational needs of the neighborhood.

As the owner of a healthcare business and a 14 year resident of this community, I am excited about being a part of this process. I am committed to serving on the Health and Wellness committee.

Thank you for your consideration of the NLCCC application for a planning grant. I am very excited about this project.

I am 100% committed to turning underdeveloped North Lawndale into a community that will enhance the quality of life of all of its residents.

Sincerely,

Sheila McNary, RN, BSN  
President & Founder  
Advanced Care Services, Inc  
"A Progressive Approach To Health Care"  
Visit us on the web @ www.advancedcareservices.com
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through my work with the North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN) a Workforce Development Agency that focuses on improving the earnings potential of the North Lawndale community.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Workforce Development and Jobs Creation committee as well as the Education and Youth Development committee.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because collaboration of this sort will assist in transforming our community.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Pauline Sylvain
Director of the Center for Working Families
North Lawndale Employment Network
June 19, 2015

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through my work with the North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN) where we work to improve the earnings potential of North Lawndale residents through innovative employment initiatives that lead to economic advancement and an improved quality of life.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Workforce Development and Job Creation committee as well as provide support to the Education and Youth Development, Public Safety, and Arts and Culture committees.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because the transformation of our neighborhood into a thriving, integral part of the entire metropolis will require the wisdom, creativity and collaboration of us all.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Sanders, II
Director of Reentry and Policy
North Lawndale Employment Network
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale as a lifelong resident of 40 years; I have worked in the community as an economic development practitioner helping local area businesses secure TIF funds for commercial projects.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the housing, workforce & economic development committees as well as volunteering to serve in various administrative capacities.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because the residents are the clients and it is impossible to solve any community related problems without some form of policy in place that allows key stakeholders input.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Micah L. Burrell
Micah L. Burrell
28th Ward Precinct Coordinator
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through our renovation and management of 170 affordable rental units in 10 locations throughout the North Lawndale area.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Housing Committee as well as helping with other initiatives as time and resources allow.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it is the only way to devise a workable plan to enhance the community for all residents.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Peter M. Holsten  
President
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

On behalf of UCAN, we would like to express our strong commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. UCAN has been involved in North Lawndale for several years providing programs and services to youth. These programs and services include individual or group therapy; mentoring activities, leadership trainings, and life skills groups, etc. Also, in August 2015, UCAN will be a permanent resident in North Lawndale as we will open a Therapeutic Youth Home for youth in care.

UCAN understands that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life for all community residents. We are committed to serving on the Education and Youth Development Committee and will provide assistance and support to improve the lives of youth and families in North Lawndale.

We are completely in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. Collaborating with various partners on this level is essential because it will strengthen North Lawndale and provide an array of resources that will benefit community residents.

Please consider the NLCCC planning application for award and accept our letter of support for this initiative. We are excited about this process and about the possibilities that this award can bring to North Lawndale.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact us at (773) 588-0180.

Sincerely,

Zack Schrannz
President

Claude Robinson
EVP Diversity, External Affairs
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) is working to ensure the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have long been connected to Lawndale as a former resident and presently serve as the President/Chief Executive Officer of BBF.

The purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community. I am assisting in this effort by serving on the Youth Development Committee.

I fully support creating and implementing a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential and allows full engagement for community leaders and residents in this process.

Please approve the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community and I am committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rufus Williams
President/Chief Executive Officer
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through our planned supermarket that will encourage healthier food choices.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the jobs plan as well as health and wellness committees.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because having a comprehensive plan and direction will make it more likely that implementation and measurement of accomplishment with follow.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Thom Alcazar
Founder/CEO
EATS LLC
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale as the Executive Director of The Learning Center serving adult learners in adult basic education, GED prep, ESL, and employability skills directed towards workforce development.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the education committee as well as community outreach and communications.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because the impact for our residents needs to stem from collaboration focusing on a holistic approach to a better quality of life.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Jason Honig
Executive Director
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman

I am offering this letter of support in the efforts of working on the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been a resident of North Lawndale for my entire life and would like to see it reworked as a vibrant and positive community.

