



2015 Highlights

North Branch Works (NBW) is the leading community development organization in the North Branch, Addison, Kennedy, and Ravenswood Industrial Corridors. We work towards job retention/creation, find solutions for individual business needs, strengthen linkages between businesses and their communities, and coordinate City services. We are over 100 members strong and continuously look for ways to enhance benefits for our members. Contact us today to learn more about how to get involved.



Pictured above: Some of NBW's cleaning team is joined by the WaterSaver Faucet/Guardian Equipment's team.

Small Accessible Repairs for Seniors (SARFS)

SARFS is a city funded program that provides safety, security and accessibility improvements, free of cost to low-income seniors. NBW completed its fifth successful year delivering this program to Chicago senior residents. We served 33 households in the Lincoln Park, Lakeview, West Town, Humboldt Park, Garfield Park, Austin and Belmont-Cragin communities.

Amongst the many improvements made, Mrs. Sample is most grateful to have her basement stairs repaired. "I am so glad to now access my basement. NBW installed a hand railing and treads on my basement stairs. Before being serviced by NBW & the SARFS Program, I was unable to use the stairs or access the basement" -- *Mozella Sample, 72 year old, widow, taking care of two teenage grandchildren.*

NBW 2nd Annual Spring Cleaning with Waste Management & Lincoln Park Whole Foods Market

Over 150 volunteers from area businesses gathered up their teams for a spring cleaning on Goose Island & the Halsted-River Triangle. We surpassed last year's amount of waste materials cleaned up (4,500 lbs in 2014) and properly disposed/recycled over 6,300 lbs of material in 2015. Thanks to everyone who helped!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SBIF (Small Business Improvement Fund)

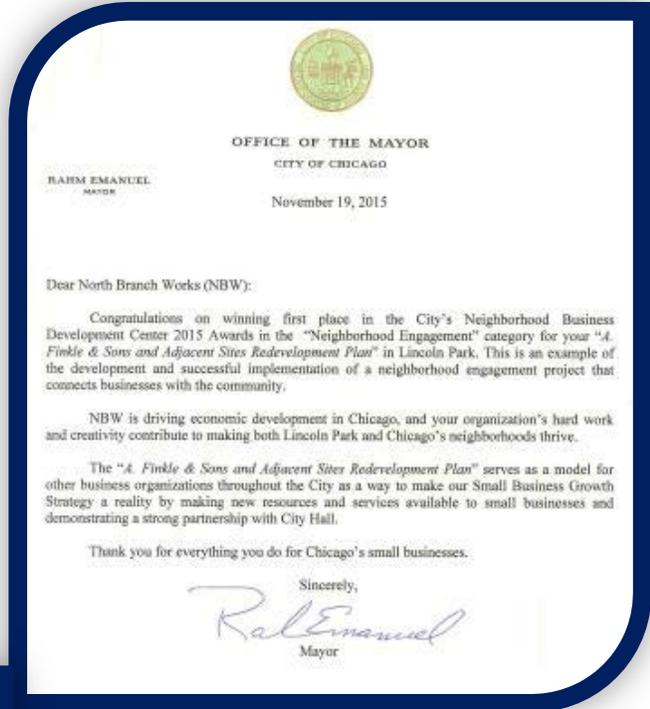
After years of restricted funding for the North Branch South TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District, North Branch Works made the case for the city to re-open this TIF for the SBIF Program. We had a roll out meeting for business to learn more about this program at the newly opened Local Foods warehouse and retail shop located in the Elston Corridor PMD (Planned Manufacturing District. Ten businesses applied.



LAND USE & PLANNING

River Works

We oversaw a 2-year planning process that developed a plan for the future of the Finkl/Lakin/Gutmann sites and surrounding areas. This US EPA-funded project involved hundreds of hours, dozens of meetings, a massive outreach to community groups, businesses, public officials and elected officials, the general public, and other stakeholders. Since transportation emerged as a key issue from the community outreach, we contracted for additional work to develop a framework plan focused on transit and mobility in the Corridor, which was funded by a recoverable grant from the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC Chicago). The River Works Plan was completed and released in early 2016.



NBW was the proud recipient of the City of Chicago 2015 **Neighborhood Engagement Award** for its extensive outreach efforts on the River Works Project--A Plan for Community, Jobs, and Innovation. Pictured above is the award letter signed by Mayor Emanuel. Pictured left is one of our community meetings. In the process of over two years, 6,000 + individual contacts were made.

Infrastructure Task Force

We held (3) infrastructure task force meetings this year with excellent engagement from local businesses, alderman, Chicago Department of Transportation, CTA, and other city departments. We helped get projects started that were identified by businesses as well as updated the community on the status of area projects initiated by the city. **The following projects below were completed, advanced or identified as community priorities in our task force meetings:**



Industrial Permit Parking

Permit Parking on Besly Ct.; application submitted to the city.



Stoplight

Kingsbury/Weed/Sheffield (\$400,000 + depending on the design)

Funding earmarked and completion date set for 2016.



Elston Ave. Bike Lane

approx. 1700 block

(\$106,000)

Completed resurfacing and repainting.



Cortland St. Project

(\$1.7 Million)

Completed bridge refurbishment and street repair.



Division St Bridge

(Total project - \$50 million)

Temporary bridge on Goose Island completed. Larger area project incl. new bridge and roadway in process until 2017.

STAY CONNECTED TO NBW:

