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Landmark Designation Approved for Former Town Hall Police Station

One of Chicago's oldest police stations was approved as an official City of Chicago landmark by City Council today.

Located in Lake View at 3600 N. Halsted St., the 42nd Precinct/Town Hall Police Station was built in 1907 on the site of the former Lake View Township Town Hall. The two-story Classical Revival-style structure is characterized by a symmetrical facade, limestone base, and distinctive copper cornice. The architect is unknown.

The station closed in 2010 when a new Town Hall police headquarters opened nearby.

The building is owned by Heartland Housing Inc., which purchased it from the City earlier this year for \$1. Heartland plans to include the structure as part of a \$27 million, 79-unit apartment complex for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender seniors that's underway on adjacent land. Landmark status will protect the building's exterior elevations from significant alteration or demolition.

The designation was recommended by the Commission on Chicago Landmarks earlier this year.

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Two Social Service Agencies Will Expand Through City-Owned Land Sales

Two community organizations that offer social services to families and children will expand their operations through a pair of City land sales approved by City Council today.

Uhlich Children's Advantage Network

The Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN) will relocate from the Irving Park community to North Lawndale through the sale of City-owned land at 1106-1112 S. Central Ave. The organization will purchase the 4,950-square-foot site, valued at \$13,000, for \$1. The land will be combined with five adjacent parcels to construct the Chicago Institute for Transforming Youth, a seven-acre campus for abused and neglected children and teens. Designed to accommodate up to 70 seven- to 18-year-olds, the \$34.4 million development will create 20 new jobs and retain 216 full-time positions.

The Blessed Child

The Blessed Child community outreach organization will purchase a vacant, City-owned commercial building at 10736 S. Michigan Ave. in Roseland and rehabilitate it for charitable services. The 2,100-square-foot structure, valued at \$25,000, will be sold for \$1. The new facility will provide permanent space for the storage and distribution of donated items. The non-profit organization sponsors diaper, coat and toy giveaways to families in need.

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Open Space Enhancements Approved for Six Chicago Neighborhoods

Financial measures approved today by City Council will help expand and improve four community gardens and two park spaces on the North, Northwest and Southwest Sides.

Bucktown Community Garden

Vacant, City-owned land at 1724 N. Wilmot and 1716 N. Hoyne avenues in West Town will be redeveloped as the Bucktown Community Garden through a proposed sale to the NeighborSpace land trust, which will own and insure the property for community use. The proposed sale price is \$1. The 7,200-square-foot site will also receive \$90,000 in Open Space Impact Fees to complete environmental work and site preparation.

King Lockhart Park

King Lockhart Park at 10615 S. Western Ave. in Beverly will receive a memorial sculpture to honor fallen firefighters through \$62,000 in Open Space Impact Fees. The fees will help pay for the design and construction of the monument, which will feature concrete columns with fire ladders over the park's entranceway. The balance of the \$87,000 project will be paid by the Park District. The .5-acre park honors Chicago firefighters Anthony Lockhart and Patrick King who lost their lives battling a fire at a former tire repair shop on the site.

Hartigan Beach Park

Hartigan Beach Park along the Rogers Park lakefront will receive \$275,000 in Open Space Impact Fees to support its expansion onto adjacent Chicago Park District land at 1031 W. Albion Ave. The funding will be used to add landscaping, lighting, a pergola, seating and fencing to the .5-acre site. The park is named in honor of David L. Hartigan, a former alderman of the 49th Ward.

Dunning Community Garden

The Dunning Community Garden at 6532 W. Burteau Ave. will receive \$240,000 in Open Space Impact Fees for environmental work, a new fence, storage shed, water access, raised beds and related construction costs. Owned by the NeighborSpace land trust, the .6-acre site is maintained as a public garden by Dunning neighborhood residents.

Xochiquetzal Peace Garden

Xochiquetzal Peace Garden at 1901 W. 23rd St. in Little Village will receive \$45,000 in Open Space Impact Fees for environmental work and the demolition and removal of a unused garage. The garden is maintained by Friends of Whittier School. "Xochiquetzal" means place of the Quetzal, a bird found in western Mexico and Central America.

Barley School

Barley School at 1630 W. Barry Ave. in Lake View will receive \$128,000 in Open Space Impact Fees for the construction of a new school garden by Openlands conservation agency. The project will transform a .02-acre asphalt lot into green space with native plants, artwork, outdoor classroom seating and other amenities. The garden will be maintained by students, teachers and parents.

Open Space Impact Fees are collected by the City of Chicago from new residential developments to help expand the amount of open space in each of the city's 77 community areas.

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