

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

Financial Statements

Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Northalsted Area Merchants Association

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the Special Service Area #18 Fund of the Northalsted Area Merchants Association as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of Northalsted Area Merchants Association. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Special Service Area #18 Fund of the Northalsted Area Merchants Association as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the changes in its net assets and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The schedule on page 9 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.



H. GREGORY MERMEL, C.P.A., P.C.

February 9, 2010

H. Gregory Mermel, C.P.A., P.C.

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**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash in bank	\$ 78,810	\$ 66,075
Prepaid expenses	4,208	1,853
Total assets	\$ 83,018	\$ 67,928
 <u>LIABILITY</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITY		
Accounts payable	\$ 11,260	\$ 5,037
 <u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Unrestricted net assets (Note 4)	71,758	62,891
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 83,018	\$ 67,928

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND COMPARISON TO BUDGET
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
REVENUE			
Special Service Area #18 tax funds			
Requested 2008 levy	\$ 330,680		
Allowance for loss and cost	6,000		
Balance	<u>324,680</u>	\$ 295,912	\$ (28,768)
Prior years' tax levies		2,907	2,907
Interest		103	103
Total revenue	<u>324,680</u>	<u>298,922</u>	<u>(25,758)</u>
OPERATING PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Advertising and promotion	37,500	36,950	(550)
District planning	48,000	47,625	(375)
Operations and administrative support	8,875	4,348	(4,527)
Public way aesthetics	151,010	116,701	(34,309)
Public way maintenance	63,575	60,854	(2,721)
Safety programs	18,500	1,337	(17,163)
Service provider direct service	22,220	22,240	20
Total operating program expenses	<u>349,680</u>	<u>290,055</u>	<u>(59,625)</u>
 CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	 <u>\$ (25,000)</u>	 8,867	 <u>\$ 33,867</u>
 UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, beginning of year		 <u>62,891</u>	
 UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, end of year		 <u>\$ 71,758</u>	

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND COMPARISON TO BUDGET
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
REVENUE			
Special Service Area #18 tax funds			
Amount received		\$ 218,563	
Less amount for adjoining special service area (Note 3)		<u>3,238</u>	
SSA #18 tax funds, net	\$ 206,197	215,325	\$ 9,128
Interest		563	563
Total revenue	<u>206,197</u>	<u>215,888</u>	<u>9,691</u>
OPERATING PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Advertising and promotion	12,500	2,504	(9,996)
District planning	5,000	5,519	519
Façade improvement program	11,000	4,865	(6,135)
Operations and administrative support	11,600	10,899	(701)
Public way aesthetics	87,261	89,485	2,224
Public way maintenance	47,575	45,080	(2,495)
Safety programs	10,000	10,000	0
Service provider direct service	16,200	16,200	0
Total operating program expenses	<u>201,136</u>	<u>184,552</u>	<u>(16,584)</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 5,061</u>	s 31,336	<u>\$ 26,275</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, beginning of year		<u>31,555</u>	
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, end of year		<u>\$ 62,891</u>	

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in unrestricted net assets	\$ 8,867	\$ 26,275
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	(2,355)	(1,853)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	<u>6,223</u>	<u>3,237</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>12,735</u>	<u>27,659</u>
CASH IN BANK, beginning of year	<u>66,075</u>	<u>33,355</u>
CASH IN BANK, end of year	<u>\$ 78,810</u>	<u>\$ 61,014</u>

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Nature of entity

The Northalsted Area Merchants Association ("Association") is an Illinois not-for-profit association which has contracted with the City of Chicago to provide additional services within Special Services Area #18 of the City. Pursuant to that contract, the Association has established the Special Service Area #18 Fund ("Fund") to receive, hold and expend monies received from the City.

Services provided by the Fund include beautification, cleaning and maintenance of the streets (such as planting and maintenance of planters, maintenance of trees, cleaning of sidewalks and curb areas, power washing of sidewalks and graffiti removal); promotion and continuation of the façade incentive program; distribution of the Walking Map; and maintaining a visible office with staff support to carry out promotional, educational and market research functions.

B. Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of certain assets and liabilities (actual and contingent) as of December 31, 2009 and of certain revenues and expenses during the year. Actual data as they subsequently develop may differ from those estimates.

C. Income taxes

The Association and its component Fund are exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2. REVENUES

Substantially all of the Fund's revenue comes from the City of Chicago under successive renewable contracts, currently expiring December 31, 2010.

Property taxes for each tax year are billed to, and due from, property owners in two installments during the succeeding calendar year. Each year's contract provides that the compensation to the Association will be the lesser of the property taxes levied or the total amount of Special Service Area #18 tax funds actually collected for the preceding tax year.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

2. REVENUES (continued)

The amount of Special Service Area #18 taxes levied were \$330,680 for the 2008 tax year (payable in 2009) and \$206,197 for the 2007 tax year (payable in 2008).

The Association recognizes revenue under this contract when the collected taxes are distributed to the City of Chicago by Cook County. Accordingly, taxes from prior years of \$2,907 and \$26,905 are included in revenues for 2009 and 2008, respectively.

3. ADJOINING SPECIAL SERVICE AREA

When Special Service Area #18 was reconstituted in 2004, a parcel of real estate was included which was already a part of an adjoining special service area. Pursuant to approval from the City of Chicago, funds approximating the tax levy for that parcel were transferred to the adjoining special service area in 2008. This agreement with the adjoining special service area was terminated during 2009.

4. NET ASSETS

The City of Chicago, and its Special Service Area #18, carry over unexpended tax funds to the succeeding fiscal year's budget. The Association's Board of Directors designates a like amount as a carryover to ensure consistency between the Fund's budgeting process and that of the City. The unexpended balance of tax funds at December 31, 2009 was \$78,810.

**NORTHALSTED AREA MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #18 FUND**

**CARRYOVER OF UNEXPENDED TAX FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

Unexpended tax funds, December 31, 2008		
Cash in bank		\$ 66,075
Cash received		
Taxes	\$ 298,819	
Interest	103	
Total	<u>298,922</u>	298,922
Expenses paid		<u>(286,187)</u>
Unexpended tax funds, December 31, 2008		<u>\$ 78,810</u>
Comprising		
Cash in bank		<u>\$ 78,810</u>

H. Gregory Mermel

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Northalsted Area Merchants Association

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the statement of financial position of the Special Service Area #18 Fund of the Northalsted Area Merchants Association as of December 31, 2009 and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2010.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Northalsted Area Merchants Association failed to comply with the terms, covenants, provisions or conditions of its Service Provider Agreement insofar as they relate to accounting matters. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the board of directors and management of Northalsted Area Merchants Association, the Special Service Area #18 Commission and the City of Chicago, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



H. GREGORY MERMEL, C.P.A., P.C.

February 9, 2010

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