



**CHA / Chicago Fire FC Lease Proposal  
Public Comments & Responses**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<b>Written Public Comments</b>			
1	Sean O'Dell	Hello, I live on the 600 block of South Laflin and I fully support this project. Please continue and good luck with approvals and construction.	Thank you for your comment and support for this project.
2	Patrick Nellesmann	I am curious of any new developments with the proposed Chicago Fire practice facility at Addams Medill Park. I live right next to the proposed site and would love to have the facility there. I think it'd be great for the community and clean up the blight along Roosevelt Road. Please let me know if anything moves forward.	Thank you for your comment and support for this project. Updates on the project will continue to be posted to CHA's website.
3	Lee James	I am writing to express my support for the proposed soccer facilities at Roosevelt Square and to encourage DPD to strongly ensure that such facilities provide for public access, especially for community youth recreation access. There is a significant lack of publicly accessible outdoor soccer facilities on the Near West Side. Furthermore, youth soccer programs have been squeezed out of the promised public access to the fields at Whitney Young (in breach of the community access promised when those fields were built). Please support this effort and ensure community access to these facilities.	Thank you for your comment and support for this project. This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurpose vacant land. The CFFC and CHA are also planning to preserve part of the site as community green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.

4	Roland Solinski	<p>Hello - I am a resident of Pilsen/University Village at [address redacted] and I live 2 blocks from the proposed Chicago Fire training facility.</p> <p>I support the development of this vacant land generally and even the concept of a Chicago Fire facility, but I want to stress that the street grid needs to be restored through the site. LR/Related committed to rebuilding these streets as part of Roosevelt Square, and the Fire should be held to the same commitment. The "superblock" style of 1960s planning has held the Near West Side back for decades, and encourages dangerous, unsafe and overly fast driving.</p> <p>Currently all traffic is routed around the former ABLA site on Roosevelt or 15th. Both are busy roads with truck traffic heading between the railyards and the expressway. More connections are needed in this area, especially for pedestrians and cyclists. The dimensions of soccer fields may not allow every street to be restored, but 13th and 14th should be rebuilt and restored to traffic at a minimum, and where streets cannot be restored then a multi-use path or promenade should be provided similar to Campus Pkwy/Newberry St in UIC's sports area so that residents can move between the residential areas and the shopping along Ashland. Campus Pkwy: <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/6tos8DSkXu6ZuhXH8">https://goo.gl/maps/6tos8DSkXu6ZuhXH8</a></p> <p>I look forward to attending the public meetings for this development and a constructive dialogue with the team.</p>	<p>The street grid will remain as it is currently comprised. Bike and pedestrian connectivity will be reviewed as this project works through the approval process.</p>
5	Ivan Bonilla	<p>As a Chicago Fire FC supporter, I am very pleased CHA, DPD, and CFFC are in discussion over the future of the 30 acres of land in the near west side.</p> <p>Chicago is a global city and like other top global cities, civic engagement through sport is a part of everyday life for its citizens. I believe there is no better way than to bring community together than through the world's most popular sport of soccer.</p> <p>As long as it makes sense for the residents of the area, I hope this partnership comes to fruition. Chicago is a world class city and it is deserving of a world class facility for its representative in the world's sport, Chicago Fire Soccer Club.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for this project.</p>

6	Etta Davis	<p>I have a problem with the Mayor and CHA even entertaining the thought of selling off/leasing any CHA land when there are thousands of people on the CHA waiting list and the housing is not being built fast enough to accommodate the need, they're just now reaching the quota from the plan for transformation so my question is, why does the Mayor and CHA continue to sell off, practically give away CHA land that's needed to house the more then 120,000 people on it's wait list?</p> <p>Once again the city can hurriedly get into talks about leasing/ selling off CHA land at the expense of our neighborhoods being gentrified and the poor being pushed out of Chicago because they have no place to live. I notice that with these new mixed income developments, not even a 1/3 of them are CHA apartments. The beat goes on.</p>	<p>CHA sees this proposal as complementary to residential use and in-line with mixed-use community development. Market rate lease payments would fund much-needed substantial rehab work on existing public housing units at ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. It is important to note the land is not being sold, and CHA will retain ownership.</p> <p>CHA is actively working with our partners, including Related Midwest, to provide the committed housing within the area. CHA owns more parcels in this area, and they are slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments. There are also opportunities for affordable housing units on non-CHA sites in the area.</p>
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**May 2 CHA Resident Meeting – Public Comments**