The purpose of NLCCC is to construct several planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across several sectors that will impact the quality of life for all residents. I will serve on the economic development committee with research and development of the plan.

I support the creation of a viable plan for North Lawndale because it's time to move in a new direction and many of our residents want something better. A better more prosperous community.

Please consider the NLCCC application for award; this is an exciting time for our community. This letter of support shows my full dedication of this long term process to see our plan through.

Sincerely,

Reginald Johns
Community Resident
1955 S. Avers
Chicago, IL 60623
708 566-0273
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through assisting in 13 years of industrial development projects in the area.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Economic Development Committee utilizing my skill set in the use of City, County, State and Federal programs/incentives for industrial development.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it brings together a coordinated effort of all entities concerned with revitalization of the area.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

E. Bernard Jennings
Executive Director
June 18, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 South Wacker Drive – Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

Please accept this communiqué as a letter of support for application of the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC). The North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) is a group of North Lawndale stakeholders, who have come together to facilitate comprehensive planning across various quality of life sectors in North Lawndale (Community Area 29). In so doing, NLCCC has submitted an application for technical assistance through your Local Technical Assistance Program.

NLCCC envisions a comprehensive planning process that will be in alignment with the federal Livable Communities program and the regional GO TO 2040 Plan. The plan will have a triple bottom line, with measureable impacts to the environment, local economy and social equity. In addition to examining highest and best land uses that would allow North Lawndale to diversify its economy, NLCCC is looking for guidance in developing strategies that would integrate technology, infrastructure, historic preservation, public art and transportation.

There remains a very significant unmet need for coordination of local community planning processes with state, county and federal policies and programs. The NLCCC, the comprehensive planning process and your technical assistance will go a long way in increasing the capacity of local residents to take control of their economic environment.

I trust the application will receive all due consideration.

Sincerely,

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

DKD:ic
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

On behalf of Sinai Community Institute, a community-based, nonprofit health and social service agency, I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. SCI is committed to helping Lawndale families improve their own health and level of functioning through community-based health prevention, education and intervention programs. Services are offered through 25 distinct programs providing health education, educational training, leadership development, case-management, intervention, prevention and outreach programs geared to improving family health and promoting wellness throughout the community.

SCI understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all the community residents.

SCI is very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. We were pleased to share a common vision of assisting the North Lawndale community in planning for sustainable prosperity through the mid-century and beyond.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Debra Wesley
President, Sinai Community Institute
Executive Vice President, Sinai Health System – Community Outreach
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Alcman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through the New Covenant Community Development Corporation (NCCDC).

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving and have demonstrated so by committing NCCDC to serve as the lead organization for this effort and I am personally committed to lead/guide a group of committees in conjunction with a steering committee member.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because this community remains underserved after decades of neglect. As part of my commitment to this effort and this community, I am in the process of moving my school, which serves adults seeking their G.E.D and other basic education to the North Lawndale community.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Vice President Education and Business Services

