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May 8, 2017

**Alderman Secures 10+ New Acres for Park Space in
Industrial Corridor Plan**

*Ald. Brian Hopkins Delivers on Public's Request for
Recreational Open Space*

CHICAGO – 2nd Ward Alderman Brian Hopkins has reached an agreement with the City's Planning Department that will guarantee more dedicated areas for recreational park space in the much-anticipated Industrial Corridor Modernization Framework Plan.

In a Monday meeting with city planners and Mayoral staff, Alderman Hopkins secured the commitment of "no less than" 10 new acres to be dedicated for ball fields, playgrounds, and additional open park space for public recreational use.

After 17 neighborhood meetings and 5 open house events designed to allow residents and stakeholders to provide comment and input, City Planners and elected officials received consistent calls demanding more park space be made available.

"As you know, I've advocated from the beginning of the process that we accommodate open space needs for our community. While I recently noted objections and concerns to the open space treatment in the Modernization plan, I'm encouraged that there's been a recognition to accommodate the needs of neighbors and young families in nearby, impacted neighborhoods."

At the Alderman's request, the framework will acknowledge the community's specific desire for sports and recreational fields in the corridor's redevelopment, with a recommendation included for no less than 10 acres of such open space, bringing the total open space recommendation to more than 60 acres.

"10 acres is a floor, not a ceiling," Hopkins said. "I look forward to incorporating these recommendations in my planned development zoning review process."

The revisions to the Framework will come before the scheduled vote at Chicago's Plan Commission, set for May 18th.

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