7	Bee Jones	<p>And I'm noticing, well, years ago they spoke with ABLA. But I think nothing wrong with the operations and things going on. But my point is I am noticing in -- the notice where I spoke about that the mixed-income houses are already in place. I mean, I want to know where they are. Haven't seen them yet. Where are these mixed income houses located at? In this -- call it, the square. So that means they are going to be built by Roosevelt Square?</p> <p>Well, what development are you all going to tear down the Brooks Homes? Or -- I mean -- what I -- what I can't understand is the location for other people to come into the development or come back, where would those houses for the mixed income or low income people, where would they be built at?</p>	<p>There are mixed-income units scattered throughout the Roosevelt Square development, as depicted within the presentation used at this meeting.</p> <p>Related will be breaking ground on Roosevelt Square Phase 3B later this year, which will return additional units for CHA families to the area.</p> <p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA rehab and improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families</p>
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8	Mary Brush	<p>Hello my name is Mary brush. And I'm from Brooks Homes. I would like to know -- I would like to ask CHA this question. Where are you all going to do for the residents that's been here for years, what land are you going to give us to build on for us? You're taking a lot of land and you're building -- doing a lot of ball playing, which I don't know about everybody else, I don't play soccer. I want to know what are you all going to give to the residents that live in ABLA because we need to build something for us. That's there. We need -- we need a trade building for our children. Not to live in jobs but to learn them jobs so they can have a building of us living there. We need some stores that the residents should be able to own or rent for the peoples that you all going to flood us up. Because with that stadium being built, that's a lot of peoples coming over here. And I never heard out of the 13 years that I have been returned back that nobody said nothing about letting the resident own anything in the neighborhood or build something, stores for us. We should be business partners with CHA, I have 49 years with CHA. Done commercial for CHA, some of the other residents I'm quite sure have done things for CHA. It's time for CHA to do something for the residents. So build us buildings when we can have trade buildings, we need a drug rehab building down here. It's infested. So what you going to do? You going to bring all these people down here and things going to start happening to em. We need skills that -- we need -- we need stores. We need stores for the -- for the community. Give us Roosevelt home, build stores there for the women to own things and have stores. The gentlemans, to build them a barber shop. And have a barber shop there. We need things for the community for us. We don't want to make everybody else happy and the people that's living in ABLA are sad. Okay? Can you all please work with us to give us some things at ABLA so we can build in ABLA for the community? Thank you.</p>	<p>CHA believes this partnership with the Chicago Fire presents an opportunity to invest in our families and this community. This project will secure substantial funds to rehabilitate aging public housing at ABLA Brooks and Loomis Courts, while also creating employment opportunities that will benefit our residents and community members.</p> <p>The Fire has also committed to significant investments requested by the community. These include jobs and internships for CHA residents during construction of the facility as well as at the completed site; open public green space that can host recreational activities; renewing CHA's Jane Addams Family Resource Center so that it can host more activities for CHA residents; parking for tenants of CHA's William Jones Senior Apartments (which does not currently have adequate parking); and a basketball court. CHA youth will also have access to CFFC youth programing and soccer camps through enrollment preferences.</p>
9	Latisha McDonnell	<p>I live in Loomis Courts. And you were talking about the CHA, you were going to invest in -- is the Loomis Courts going to get knocked down or do we have to be replaced? Or what's going to happen over there?</p>	<p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families. CHA will conduct needs assessments for these properties that will determine the scope of work.</p>

10	Devan Hill	<p>You mentioned from the genesis of the construction of the building, are you guys going to do the mixed income at the same time? Or -- just going to start on the training facility first and then get to start on the mixed income apartments?</p> <p>During the process of comparing the job opportunities, you guys knew about this project ahead of time. You guys could have let the residents have known about this so that you guys could assist us to have us prepare for job skills, job training. To prepare for to getting employment. Low skills equal low pay. Low wages. I'm quite sure you guys are going to bring in your own people. So how do you guys going to co-exist with the nonemployees versus the ones who already are employed? How you guys going to deal with that situation? Are we included and still in the process in regards to employment?</p> <p>You mentioned HUD was the LAC and was included in the process? So how -- how could you put their input, how could you say what they're going to think and feel about the Loomis Courts then tore down, residents there relocated? Do you really have answers to that? Or do we have to choose to HUD with those questions?</p>	<p>Through the lease, CHA and CFFC will set goals for Section 3 workers and MWDBE businesses. We will seek opportunities both in building the facility as well as long-term employment opportunities in operations. The CFFC have committed to working with their community consultant to make sure that all local residents have an opportunity to apply for any jobs that are coming through this development. They will be hosting job and career fairs that will be posted in public forums for people to see and sign up for.</p> <p>CHA has been meeting with the LAC regarding this proposal to gain their input. With this deal, CHA intends to improve the housing at ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA will conduct needs assessments for these properties that will determine the scope of work.</p>
11	JoAnn Abdullah	<p>At ABLA. So, it sounds nice. And I get about the youth, because they do need things to do; but what about the seniors? When I get ready to retire, I want to still be active in my community. And recreation center, it sounds -- what do you have that's going to benefit me when I retire? I want to know what else I can do. I don't want to just sit down, so much cleaning up, in my garden. I want to do other things. So I need you to tell me what's going to be for me? And my other son.</p>	<p>This project will create recreational opportunities for the community. The CFFC and CHA plan to preserve part of the site as open green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.</p>
12	Emma Arnold	<p>My question is where do all this -- do you have a date when all this stuff take place? Because you talking about the Jane Addams. When do we get a chance to -- we can't use it. So when do we go back? We can't use the center. Every time we call, they booked up. But then they're booking two, three years ago. And then what -- what did you say about the employment, for the residents be able to be in on this construction? To make -- to do job training?</p>	<p>Through the lease, CHA and CFFC will set goals for Section 3 workers and MWDBE businesses. We will seek opportunities both in building the facility as well as long-term employment opportunities in operations. The CFFC have committed to working with their community consultant to make sure that all local residents have an opportunity to apply for any jobs that are coming through this development. They will be hosting job and career fairs that will be posted in public forums for people to see and sign up for.</p> <p>This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurposes vacant land. The CFFC is planning to preserve part of the site as community space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents. Additionally, these plans include renewing CHA's Jane Addams Family Resource Center so that it can host more activities for CHA residents.</p>

13	Louise Hill	<p>I want to ask you -- you've been saying about -- we don't -- can't use -- if we can use it, you have to pay a fee to use it. Now, this center is supposed to be for the residents. So why can't we pick a date, a permanent date to go in and use it? I get, you have the right, the CHA, you have to go over and then prompt us and give us the okay. Because I have something that I want to do for the seniors. We seniors can't kick soccer balls. And from what I've heard from the time I've been here up until now, soccer teams, soccer team, Fire -- Chicago Fire. We got young women; what are they going to do? And we got seniors that barely can walk in their flat apartment. And that's not even going up stairs. So if you want to rehab, you should be put in your proposal. All the seniors Because getting upstairs, you got the stairs when you get to -- and I'm saying flat. But I'm just saying all this sounds good, money talks. Talk is cheap. To me personally, I'm just going to be honest. None of this is for me. I might be in the old school. But let me give you a little knowledge. You all are still in the old school, you are in a different foundation. A different formation. Everything that's went on back here is still going on now. But you got a pretty way of doing it. A pretty way of leading. Because these young people, they don't understand. But I know, all this -- again, we haven't been anything. All we got is condos, storage. We don't even have furniture to put storage -- to put our furniture in storage. When we move in a different place, we got to throw away half of the stuff. You all don't know what's looking at the purchase of -- you looking at the luxury of living. And that come with a big price. I got to tell you again, we can't kick soccer balls. We can have a little meeting here for seniors. I'm talking about the seniors now. We can have salon shop for seniors. Let them be pretty sometimes. We get volunteers to come out and do that. Do their hair. Do their toenails or whatever. So I'm just up there. You have -- I don't know you -- we have nets --</p>	<p>This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurposes vacant land. We view this as a vibrant addition to the community. The CFFC and CHA plan to preserve part of the site as community green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.</p>
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14	Francine Washington	<p>You all know me. I'm not from ABLA; Francine Washington. But again, Roosevelt Square and hand over -- most of you know my folks. And I understand what you all saying, and you know, nobody jumps up. But first time or second time, it's just -- where folks come in, I think that Chicago Fire's going to be okay. They made promises - - well they didn't make no promises, the thing they want to do. And I believe them because they sound sincere. I will just say, and what we want them to do; but the first time they actually want to do something in the community, they actually care. And they want to become a partner in the community. And y'all know Mary, she can jump up and down too, walk up and down my back; okay? It's bad. But it's okay, I understand. But -- and I can say this: She have done extra job negotiating with -- they're saying CHA all you want to do, like you're saying, she helped talk and discuss all this stuff. Believe me. And I'm really proud -- and I got to say something for her. I'm really proud of you, Mary. I'm really am. I am. I want to say -- I'm serious. I'm so proud of her. Even though she walked all over my back. It was okay. But I really proud of Mary. Now to me she has done excellent job. And I just want to say that. And believe me, she got your best interest in heart. Does that for everybody. Not just Brooks, Loomis, -- and William Jones. So believe me, one more thing, ask her -- ask her, just ask her. I'm really proud of. All right.</p>	Thank you for your comment and support for this project.
15	Mary Baggett	<p>Chicago Fire came and they wanted to build the stadium. I was -- I was a little like not happy with it. I did say no, but they came with a lot of good things to the table. For the community. And we laid a lot of things on the table for the community to have. ABLA have not been rehabbed in over 22 -- 23, 24 years. It's been that long Including Loomis Court, the way it's looking right now. So we put all that on the table, we even put a new community space for us. Being -- you know, for ABLA residents that have something to do. It ain't just for the kids, it's for the senior, it's for all of us. We want to make sure that we got commercial spaces where we can put little restaurants, mom and pop stores, make different change-ups. Like you said, nails and feet. You might want to put a nail shop right there. You can do all of that. We want to make those things happen. And Chicago Fire is willing to help us do these different things. Chicago Fire is not having soccer games here on the field. They will continue to have their soccer games at Soldier Field. It's a practice stadium. Everybody might think it's a field for them to have games; it's a practice stadium. But we are getting a lot out of it. Coming back to our community. And I'm definitely going to continue to fight. I don't shut down for nobody. I fight for my community. I make sure we get what we want. I go toe to toe with everybody. And they know that. Don't have a problem with it. Mr. Ervin, he even know it. He will speak up before. But that's how it goes. But this is what is going to help benefit us in the long run of getting our houses in a better shape that they are in because we are living in the poor communities. And they need to be redone.</p>	Thank you for your comment and support for this project.

16	Betty Thompson	<p>This is not a question, it's actually a statement. It's something I wrote listening to everybody in this room. And it goes like this.</p> <p>Oh. I know that when we change the titles and names of persons such as CHA residents to use Oakwood community stakeholders, the tie log change. The attitude changes. The questions change. Comes more positive in the discussion. That's all I have to say</p>	Thank you for your comment.
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**May 2, 2022 CHA Resident Meeting - Written Comments**

17	Mary Rush	<p>CHA needs to build the property back that they tore down. What about building these right now for the people in the neighborhood?</p>	<p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed-income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area.</p> <p>There are already neighboring CHA vacant parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments. CHA can pursue units for public, affordable, and market-rate housing on CHA land, private developments, and city-owned parcels in this area.</p>
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18	Moises Moreno	Build more housing, not the Chicago Fire Training Facility.	<p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed-income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area.</p> <p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA rehab and improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families.</p> <p>CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA vacant parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments.</p>
19	Laura Donaldson	Is there going to be an afterschool program for all of the children? Will jobs be available for people with disabilities?	<p>The CFFC have committed to working with their community consultant to make sure that all local residents have an opportunity to apply for any jobs that are coming through this development. The CFFC is committed to hiring local, not just for construction and development, but for work within their front office, for work within their operations needs at Soldier Field and within their community coaching programs. They will be hosting job and career fairs that will be posted in public forums for people to see and sign up for. Job opportunities will exist for individuals with disabilities and disability status shall never exclude anyone from a job opportunity, so long as they are able to perform the job function.</p> <p>Getting back to Chicago and being active members of Chicago is part of the plan. CFCC has a great partnership with CPS and is looking to further strengthen those ties. If there is any CPS school that wants to work with the CFFC, they are asked to reach out directly to the CFFC.</p>

20	Ida Brantley	I've lived here since 1984, CHA was speaking then about resident's safety and health. New housing remodel and moving people around and never brought them back. In 1997 we were told CHA will take care of residents. Now in 2022 the Chicago Fire says that we will return. Residents need to be back in a new and safe place.	<p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed-income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area.</p> <p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA rehab and improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families. Furthermore, CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments.</p>
21	Emma Arnold	We need input from the residents of ABLA.	This proposal would not be moving forward without input from residents of ABLA Brooks, Loomis Courts, Williams Jones Apartments, Roosevelt Square and residents with a right-to-return to the area. Resident input is vital in order to ensure community investments related to this project match resident's needs and desires.
22	Bernice O'neill	This is an excellent project! I am very impressed that the Chicago Fire is investing here. With Chicago's record setting crime wave, we will need to work harder to keep investment from fleeing to the suburbs. Please plant as many trees as possible. This soccer field helps housing and quality of life. It is also much-needed greenspace.	Thank you for your comment, the proposal includes a generous amount of trees.

**May 3, 2022 Public Meeting Comments**

23	Lisa Lee	<p>Okay. Great. Hi. I'm with the national public housing museum. And I'm very excited about any equitable and also visionary investment in the near west and Near West Side of Chicago. For those of you who don't know, the national public housing museum will be very near these practice fields and we are the first cultural institution in the United States dedicated to interpreting the American experience in public housing. And we are working with public housing museums and the public housing residents in order to harness the power of place and memory to preserve, promote and propel the right of all people to a place where they can live and prosper. And because we believe that storytelling can be a catalyst for innovative public policy solutions and that we must go upstream, which is back in time to ask what have we not yet learned from history, I just want to also remind us about a really important Chicago story, and it's when Daniel Burnham was just about finished with the 1909 plan of Chicago and he visited the well known social reformer and peace activist, Jane Addams at the Hull House settlement on the corner of Halsted and poke street. And it was at that time the heart of working class and immigrant populations where it was the stink of the stockyards, it was overcrowded and dangerous. And Burnham went there to ask the single unanswered question about his perfectly laid out city. Where do the poor people live?</p> <p>And so bewilderingly as it may be, there were absolutely no provisions for housing. Absolutely none and his ambitious effort to make no little plans. So his effort to reimagine our growing city was an effort to beautify and improve efficiency in business and commercial enterprise. When we're talking about 70 acres from Cabrini or 25.5 acres now that are being discussed, I'm excited about any proposal that has a vision and provision for more affordable housing in the city in order for us to build a collective future.</p> <p>I believe that this can be equitable development in our beautiful and ambitious and troubled city. And I'm excited about the plan to develop these fields. But I also believe that we need to be clear about what we are against and what we are for. We need to be against any further displacement, against racial capitalism, against policies that further segregation, against erasure and silencing. But more importantly, we can be for many things. Like this vibrant community benefits agreement with lots of input from the ABLA community. We can be for economic growth that is focussed on cooperation and solidarity economies. We can be for more land trusts that not only protect the land from profit tiering, but acknowledge that this land is actually stolen land of the Potawatomi, Ojibwe and Odawa peoples and we can be for vibrant civic organizations like the national public housing museum that can convene and hold businesses accountable. I think this project can be careful and not careless. It can happen with collective care and community centered solutions. As long as we acknowledge history, as long as we shift power, and as long as we embrace</p>	Thank you for your comment and support for this project.
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		<p>accountability. So I'm thankful to CEO Scott for the intentionality that she and other people of CHA are going about. I really call on the Chicago Fire to not only live up to everything that they've presented here, which is truly exciting, but also to exceed every sort of the wildest ambitions, to unleash a radical imaginations in order to make this the development that we can hold up to the world as equitable development for the fuse turf our cities. Thanks.</p>	
24	Brent Prorak	<p>I am part of a church that meets weekly directly north of the site. We regularly have used the green space at the north end of the site. Would our church and the community have access to any of the soccer fields, or would those all be fenced off? I am also curious if the street parking along Roosevelt north of site will be impacted. Will the street parking remain free?</p>	<p>Changes to street parking have not been discussed as part of this project. Parking for the facility will be accommodated onsite.</p> <p>This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurposes vacant land. We view this as a vibrant addition to the community. The CFFC and CHA plan to preserve part of the site as community green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.</p> <p>This proposed development is designed for the CFFC team, academy, and community soccer programs. The pay-to-play programs like Chicago Fire X soccer and Chicago Fire youth soccer club will continue to operate at the facility on the Near North side at Talman and Addison.</p>