“Empowering Individuals & Families Through Sustainable Economic Development”
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale through the work I do as an AmeriCorps VISTA for Holsten Human Capital Development, NFP. I work to build the capacity and resources of the workforce team for 15 scattered site buildings in Lawndale. My work is to ultimately help the individuals living in these buildings to become more self-sufficient with increased skills and access to better employment.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on Workforce Development & Job Creation Committee as well as finding ways to adequately restructure the current services by researching and analyzing the demographics of the current population and identify what new services can be made to address the employment issues in Lawndale. I can also work closely with prospective developers and businesses to understand their human capital needs and link the residents of the area to those new jobs.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because what I currently do is not sufficient enough in solving some of the many pressing issues that North Lawndale faces. I am aware that it takes reforms on how the community develops its housing. This means not only developing affordable housing units, but taking advantage of the mixed-income and mixed-use housing model that can be economically beneficial. Combine that with my efforts and others on the Workforce Development & Job Creation Committee and you can prevent some of the adverse effects of revitalization such as the displacement of residents from their homes by developing human capital and establishing new jobs for people to be successful and independent. This among many other things like improving the area’s education and youth development, infrastructure, technology access, and public safety will allow the work that I am doing and others to have a much greater impact in North Lawndale.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Crystal Sowemimo  
Community Outreach & Development VISTA
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I was born and raised and still live in North Lawndale. I am the Research and Administrative Coordinator with the Juvenile Protective Association. JPA has partnership through the Building Bridges to North Lawndale (BBNL) program with educators from six participating schools. JPA therapists are highly skilled, master’s level social workers whose primary aim of the BBNL program is to respond to emotional and behavioral problems of children that are caused by trauma and interfere with learning. This is achieved through three core services for children – individual counseling, small group counseling and classroom groups – along with providing extensive support for parents and teachers.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Education and Youth Development Committee and the Arts and Culture Committee where my expertise as a child development research coordinator will help to enhance the way children should and need to be educated.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because children and families will benefit when public/private organizations agree to and collaborate on a plan that leverages finite resources.

I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Sincerely,

Rochelle R. Jackson
Research and Administrative Coordinator

cc: Karen G. Foley, President & CEO, JPA
    Selma Walker, Business Manager
March 11, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. My family and I lived in North Lawndale for many years and we currently reside in East Garfield Park. I also work in the North Lawndale community, serving as Vice President for the Foundation for Homan Square. I am very excited to join in the efforts to improve the community.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Economic Development Committee as well as being an active thought partner as we seek to make meaningful impact in our community and Chicago.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it will allow us to strategically activate the numerous resources and strengths available through area non-profits, businesses, local government and community residents and partners.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for a generous award. I am excited about this process for the entire community and look forward to working with my colleagues and neighbors. Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Kevin Sutton,
Vice President, Foundation for Homan Square
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to the Lawndale by living in the community since I was eight (8) years old, through participation at my children’s school as a Local School Council Member and president.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Public Service and Infrastructure Committee as well as use my experience as a trained Paralegal to aid the Committee in any way possible.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because of trending technologies, blended communities, and having areas in the community that neighbors and families can enjoy will enhance the Lawndale community and surrounding areas.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Audrey Dunford
June 17, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale as a concerned citizen, former resident and current property manager in the community.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on educational and workforce development committees as well as offer any of my experiences and resources to NLCCC.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because the community can benefit from much needed innovation (i.e. revitalization, artistic cultural immersion, business development, etc.) this planning will bring.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rhonda Albritton
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman  
Principal Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

We write to express our commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. The Night Ministry has become connected to North Lawndale through a collaborative effort that is addressing youth housing instability in the community.

We understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. The Night Ministry is committed to supporting the work of the Education and Youth Development committee as well as engaging the Council in developing youth housing programs for high school students. Our staff member, Jenny Byelick, will serve as our representative. Jenny is coordinating an initiative to address youth homelessness in North Lawndale on behalf of The Night Ministry and its community partners.

We urge you to favorably consider the NLCCC planning application for award. We are eager to support this effort to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the community. We believe that planning at this level is essential because it provides a platform for community collaboration and a forum to develop cohesive strategies and combined actions to achieve the community’s goals. We are excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that we are 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Jenny Byelick  
Project Manager  
The Night Ministry

Barbara Bolsen  
Vice President, Strategic Partnerships  
The Night Ministry
ROBERT STEELE
COMMISSIONER
2ND District

June 18, 2015
Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am pleased to share my wholehearted support and commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCC) for the economic viability of the North Lawndale Community. I have been involved in North Lawndale as a resident for over 40 years and as a public official for the past 10 years. I have served this community in numerous capacities as a community organizer, Empowerment Zone Representative, Conservation Council Member, a business owner (Joyce’s Fine Arts Academy), Board President of Frazier Prep Academy, and as board member to several local organizations.

