

# CONSTRUCTIVE NEWS YOU CAN USE

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Sauganash Project Completion | PBC in the Community | PBC New Commissioner  
Pre-Submission/Contractor Workshop | Virtual Community Hiring | Assist Agencies Conference

# A Message from Ray

In this edition, we're excited to share a glimpse into our ongoing commitment to re-shaping and re-vitalizing our communities with the substantial completion of Sauganash Elementary's annex and renovation project, the successful Pre-Submission and General Contractor Workshops, Assist Agencies Conference and continued investments throughout the City of Chicago and Cook County

Through this newsletter we welcome you to experience our unwavering commitment to inclusivity and accessibility. Our first-ever Virtual Community Hiring Session reaffirms our commitment to fostering local talent and community engagement. The virtual event provided a unique platform for job seekers to explore opportunities on upcoming PBC projects, connect with contractors and learn about the diverse range of career paths available in the construction industry.

We look forward to expanding the City Colleges of Chicago's West Side Learning Center to include a new addition that will house the Community Center for Teaching and Learning. This addition and other transformative projects demonstrate PBC's visionary approach to public spaces, seamlessly integrating innovative design with the practical needs of the community.

I thank you for joining us on this journey of architectural excellence, community investment and empowerment, and sustainable innovation. In collaboration with all our partners, we are not just shaping spaces – we are crafting a legacy that resonates with the heartbeat of our great city. Under our chairman's leadership and with our Commissioner's support, the PBC will continue to drive economic development throughout Chicagoland, including capacity building within the professional service and construction industries. Thank you for being a part of our story.

Sincerely,

Ray Giderof  
PBC Acting Executive Director



## *PBC and City Colleges of Chicago to Build the Community Center for Teaching and Learning*

In collaboration with the Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC), Malcolm X College, one of the seven City Colleges of Chicago, will expand the West Side Learning Center to include a new edition that will house the Community Center for Teaching and Learning.

State Representative; Congressman Danny K. Davis; Alderman Jason Ervin (28th Ward); and Barbara Meschino, Dean of the West Side Learning Center to announce the formulation of the project.

PBC was joined by Dr. David Sanders, President of Malcolm X College; Juan Salgado, Chancellor City Colleges of Chicago; La Shawn K. Ford, Illinois

The Community Center for Teaching and Learning will include additional recreational and meeting spaces for students and the community to support enhanced learning and increased access to in-demand programs at Malcolm X College. It will also serve as multi-use for special events, including community, businesses, and organizations.



The approximately \$9.5 million project is the second phase of City Colleges of Chicago's continued investment in the West Side Learning Center, following a completed first phase renovation that created new biology laboratories.

## *PBC Host Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration*

PBC employees recently came together to celebrate Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month. The reception, highlighted by a variety of authentic foods and salsa lessons, recognized the many contributions of the Latino community and the leaders who have been working tirelessly to advocate on behalf of their community.



# *PBC Completes New Three-Story Annex at Sauganash Elementary School*

Known as an institution that provides a high-quality educational program that meets the academic needs of its students through an integrated curriculum, and the use of technology, Sauganash Elementary school has undergone selective interior renovations to the existing school and received a new three-story 41,000-square foot annex that includes a new, 2-position gymnasium/multipurpose space, science, art and maker spaces, along with Pre-K and kindergarten classrooms.

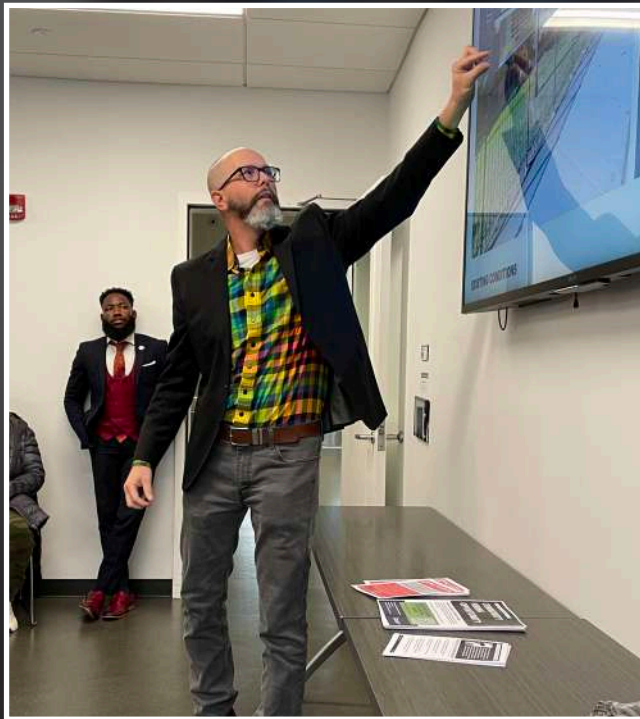
The PBC was responsible for the design and construction of the annex that is intended to alleviate overcrowding.

The new annex project also included site improvements for landscaping and access walkways and was designed to achieve LEED Silver Certification as defined by U.S. Green Buildings Council.

The PBC is grateful for the wonderful partners who have stepped up to support our agency, and each other, as we continue to construct or renovate modern cutting-edge facilities where students can network, study, and learn.