25	Chris White	<p>Is the developer willing to negotiate a legally binding community benefits agreement?</p> <p>This land was originally supposed to have affordable housing on it, correct? Where exactly will that housing be built instead?</p> <p>What is the difference in what rehab and construction you could do now and how much faster it will happen if you give the lease?</p> <p>Does the club have labor peace agreements and/or union contract already for the construction and operation of facilities? Which unions represent those employees?</p> <p>Why are residents being turned away from park district facilities?</p> <p>Given that Depaul Housing Institute believes there to be a 6 figure gap between affordable units we need and units we have, what is CHA's plan to close the gap?</p> <p>What is the length of the proposed lease?</p> <p>The Chicago Fire representative mentioned a person named (something like) Juan Teague who would be involved in employment opportunities. Could you provide the spelling of this person's name and his organizational affiliation &amp; contact info.?</p> <p>How many international athletes will live in the Chicago Fire housing facility mentioned? Or how many housing units will there be?</p> <p>How many low-income, below 30% of AMI, who most need CHA housing, do you expect to house?</p> <p>Will the current Roosevelt Square development team, led by Related Midwest, continue to be responsible to develop all of the housing that Ms. McKenzie spoke of?</p> <p>Didn't someone from CHA say that residents complain about being turned away from existing facilities? If I heard wrong, excuse me, but if that's not the case could the gentleman explain his comment?</p> <p>For Mr. Cadwell: Last year, the Chicago Fire was proposing to locate this facility in the Hanson Park facility in the Belmont-Cragin community. Could you explain why the Fire decided not to move forward at that location?</p> <p>What is the dollar amount of the proposed lease?</p>	<p>To maximize the benefits to CHA families, CHA would require employment and contracting opportunities during construction and at the final finished facility. These terms would include opportunities for CHA residents, Section 3 concerns, and minority- and women-owned businesses.</p> <p>This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurposes vacant land. We view this as a vibrant addition to the community. The CFFC is planning to preserve part of the site as community green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.</p> <p>The units previously planned for these parcels were part of what became a much later phase in the overall development. Given resource constraints for the construction of affordable housing, development on these parcels would likely take many years. Putting these parcels into active use under a public-private partnership has many benefits for the community. It will help to catalyze affordable housing development on the "shovel-ready" sites that remain in the development. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments. CHA can pursue units for public, affordable, and market-rate housing on CHA land, private developments, and city-owned parcels in this area.</p> <p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA rehab and improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families.</p> <p>The project is still in the proposal stage, but if it is to be approved, CFFC plans to use union labor.</p> <p>The ComEd Rec Center opened in 2020 during COVID and because of this timing, efforts are still underway to balance programming, open time, rental time. To do this, the Rec Center is working closely with the community to meet community needs. At this time the Rec Center sets aside at</p>
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26	Dagoberto Camacho	If approved what is the timeline for construction after breaking ground?	The Chicago Fire would like to begin construction in fall 2022.
27	Dordie Hester	There are more than 120,000 people on waitlists for affordable housing. 25 years is the norm with turnaround times in some cases 4 years between tenant and tenant.	Thank you for your comment. We agree that the need for affordable housing exceeds the available resources. Because funding for affordable housing does not meet the overall need, projects such as this one, in which CHA is able to leverage its resources and utilize proceeds from this public-private partnership to rehabilitate existing housing, presents a unique opportunity for CHA to increase housing opportunities for those who need them.
28	Gordon Ziegenhagen	Really excited about this proposal. Seems like a great public-private partnership that brings significant investment to the neighborhood and will help support area affordable housing all while welcoming the Chicago Fire back from the suburbs. A win-win-win!	Thank you for your comment and support for this project.
29	Jacob Peters	<p>The 14th Street greenway is welcome, but since it leads into the Costo parking lot entry at 14th street, it is not as beneficial as a crossing of Ashland as a connection via Hastings or 13th street, which provide more continuous connections west of Ashland.</p> <p>What efforts can be made by the city and the department of transportation to address the danger of dropping cyclists into a parking lot without any safety infrastructure along a road like Ashland that has no safe cycling infrastructure? The lack of a safe signalized crossing at Hastings or 13th is more of an indictment of the lack of connectivity for anyone who is not in a car, than it is a justification for ending a trail into a confusing intersection.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. 14th Street is the only signalized intersection between Roosevelt and 18th Street, which makes it a preferable location for pedestrian access across the site.</p> <p>Bike and pedestrian connectivity will be reviewed as this project works through the approval process. We will look for opportunities to improve these facilities to the extent reasonable as part of this project.</p>
30	Joseph Koesters	I play recreational soccer at the CIBC Fire Pitch, and I also have a toddler. This development would be much closer to home for me, so my question is would there be rec soccer leagues potentially playing here too, as well as any child development programs?	This proposed development is designed for the CFFC team, academy, and community soccer programs. The pay-to-play programs like Chicago Fire X soccer and Chicago Fire youth soccer club will continue to operate at the facility on the Near North side at Talman and Addison.

31	Juan F. Soto	<p>We look forward to the dialogue on this project. My question is What are training and hiring practices of people from surrounding communities to ensure community engagement?</p>	<p>Through the lease, CHA and CFFC will set goals for Section 3 workers and MWDBE businesses. We will seek opportunities both in building the facility as well as long-term employment opportunities in operations. The CFFC have committed to working with their community consultant to make sure that all local residents have an opportunity to apply for any jobs that are coming through this development. The CFFC is committed to hiring local, not just for construction and development, but for work within their front office, for work within their operations needs at Soldier Field and within their community coaching programs. They will be hosting job and career fairs that will be posted in public forums for people to see and sign up for.</p>
32	Kenneth Newman	<p>I have a 50 year soccer background, and at first glance, this project looks good.....However can the FIRE also allow their fields, at least the artificial turf ones, to be used by CPS? especially middle school games, which right now, are often played on bad fields with holes, rocks, puddles, and numerous other problems.....and in another era, I used to coach soccer at Cabrini-Green, ( Seward Park), at the Robert Taylor Homes, and during the 1994 World Cup( I was on the 1994 Chicago World Cup Committee), I was involved in the construction of a small artificial turf field at the Lathrop Homes at Diversey, Damen and Clybourn. So I see both sides of this potential partnership.</p> <p>I have a long soccer background. I've worked with the CHA before on soccer, 30 years ago. And I would like to sit down with you -- from you guys from the CHA and tell you a little bit more about my background. And I've just -- I'm doing a lot of work right now, aside from officiating, I'm also working on a potential new soccer league kind of for the southeast side. Where there's a lot of poverty, a lot of manufacturing that disappeared. And there are about 15 elementary schools down there, which would be a potential good -- good location for more young kids soccer. That area's been very hard hit due to the lost of jobs. And so I'm really interested in seeing middle school soccer grow. So that's something that both the CHA residents and other CPS students can all become a part of and I really hope that, you know, when this place is built, that the fire can set aside a field during the girls and the boys' soccer season, but more specifically for middle school games. Because there are not enough fields for middle school soccer right now. And that's when kids first get recruited for gang activity. So we need more facilities for young people before they get into the gangs. So I just hope that -- and Paul, I'd be very interested in talking to someone from your staff about the southeast side.</p>	<p>The Chicago Fire was the first and only Major League Soccer club to form a common goal. CFFC formed a partnership with Common Ground around a project called the antiracist soccer project. Part of that project is to implement a soccer program in the Black and Brown neighborhoods of Chicago and the CFFC would love to sit down with community stakeholders to further understand community needs.</p> <p>The CFFC is eager to work with CPS and other soccer leagues within our city to see how they can help propel the game forward within the city of Chicago.</p>



33	Laura Garcia	Isn't the buyout to be paid out over the course of several years? The end date being 2036? [this question refers to CFFC's current lease at SeatGeek Stadium]	That is the correct, payments will be made by the CFFC until 2036, for ending their lease early.  (These payments are in no way related to CHA, or this current proposal).
34	Lillie Hallom	Will we receive a map or notes that we can share with our congregation? First Lady of New Garden MB Church - 14th and Ashland	The presentation is posted on the CHA and Department of Planning and Development's website and can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility">https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility</a>
35	Lonnie Rowden	My apologies for joining so late-working. Is there a way I can go back and see the entire presentation?	The presentation is posted on the CHA and Department of Planning and Development's website and can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility">https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility</a>
36	Mary Tyson	I'm concerned due to the fact that as I stated earlier, I feel that the plan was not a priority of housing due to the fact the spot has been vacant for a long period. It was irrelevant prior to Chicago fire investing into the green space.  Thank you so much for allowing me to be part of this participation. I just want to say I've lived here since I was born, and that field is actual lay field in which I was implemented to be a lot -- to be a cheerleader. That being said, I'm just wondering, are we in a proposition of slash, quote unquote, fighting the Chicago Housing Authority to get this position for the Chicago Fire to have an allotted space to put this on? And furthermore, I just want to see something productive there, because me growing up as a child of Pilsen, I've seen the gangbang, and I've seen all that great bad stuff. And as the Chicago Housing Authority hasn't really done anything thus to this point to say demolitionize that space. Why not just go forward and allow the Chicago Fire to bring something productive to the community? That -- that's all I have to say. And I thank	The units previously planned for these parcels were part of what became a much later phase in the overall development. Given resource constraints for the construction of affordable housing, development on these parcels would likely take many years. Putting these parcels into active use under a public-private partnership has many benefits for the community. It will help to catalyze affordable housing development on the "shovel-ready" sites that remain in the development. Additionally, CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments.  This project will create recreational opportunities for the community and repurposes vacant land. We view this as a vibrant addition to the community. The CFFC and CHA plan to preserve part of the site as community green space. Use of that space will be informed by CHA residents.
37	Matt Moeller	How can the adjacent High School, Chicago Tech Academy High School, become engaged with the Fire given that we will be neighbors and the Fire have committed to work with CPS schools? (Athletic Programs, Internships, etc.)	Getting back to Chicago and being active members of Chicago is part of the plan. CFFC has a great partnership with CPS and is looking to further strengthen those ties. If there is any CPS school that wants to work with the CFFC, they are asked to reach out directly to the CFFC.

