



ACTIVE
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April 18, 2019

Hon. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa
Alderman, 35th Ward
2842 North Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618

Dear Alderman Ramirez-Rosa:

The Active Transportation Alliance is proud to submit this letter in support of Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation's proposal for a 100-unit 100% affordable housing development at the southwest corner of North Kedzie Avenue and North Emmett Street in the 35th Ward.

Our mission is to promote walking, biking and public transportation to create healthy, sustainable and equitable communities. We see the Emmett Street proposal as forward-thinking development that advances our mission. The project presents an incredible opportunity to add sorely-needed affordable housing near transit and retail in Logan Square, which will encourage more people to walk, bike and take transit for everyday transportation. The additional housing will also help prevent the displacement of neighborhood residents.

Just as importantly, this development will make it easier for low-income people and families to avoid the high-cost of car ownership. Research shows that equitable transit-oriented proposals like this one increase transit ridership, boost economic development, improve public health, minimize traffic congestion, create cleaner environments and strengthen the labor force.

The success of equitable transit oriented development proposals like this one is critical to increasing transportation options for all Chicago residents, especially low-income families. TOD in Chicago cannot be an initiative that only benefits wealthy residents who can afford to pay high rents for studio and one-bedroom apartments.

We're excited to see the project features 100% affordable units and includes a mix of family units. The proposal will ensure that transportation improvements from the proposed changes to the intersection of Milwaukee and Kedzie and the Logan Square Blue Line are shared equally. In addition, we value the many years of work done by your office and many neighborhood and community stakeholders to build a strong consensus for the proposal.

Thank you for your leadership on this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 312-216-0472.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Burke".

Ron Burke, Executive Director