# PBC in the Community



**PBC representatives were happy to join Ald. Walter Burnett Jr. (27th ward) at a community meeting hosted at the Blackhawk Training Facility to discuss the upcoming Dett Elementary School Annex project.**



**During the 2023 Chicago Build Expo, PBC's Ray Giderof shared his industry experience as a panelist on the "Crucibles of Leadership: How Are Owners Leading in 2023" discussion.**



**The PBC participated in the MWRD 2023 Diverse Business Summit at Kennedy King College.**



**CBS News (Channel 2) celebrated the Picasso anniversary with a live look at the iconic sculpture with background information from PBC's own Kerl Lajeune.**



## Chicago Board of Education President Appointed to the PBC Board of Commissioners

The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Jianan Shi, Chicago Board of Education President, to the PBC's Board of Commissioners. This appointment recognizes Shi's exceptional leadership and dedication to public service, further solidifying his role as a key influencer in education and government.

Shi previously served as the Executive Director of Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education (RYH), where he spearheaded numerous initiatives that brought a wealth of positive change and sustainable educational development in the region.

*"I am deeply honored to accept this appointment to the PBC Board of Commissioners," Shi said. "I look forward to collaborating with fellow Commissioners and stakeholders to continue advancing Chicago's welfare and prosperity."*

As an advocate for inclusivity and innovative solutions, Shi's presence on the PBC Board of Commissioners is expected to enhance the Board's ability to address complex challenges, promote economic growth and ensure the well-being of all residents. His commitment to transparency, accountability and transformative initiatives align seamlessly with the PBC's mission.

*"We are thrilled to welcome Jianan Shi to the PBC Board of Commissioners," Ray Giderof, PBC's Acting Executive Director, said. "His dedication to creating a brighter future in the lives of our youth will undoubtedly contribute to PBC's ongoing efforts of building inclusive public facilities."*

Giderof goes on to say, "Commissioner Shi's leadership and expertise will play a pivotal role in shaping policies, fostering collaboration and driving meaningful change that will resonate across the Chicago area."



## PBC Hosted Pre-Submission Conference & Contractor Workshop

The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) hosted a Pre-Submission Conference and Contractor Workshop to provide valuable information and guidance to potential respondents of the RFQ for the 2023 Prequalification of General Contractors for Various Projects. The event enhanced the understanding of PBC procurements and foster networking amongst the general contracting community.

This gathering served as a platform for contractors to engage directly with PBC representatives, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the submission process, requirements, and expectations.

### Key highlights of the event included:

- **Information Session:** PBC provided detailed information about the pre-qualification process, ensuring contractors are well informed before submitting their proposals.
- **Q&A Session:** Attendees had the chance to ask questions and seek clarifications on any aspects of the submission process.
- **Contractor Workshop:** An interactive

*workshop that focused on compliance with PBC procurement and contracting standards.*

- **Networking Opportunities:** Contractors were able to network with peers, potential partners and PBC representatives, fostering connections within the construction community.

"We are dedicated to promoting transparency, collaboration and excellence in all of our projects," Ray Giderof, PBC's Acting Executive Director said. "The Pre-Submission Conference and Contractor Workshop exemplifies our commitment to providing a platform where contractors can gather insights, engage with us directly and lay the foundation for continued partnerships."

For further information and inquiries regarding the prequalification of general contractors for various projects, please contact [patricia.montenegro@cityofchicago.org](mailto:patricia.montenegro@cityofchicago.org)



# PBC Hosted Inaugural Virtual Community Hiring Session

The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) hosted an in-person and its first-ever virtual community hiring session, for the Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School Annex and Renovation project. Both events reaffirm PBC’s commitment to fostering local talent and community engagement.

“The PBC is committed to providing community residents with opportunities to work on the projects being built in their community; our projects must be a reflection of these communities” Ray Giderof, PBC Acting Executive Director said. “When projects are awarded, the PBC works with the contractor and its subcontractors to schedule community hiring sessions to identify employment opportunities. Access to these opportunities is vital to our continued success.”

The events provided a unique platform to explore opportunities on upcoming PBC projects, connect with hiring managers and learn about the diverse range of career paths available in the construction industry.

Both community hiring sessions are a testament to the PBC’s dedication to creating meaningful connections between local residents and employment opportunities. Community residents

may engage in real-time conversations with contractors, making the application process accessible.

“The hiring session embody our commitment to investing in our local community and creating pathways to meaningful careers,” Giderof said. “We believe in the power of collaboration and are excited to connect with community residents who share our passion for building a better Chicago.”



# PBC Hosts Assist Agencies Conference

The PBC invited Assist Agencies’ leadership to join an information session regarding upcoming PBC opportunities. The event outlined ways the awareness regarding PBCs’ upcoming opportunities, continued outreach efforts, access to information, and ways to reinforce existing and future partnerships. In addition, PBC and the Agencies discussed ways enhance communications with contractors and professional service providers.

“This was the first of an upcoming series of quarterly meetings where we will answer questions regarding PBC’s procurements and help our Assist Agencies better accommodate small, minority, and/or women owned businesses,” Ray Giderof, PBC’s Acting Executive Director said. “The PBC is proud to host these meetings fostering collaboration

and innovation in public infrastructure development. We want to continue enhancing our partnerships and outreach efforts as we position PBC for 2024 and beyond.” Assist Agencies are comprised of not-for-profit agencies and/or chamber of commerce agencies that represent the interest of small, minority and/or women-owned businesses. The PBC partners with a variety of organizations that provide these valuable resources and technical assistance.

To learn more about becoming an Assist Agency, please contact [patricia.montenegro@cityofchicago.org](mailto:patricia.montenegro@cityofchicago.org)



# PBC Participates in Metropolitan Family Services Holiday Gift Donation Drive



The PBC collaborated with Metropolitan Family Services in a holiday gift donation drive. The event focused on support for five families with young children 1 month to 2 years old. PBC members wrapped thoughtful gifts for the families, creating a sense of community and goodwill.



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