38	Sophie Esparza	<p>I'm with the legal hotline center for the Metropolitan Tenants Center. Here every year we speak to thousands of tenants that are in crisis and living in unsafe housing conditions. So it is our job to inform them of their rights and help them. And here at MTO we are deeply, deeply disappointed at CHA and Alderman Ervin for this proposal for Chicago Fire to use land that is supposed to be built for affordable houses. I want to remind you that CHA's job is not done. Every day rents are rising at very high levels. And families and children are being evicted. We all say that this is for the children, this is for the communities. How are our children supposed to play when they're homeless? When they're evicted?</p> <p>You know, CHA has a lot of work ahead of it to do. There are families that need affordable housing now. There is a housing crisis in the City of Chicago. We do not support that this proposal move forward to Chicago Fire. Please find somewhere else to build this soccer field. We refuse -- and we believe that this land should be kept for affordable housing units. CHA -- we want to me mind you of your job, it is to build affordable housing. If some of are you confused, we -- we are more than happy to speak with y'all. But we're getting so many calls from families and children that are being evicted. And I just wanted to remind you that we need affordable housing. These families and children need affordable housing, not soccer fields. Thank you.</p>	<p>CHA sees this partnership with the Chicago Fire as an opportunity to invest in our families and in this community. By repurposing this land, we can secure substantial funds to rehabilitate CHA housing and develop new affordable housing while creating employment opportunities for our residents and community members.</p> <p>CHA is focused on building strong communities – this proposed use complements the current and future housing in the area. CHA intends to use the lease to help fund rehab work for ABLA/Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. We are also seeking additional benefits, including employment, contracting, and recreational opportunities for youth, young adults, and seniors.</p> <p>Lastly, CHA wouldn't use this specific site for exclusively building CHA housing because the area is already heavily concentrated with CHA and other types of federally-subsidized housing.</p>
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39	Miguel Bautista	<p>Why is CHA not focusing on building public housing, subsidies housing, and affordable housing on public land? What are we allow a private hobby to be using our land? In addition, Chicago Fire has a habit of breaking lease as shown in Bridgeview - formerly called Toyota Field. How do we need know that Chicago Fire won't be doing the same in a few years? As a resident of 28th ward and city of Chicago, I stand in opposition to this development. CHA needs to be better and fulfilled the 700 plus housing unit promised as part of the Roosevelt Square development.</p> <p>It's interesting that CHA keeps saying that we have an undeveloped land for over 20 years. And it it's just so sad that CHA has not done its role on what it's supposed to do with public land and leave it vacant for 20 years until you have a private business which is a hobby of a billionaire to be able to come and take over that land and use that -- that's very different. But I do have to ask this question regarding the Roosevelt Square. According to the plan it was supposed to be a 10-year space. We are at probably -- and correct me if I'm wrong -- under 22 years of what's supposed to be a ten-year plan. We have not developed the amount of public housing, affordable housing. Yes, we talk about how we have mixed development in there. But the actual point and focus of the Roosevelt Square has not been for sale. And we've been going on over 22 years with this. Can we the people get priority for once from CHA and develop the public housing, affordable housing, and subsidized housing on a public land? And as you know, many people are being displaced in Chicago. And the most recent census that we lost over 200,000 Black, neighbors and friends in the City of Chicago. This is not going to help with that displacement. That's only going to make it worse. Can, please, CHA and the City of Chicago prioritize public housing, on our public land and let Chicago Fire purchase their own private land. There's plenty of public land here in the City of Chicago that they can purchase. Why can they not pursue that instead of taking over, purchase public lands that we all need for housing and public housing?</p>	<p>The Chicago Fire had a mutually agreeable departure from its current lease in Bridgeview.</p> <p>CHA is standing by our commitment to bring all the housing back to this general area. We believe that this development will help us to bring that commitment more quickly.</p>
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40	Ald. Sigcho-Lopez	<p>I just want to echo some of the comments of representative Collins around the promises made affecting a lot of these -- keeps coming back around housing. So I think that yesterday we had some similar concerns and questions from CHA residents about the previous commitments that have changed over time. Also because it seems like because of those delays and the lack of fulfillment of commitments -- in fact some of the earlier comments around giving access of CHA residents to current facilities, facilities like the ComEd facility, that is still -- has been an issue of accessibility for the current residents, is just unacceptable. I do think that we need to also prioritize the needs of housing that we're hearing. There's a dire need of affordable housing across the city. So I think what are we hearing from the residents is frustration that the pace of developing affordable housing oftentimes is much -- a lot more -- much -- slower than private development. And we do have a serious issue of homelessness and other issues for families. So I just hope that CHA is also hearing that -- those comments as well. We hear them loud and clear. And the need for accessibility and affordability, even for those facilities like the ComEd center that must be more inclusive when public funding has been allocated for that. And that -- the residents are hopeful that you know, this -- these comments are taken seriously by the CHA. Thank you.</p>	<p>The ComEd Rec Center opened in 2020 during COVID and because of this timing, efforts are still underway to balance programming, open time, rental time. To do this, the Rec Center is working closely with the community to meet community needs. At this time the Rec Center sets aside at least 25% of program spots at no cost for CHA residents and those spots are opened preregistration, before it opens to the general public. There are also discounts on rental opportunities and the Rec Center works to accommodate an array of other community events. The Rec Center is still working to find a programmatic balance and to do this, we invite community feedback in order to create a space everyone is able to utilize and enjoy.</p>
41	Patrick Brawley	<p>With the introduction of the ComEd Recreation Center, a number of community-based soccer clubs already have a presence at this facility, how will the Fire engage or work with these groups to ensure they are not displaced from the community?</p>	<p>The CFFC and this proposed project are not tied to the ComEd Rec Center and will not impact any programming onsite. The CFFC is committed growing the game of soccer throughout the city and greater Chicago community.</p>
42	Rick Kuhr	<p>Thank you for taking time to share with the community. Will we see a map of the proposed land usage?</p> <p>What will be done with the Laflin St. entrance? It is not on the map. The children in our church community currently play soccer directly behind our church building, 1443 W. Roosevelt Rd., on Sunday evenings. Would there be access to other soccer fields or could the Laflin St. be used to create green space there for them to play?</p> <p>Street parking on Roosevelt serves the churches in the area. What will be provided, if anything, for churches on Sundays?</p> <p>Also, there is an alley behind the private properties on Roosevelt Rd. Would this be considered for green space, a bike path, or a pedestrian walkway?</p>	<p>The proposed plans will be presented in the slide deck that is underway. For anyone not at the meeting, that presentation can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility">https://www.thecha.org/lease-proposal-chicago-fire-football-club-training-facility</a></p> <p>Laflin St. south of Roosevelt would be vacated and closed in the Fire's proposal. The land behind your church would be the location of private soccer fields for the Fire. Although this is unfortunate, the Fire and CHA are working together to bring community benefit spaces to the site. They are looking for input from the community on the programming for these spaces so your comment is helpful. You can also email your feedback to <a href="mailto:DPD@cityofchicago.org">DPD@cityofchicago.org</a> and it will be distributed to CHA and the Fire, as well. Thank you!</p> <p>Changes to street parking on Roosevelt are not part of this plan as the development would accommodate the Fire's parking needs onsite. The alley is important for any housing on Roosevelt and we do not envision any changes.</p>

