



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Youth Wellness Center Approved For Former Police Station**

The former Marquette District police station in Pilsen will be converted into a youth services center under a redevelopment plan approved today by City Council.

Pilsen Wellness Center (PWC) Inc. will rehabilitate the two-story structure at 2259 S. Damen Ave. to provide mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and other wellness services for people between 10 and 26 years old.

Built in 1917, the 15,700-square-foot structure was the second oldest police facility in Chicago before it closed in 2005. Valued at \$815,000, the building and adjacent parking lot will be sold for \$1.

Founded in 1975, PWC provides holistic health care services to predominately Latino residents through culturally appropriate treatment and interventions. The \$1.4 million redevelopment project will create the organization's 10<sup>th</sup> location in Chicago and support 21 permanent jobs.

# # #

**Financial Measures Will Support Five School Improvement Projects**

Financial measures approved today by City Council will support capital improvements to three Chicago public high schools and a pair of elementary schools.

**Roald Amundsen High School**, 5110 N. Damen Ave.

Amundsen High School in Lincoln Square will receive \$500,000 in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) assistance for the construction of two new computer classrooms, a wireless internet network, and improved lunchroom and auditorium facilities. The funds will be applied towards planning, design and installation costs. Chicago Public Schools will fund the remainder of the \$552,482 project.

**Benito Juarez Community Academy High School**, 2150 S. Laflin St.

Juarez High School on the Lower West Side will be reimbursed with \$701,000 in TIF for the 2010 construction of a new athletic field. The artificial turf field is used by students and area residents. Chicago Public Schools will fund the balance of the \$750,000 project.

**William Penn Elementary School**, 1616 S. Avers.

Penn School in North Lawndale will receive \$1.12 million in TIF for construction of a new science lab and the installation of dehumidification equipment. Total project cost is \$1.22 million. The balance will be paid by Chicago Public Schools.

**Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School**, 2245 W. Jackson Blvd.

Crane High School on the Near West Side will receive \$2.3 million in TIF for the construction of a new artificial turf athletic field and running track. The work, which will include a drainage system, lighting fixtures, and accessibility amenities for people with disabilities, will be entirely funded by TIF.

**Bret Harte Elementary School**, 1556 E. 56<sup>th</sup> St.

The parking facilities at Harte School in Hyde Park will be expanded through the proposed sale of a 12,300-square-foot, City-owned lot at 5528 S. Cornell Ave. The lot will be sold for \$1 to Solstice on the Park LLC, which will use a portion of the site for the development of a 28-story condominium tower and the remainder as an expanded parking area for school faculty. The parking improvements are valued at \$500,000.

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### **New Social Services Complex Approved for North Lawndale**

The development of a new state-of-the-art youth social services campus at 3605 W. Fillmore St. in North Lawndale will be supported through \$2.5 million in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) approved today by City Council.

The \$34.4 million project by Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN) will create a seven-acre campus for up to 70 abused and at-risk youth. Designed to provide clinical and

counseling services, case management, and a variety of youth development programs, the campus will include a dormitory, classrooms, gymnasium, and offices. Upon completion, UCAN will move from its current facility in North Center, retaining 216 full-time positions and creating 20 new jobs.

Founded in 1869, UCAN served nearly 14,000 young people and their families in 2013.

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