

1925 North Clybourn, Suite 301  
Chicago, IL 60614  
TEL 773.880.5200  
FAX 773.880.0266  
www.lincolnparkchamber.com

June 7, 2010

Alderman Thomas R. Allen, 38<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and the Public Way  
5817 W. Irving Park  
Chicago, IL 60634

Dear Alderman Allen,

I am writing to share the support of the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce (LPCC) with you in regards to an ordinance recently introduced into Chicago's City Council. The ordinance proposed by Alderman Vi Daley (43<sup>rd</sup>) that would enable artistic bicycle racks to adorn the streets and commercial corridors of Chicago would bring both added public art and an enhanced shopping experience for residents and visitors to our "City of Neighborhoods".

Chicago's bicycle and art communities are two of the most passionate and ever-growing in the City. Embracing their dedication to a healthy, active lifestyle and pursuing their craft, respectively, is something that will benefit all Chicagoans and the City's numerous business districts. Beautification projects and programs to ease the shopping experience for customers and clients are proving to be more important now than ever.

While the ordinance drafted allows for artistic bike racks to enter Chicago's streets, it is careful to be fiscally-responsible for the City of Chicago by encouraging donations from the community for the materials. The LPCC also believes that:

- Chicago continues to work to be an increasingly bike-friendly city; and
- The provision of additional bicycle racks supported by private donors will create a unique public-private partnership that will provide public art to shopping districts, parks and more; and
- The benefits for streetscapes, bicycle enthusiasts and inclusion of public art is something that will be seen in all of Chicago's 50 wards; and
- A commitment to the bicycle community will continue to meet the City's goals for a greener and healthier Chicago.

We also believe that the ordinance has spelled out an appropriate process for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Department of Transportation to supervise the selection and installation of the racks. With an ordinance in place, the City of Chicago will be able to increase the City's public art repertoire without increasing an already tight budget. The LPCC anticipates that, through appropriate outreach, the City of Chicago will quickly and consistently receive submissions from the artist community.

Please feel free to contact me directly at (773) 880-5200 for additional discussion as you deem necessary. Thank you for your consideration of this matter and your continued commitment to making Chicago one of the premiere business landscapes across the country.

Sincerely,



Kim Schilf, IOM, ACE  
President and CEO

CC: Alderman Vi Daley (43<sup>rd</sup>)