

“Chicago parks are among our city’s greatest assets and have a long-standing history of supporting the diverse recreational interests of our residents and visitors. The Chicago Park District remains committed to balancing the needs of children and families who rely on our parks and welcoming world-class cultural events and experiences to our neighborhoods. These events contribute greatly to the rich cultural landscape of our city but also generate \$20 million in revenue annually that directly supports vital park projects and programming.

Over the past year, large event organizers have engaged community, listened to feedback and suggestions, and been responsive in a positive way to community concerns at a level never before undertaken in connection with these events. In addition, for events with an attendance of 10,000 or more, the Park District Board has brought more transparency to the permit process by requiring an additional approval step at a public Park District Board meeting. Organizers of smaller events are also encouraged to thoughtfully engage community stakeholders before and throughout the permit process. Consistent with all large-scale events permitted on park property, all organizers are required to restore the park to its pre-event condition to ensure regular public use is not impacted after the event concludes.

The Chicago Park District will continue to evaluate permitted events and seek valuable input from stakeholders as we move forward.”