I understand the purpose of the NLCC is to engage the local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to partnering with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council Steering Committee as well advocate for additional government and private resources be allocated in developing this plan. I am also interested in leading the charge for the plans immediate implementation to help impact and change the economic challenges facing our citizens.

I am in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe strategic planning at this level is essential due to the lack of regional investment in the North Lawndale community in the past five decades. There is a significant need to create a plan that will have economic impact over the next twenty to thirty years and bring a strong commercial, retail and housing tax base to the community.

I strongly urge you to consider the NLCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community and stand ready to assist with resources from Cook County.
Please accept this letter of support for this initiative as a positive commitment of the elected partnership we are forming to empower our community into the future. Should you have any questions please call on my office for complete cooperation at (312) 603-3019.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Steele
President Pro Temp
Commissioner-2\textsuperscript{nd} District
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman, Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale for over 40 years. I served as a teacher, counselor and principal of a North Lawndale School and upon my retirement, I founded a non-profit organization to provide mentors to youth within the community.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on an educational committee and supporting the NLCCC in any way possible.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale Community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it allows the community residents and other stakeholders to become involved in the decision making process for the North Lawndale Community.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Betty J. Allen-Green
Executive Director – Chicago-Lawndale AMACHI Mentoring Program
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I was born and continue to live in North Lawndale. I am the Co-Founder and Vice-President of the K-Town Historic District Association and Founder of the North Lawndale Presidential Library Committee.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Council’s Housing and Education committees as well as promoting its efforts to my fullest capacity.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community; a plan that envisions long-term goals. There are many people and organizations already doing great things in the community that could be made more effective with coordination and a longer outlook.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Paul Norrington
Vice-President
K-Town Historic District Association
June 19, 2015

To:           From:
Ms. Erin Aleman         Annamaria Leon
Principal Planner       NL Resident
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning 3343 W Douglas Blvd
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60606        Chicago, IL 60623

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been a resident of North Lawndale for almost five years and love the vibrancy, leadership, and community present here. I always tell people I have lived everywhere in Chicago and I wouldn’t trade living in North Lawndale for anywhere else.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Parks and Recreation steering committee as well as the Arts and Culture committee. I am also committed to increasing green space and sustainability in the community through my position at Christy Webber Landscapes as their Edible Landscapes Manager.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because we are at a tipping point in North Lawndale. Our leadership is there, our people are ready for transformation, and now is the time to act with one voice and with coordinated action.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

Annamaria Leon
Resident
414-339-5537
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. As Executive Director of Lawndale Christian Development Corporation and a resident of North Lawndale I am fully invested in the success of this venture.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I am committed to serving on the Economic Development and Housing Committees and I am anxious to share my expertise and knowledge in each of these areas.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it will positively impact the quality of life in North Lawndale for years to come, enabling us to provide hope and a future for our residents.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Townsell
Executive Director
Lawndale Christian Development Corporation

Faith-driven Community Revitalization
June 19, 2015

Ms. Erin Aleman
Principal Planner
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Aleman:

I am writing to express my commitment to working with the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC) for the economic viability of North Lawndale. I have been connected to Lawndale as the 24th Ward Alderman representing the North Lawndale community.

I understand that the purpose of the NLCCC is to coordinate local community planning activities for the North Lawndale community (Community Area 29) across various sectors that impact the quality of life of all of the community residents. I and my staff are committed to serving on all relevant committees and providing resource development support relevant to this process.

I am very much in support of helping to create and implement a comprehensive plan for the entire North Lawndale community. I believe that planning at this level is essential because it enhances and ensure important community and stakeholder group representation that is critical to the creation of a sustainable and viable plan that can help move the North Lawndale community forward both now and into the future.

I urge you to consider the NLCCC planning application for award. I am excited about this process for the entire community.

Please accept this letter of support for this initiative and should you have any questions please know that I am 100% committed to seeing this through. If you should have any questions, feel free to contact myself or Michael Halbert of my staff at (773) 533-2400.

Sincerely,

Michael Scott, Jr.
Alderman, 24th Ward