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September 14, 2016

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CITY COUNCIL PASSES MAYOR EMANUEL'S ORDINANCE TO EXPAND LEASE FOR URBAN EDUCATION FARM

City Council today approved Mayor Rahm Emanuel's ordinance amending an existing lease agreement with Sweet Water Foundation to expand the operations of this urban educational farm. The original lease of what was then vacant land was passed by City Council in the summer of 2014.

Sweet Water Foundation is an education-based entity which combines mathematics, engineering, architecture and technology with food production initiatives to transform blighted areas and underutilized properties into viable sources of local food production. The foundation currently leases City property at 5700 S. Lafayette for an urban farm.

Under the ordinance, their lease will be expanded to include additional parcels at 5749 S Perry, which includes a building that would provide the foundation with office space, meeting rooms and storage in support of the farm. Further, three other parcels at 45-47 W 57th Place and 5743 S Perry will be used for community gardening and demonstrations.

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