



## SSA 45 Reconstitution Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

### 1. Opening, Abraham Lacy, Far South CDC and SSA #45

Abraham Lacy, Executive Director of Far South CDC opened the meeting to welcome the Advisory Committee which will be advising on the Reconstitution of SSA #45 over the next several months. Mr. Lacy introduced Mark Roschen, Assistant Commissioner of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, who called into the meeting.

### 2. City of Chicago, Mark Roschen, City of Chicago

Mr. Roschen explained that the Department is available to assist in the Reconstitution process. SSAs provide important services to local businesses and districts throughout the City of Chicago and the Department can provide assistance as needed as the process moves forward. The City's role is to ensure that the taxpayers of the District are provided high quality services and the SSA is accountable to the taxpayers. You decide the priorities. Administrative costs may not exceed 30% of the total budget. There are now 64 SSAs throughout the City.

### 3. Far South CDC and SSA #45, Abraham Lacy

Far South DC was initially founded in 1977 as the Beverly Local Company, specializing in small business loans and loan packaging for businesses. In 2007, the organization wanted to focus more of its efforts on the east side of Interstate 57 and later changed its name to Far South Community Development Corporation.

SSA #45 was formed in 2009 as a way to share services along the corridor. The SSA keeps dollars local in the community. We hire locally. We make our corridors vibrant and attractive for customers.

Far South has been the service provider for SSA #45 since its inception and appreciates the opportunity to serve the businesses and community.

The Mission of the SSA is to encourage stability and development within the business district and community by promoting business improvement programs, economic development initiatives, safety programs and a clean environment.

#### 4. Boundaries

The current boundaries are along Halsted Street between 99<sup>th</sup> and 115<sup>th</sup> Streets. The proposed boundaries are to extend north to 97<sup>th</sup> St. and south to 119<sup>th</sup> St.

#### 5. Services

SSA #45 currently provides landscaping improvements, snow removal services, security and façade enhancement. Abraham asked the Advisory Committee of other services that should be considered.

Suggestions included security camera.

Chester Wilson stated that the Alderman is going to start dialogues with businesses so people can meet with each other and discuss ways to do business together and expand business in the area.

#### 6. Budget Summary

SSA #45 2018 Budget was \$716,651 composed of customer attraction, public way aesthetics, economic/business development, safety programs, management and personnel.

#### 7. Benefits of Being a SSA Business

- Maintenance and security
- Seed-grant funding for building improvement projects for:
  - Reimbursement grant through the Small Business Improvement Fund
  - Traditional financing sources
  - Non-traditional funding sources through micro-financing institutions
- Community infrastructure improvements to increase foot traffic in the district and provide an attractive, safe, and clean business district for prospective business owners/property owners
- Networking opportunities
- Neighborhood promotion & advertisement to residents in-and-outside of the community.

#### 9. Community Outreach for SSA #45 Reconstitution

- Conduct Needs Assessment – Please fill out the survey!
- Mailing to all Property Owners and Taxpayers
- Two Community Meetings will be held – May 9 and May 30
- Information will be available on Far South CDC web site
- Need assistance of Advisory Committee to make sure everyone is aware of meetings, survey and opportunity to sign on in support
- Will need 20% of all PIN-holders to support SSA Reconstitution

#### 10. Upcoming Meetings

##### Upcoming Meetings:

- a) Community Meeting 1: 4:00 – 6:00 pm on May 9

b) Advisory Committee 2: 9:00 – 10:30 am on May 23

c) Community Meeting 2: 4:00 – 6:00 pm on May 30

11) Needs Assessment and Support

a) Please fill out the Needs Assessment at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSA45](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSA45)

b) Please support Reconstitution by signing a letter of support and returning to Abraham Lacy.

12) Discussion

Add a budget for security cameras. It has been very effective in the area.

Extend SSA east along 119<sup>th</sup> Street to State Street.