

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, in Chapter 2-92-390 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago, "Equal employment opportunity regulations for contracts – Enforcements," the Commissioner of Planning and Development is authorized to promulgate rules to designate socioeconomically disadvantaged areas; and,

WHEREAS, the establishment of socioeconomically disadvantaged areas is an important metric for ensuring that the City achieves equitable economic development outcomes; and,

WHEREAS, the 2023 Transition Report demonstrates a vision for investing in neighborhoods and building Chicago's workforce, with opportunities for well-paying jobs with upward mobility distributed equitably across Chicago with no barriers to entry; a coordinated set of workforce funding and initiatives across City departments and between government entities; and clear career paths in growth industries for people that have been historically underrepresented; and,

WHEREAS, the 2023 Transition Report demonstrates a vision for economic development goals that include closing the racial and ethnic wealth gap; and that entrepreneurs, business owners and developers of all sizes and backgrounds from every neighborhood of Chicago will benefit from an efficient, effective, flexible and transparent local government without encountering roadblocks; and,

WHEREAS, the current socioeconomically disadvantaged areas map is based on U.S. Census Tracts, using data from the 2014 American Community Survey, including rankings of median household income (lowest to highest); poverty rate (highest to lowest); and unemployment rate (highest to lowest); and,

WHEREAS, the current socioeconomically disadvantaged areas map published on the Chicago Data Portal demonstrates that these metrics exclude most of the U.S. Census Tracts in which the vast majority (75% or more) of respondents self-identified Hispanic or Latino origin; and,

WHEREAS, the current socioeconomically disadvantaged areas map also demonstrates that these metrics all exclude certain low-income Census Tracts in which residents experience substantial segregation based on income (ex., exclusion from other groups of varying income levels within the same neighborhood); and,

WHEREAS, the current socioeconomically disadvantaged areas map also demonstrates that certain neighborhoods in which income levels may be moderate, but residents may face segregation, lack of economic opportunity, or other hurdles excluding them from City development based on race or ethnic origin; predominance of certain occupations or industries of employment; and educational attainment; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the inclusion of metrics focusing on income and poverty is crucial to ensuring equitable economic development in Chicago via a policy of addressing socioeconomically disadvantaged areas, and that additional social factors impact economic opportunity across much of the City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that we, the City Council gathered on the 13th of December, 2023, call for a hearing on socioeconomically disadvantaged areas (SEDA), to assess the following matters:

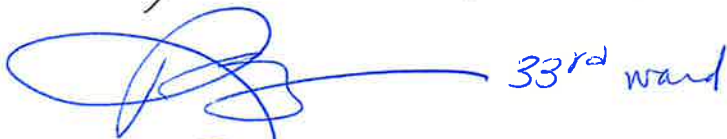
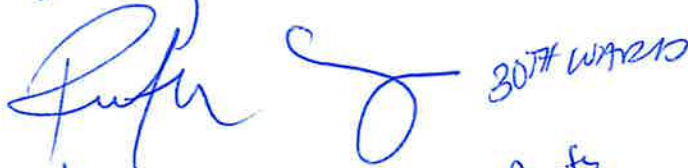
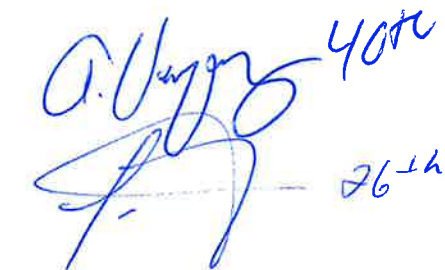
- (1) The success of the City in implementing SEDA policy in its economic development initiatives.
- (2) The varying types of racial, economic, and income segregation evident in Chicago based on contemporary U.S. Census data.
- (3) The definitions and viability of U.S. Census categories used to create the current SEDA map.
- (4) The viability of expanding the definition of U.S. Census categories, or other data, to expand the SEDA map.



Daniel La Spata
Alderman, 1st Ward



Gilbert Villegas
Alderman, 36th Ward

 31st Ward 33rd Ward 30th Ward 25th Ward 40th 14th 12th