

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2018

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MAYOR EMANUEL, DEPARTMENT OF FLEET AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT INTRODUCE SALE OF THREE BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTIES

Mayor Emanuel and the Department of Fleet and Facility Management (2FM) today introduced an ordinance authorizing the sale of three former Chicago Public Schools buildings to be used for affordable housing and a Climate Leadership Center. The ordinance would allow the 2FM to sell the former Henson Elementary School, Melody Elementary School and Yale Elementary School.

"The sale of these three properties is another way we are investing in neighborhoods and creating productive use for vacant City space," Mayor Emanuel said. "These projects will transform vacant buildings into positive community anchors, creating new jobs and more affordable housing options."

Henson Elementary School, located at 1236 S. Avers, and Melody Elementary School, located at 412 S. Keeler Avenue, will be sold to Single Room Housing Assistance Corporation (SRHAC). SRHAC plans to convert both former schools into 80 unit affordable mini style studios for low wage earners, service veterans, single mothers and individuals living with physical disabilities and chronic illness. Additionally, SRHAC will provide daycare services and offer community access to the gymnasium and select classrooms. This proposed project is an essential component of the effort to secure, stabilize and expand affordable housing citywide.

Yale Elementary School, located at 7025 S. Princeton Avenue, will be sold to VLV Development and Financial Services, Corp. VLV plans to convert the former school and the land adjacent to it into a clean energy demonstration, training, production and storage facility. The Climate Leadership Innovation Center will create 15 new jobs in construction, solar panel installation, maintenance and production.

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