43	Roland Solinski	<p>This development looks great. I live [address redacted] and I'm so happy to see a productive use for this site.</p> <p>Thank you for including the 14th St greenway - I will be using this often to get around the neighborhood on foot or bike more safely! I echo some of Mr Peters' concerns and I would prefer a new stoplight and crossing at Hastings to avoid Costco traffic.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for this project.</p>
44	Vicky Lugo	<p>What this area needs is affordable housing as it used to have here before the projects were torn down. I applaud Chicago Fire for their commitment on community engagement especially with our youth but what our community really needs is affordable housing. In the last decade, over 10,000 families left Pilsen ALONE due to many factors like gentrification and lack of affordable housing. This project sounds great but not what our community needs!</p> <p>It was mentioned that this property has been vacant for 20 years after the projects were torn down. Why hasn't CHA redeveloped the land to build affordable housing for those who were displaced many years ago as well as for new families who need affordable housing?</p>	<p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments. CHA can pursue units for public, affordable, and market-rate housing on CHA land, private developments, and city-owned parcels in this area.</p> <p>The units previously planned for these parcels were part of what became a much later phase in the overall development. Given resource constraints for the construction of affordable housing, development on these parcels would likely take many years. Putting these parcels into active use under a public-private partnership has many benefits for the community. It will help to catalyze affordable housing development on the "shovel-ready" sites that remain in the development. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area. There are already neighboring CHA parcels slated for CHA units in mixed-income developments. CHA can pursue units for public, affordable, and market-rate housing on CHA land, private developments, and city-owned parcels in this area.</p>

45	Rep. Lakesia Collins	<p>I wanted to know what is the AMI in that area? Because I know the speaker before you said 80 percent of the AMI. What is the current AMI?</p> <p>Another question is will you be seeking any type of state subsidies for this project?</p> <p>You said something about that CHA residents will be prioritized for the hiring. What would be the qualifications? If -- do you already know the qualifications? Because I know I hear that a lot from just different folks they'll say yeah we'll hire from within the community. But if you're going to hire and make it a priority for CHA residents to work on this site, then I would like to know what will qualify those residents to get those jobs. Will there be any barriers that will keep them from working? And that's it.</p>	<p>Area Median Income is for the entire City of Chicago and is published on an annual basis. For a detailed listing, please refer to the City's website:  <a href="https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/doh/provdrs/renters/svcs/ami_chart.html">https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/doh/provdrs/renters/svcs/ami_chart.html</a></p> <p>This project will be privately financed.</p> <p>Through the lease, CHA and CFFC will set goals for Section 3 workers and MWDBE businesses. We will seek opportunities both in building the facility as well as long-term employment opportunities in operations. The CFFC have committed to working with their community consultant to make sure that all local residents have an opportunity to apply for any jobs that are coming through this development. The CFFC is committed to hiring local, not just for construction and development, but for work within their front office, for work within their operations needs at Soldier Field and within their community coaching programs. They will be hosting job and career fairs that will be posted in public forums for people to see and sign up for.</p>
46	William Smiljanić-Pérez	<p>I came in late, what happened to this project in Belmont Cragin?</p> <p>Also, we need replacement housing on this site. We are down over 120,000 units of affordable and social housing. You can't build replacement housing when a Chicago Fire training faculty is on top.</p>	<p>As negotiations progressed it became clear that CPS needed the land in order to serve the local community, and ultimately, proceeding with a project at the location was not in the best interest of the surrounding community.</p> <p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed-income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area.</p>

47	William Vickery	<p>Why not build housing, you have money you are sitting on. What about the housing choice vouchers you are sitting on (with closed waitlist)?</p> <p>How do we know the funds you receive from Chicago Fire will benefit the community? how do we know they won't end up with the funds you are sitting on now wherever they are?</p> <p>Why is there no waitlist for Housing Choice Vouchers? Why does CHA release a handful when they feel like it to case workers and then the homeless need to apply through a caseworker who may not even have any vouchers at the time? How can we trust CHA with this money when their Housing Choice Voucher system does not meet housing needs and is so arbitrary and byzantine?</p> <p>You are saying you need the money from Chicago Fire to build the housing... why not build the housing first then when we see we got the housing we can support the soccer field.</p> <p>How is playing soccer gonna stop someone from joining a gang?? are you gonna investigate people in your soccer club to make sure they don't have any gang affiliation and then kick them out if they do??</p> <p>The lease is how CHA makes money -- I get you want to make money. You are listing a backist of repairs in CHA buildings that doesn't show you are responsible and trustworthy the fact that you are undermaintaining your building as is!! How do we know you aren't going to sit on the the money and keep the MASSIVE NUMBERS OF VACANCIES IN CHA HOUSING AND SIT ON THE MONEY AND PAY YOURSELVES.</p> <p>How do we know the proceeds will benefit ABLA homes? who will control the purse strings? the residents? or city hall CHA?! You are asking us to TRUST you and the record isn't there.</p>	<p>Replacement housing is already in this neighborhood now, and more is on the way. In Roosevelt Square Phase 1 and 2, and Taylor Street Library Apartments, there are CHA units that are part of the mixed-income development. In Roosevelt Square Phase 3B, there will be additional units for CHA families in the mixed-income setting. Approximately 500 CHA units will return to this general area in a mixed-income setting. CHA is actively working with Related Midwest to provide the committed housing within the area.</p> <p>To maximize the benefits to CHA families, CHA would require employment and contracting opportunities during construction and at the final finished facility. These terms would include opportunities for CHA residents, Section 3 concerns, and minority- and women-owned businesses.</p> <p>The CFFC lease proposal creates a public-private partnership that helps CHA rehab and improve the housing nearby, specifically ABLA Brooks Homes and Loomis Courts. CHA would receive lease payments upon closing to benefit aged public housing buildings and create job opportunities for families.</p> <p>CHA utilizes Housing Choice Vouchers in accordance with HUD guidelines. Replacement housing in this community will be in the form of CHA public housing units, which is a separate form of subsidy from Housing Choice Vouchers. Currently, CHA's waitlist remains closed.</p>
48	Rick Kerr	<p>Our location is adjacent to the proposed site on Roosevelt Road. We look forward to working and serving all community members as we have at our location. And outside of it in the neighborhood for ten years.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for this project.</p>