R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago proudly recognizes the Peoples Gas North Shop Field Service Center, located on Peterson Avenue, for winning the "Best Presentation" award in Project Windows 2026, an annual window display competition held by the Art Institute of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council has been informed of this milestone by the Honorable Samantha Nugent, Alderwoman of the 39th Ward; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 2012, Project Windows has expanded from 20 participants to 91, now spanning 42 neighborhoods across the City and inviting local artists to create works displayed in local businesses, libraries, and community spaces, with this year's theme being inspired by the Art Institute's Willem de Kooning Drawing exhibition; and

WHEREAS, Willem de Kooning Drawing is on display through September 20, 2026, and is the first exhibition to explore the wide range of art created by the distinguished Abstract Expressionist leader, marking the museum's first solo presentation of the artist's work since 1969; and

WHEREAS, established as the Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company in 1849, Peoples Gas has provided natural gas to Chicago customers for over 175 years and currently serves 830,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers within the City; and

WHEREAS, since establishing its premier Field Service Center in the historic Peterson-Pulaski Industrial Corridor to centralize utility operations for the City's North Side, the Peoples Gas North Shop's state-of-the-art design anchors the Sauganash neighborhood with sweeping expanses of modern glass façade, striking masonry, and a six-bay service facility; and

WHEREAS, visionary local artist Cyd Smillie drew inspiration from Willem de Kooning's legendary abstract expressionist works to create the award-winning custom glass murals featuring various shades of blues and greens that enliven the facility's windows along Peterson Avenue for the Art Institute of Chicago's Project Windows 2026; and

WHEREAS, by blending Cyd Smillie's creative interpretation of Willem de Kooning's works with Peoples Gas North Shop Field Service Center's forward-thinking architectural design, the murals demonstrate the creative possibilities of Project Windows by transforming a working utility facility into a vibrant setting for contemporary art; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, do hereby congratulate Peoples Gas North Shop Field Service Center and Cyd Smillie on winning the "Best Presentation" award in Project Windows 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Peoples Gas North Shop Field Service Center and Cyd Smillie as a sign of our admiration, appreciation, and best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

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SAMANTHA NUGENT
Alderwoman 39th Ward