



March 7, 2018
Alderman Brendan Reilly
City Hall
121 N. LaSalle, 3rd floor
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: SOAR Position- Aerial Cable Cars over Riverwalk

Dear Alderman Reilly,

SOAR has been informed of the proposal to develop an Aerial Cable Car network along the new Riverwalk on the south side of the River from Franklin St. to Navy Pier. We do not support this project for many reasons and ask that you oppose these planning efforts in support of residents.

There has been significant progress in the improvement of the Riverwalk. Residents as well as tourists and employees enjoy their experiences along the River. The proposed aerial cable cars will negatively impact the residents living along the river and the Riverwalk experience. Residents living on both sides of the River would have cable cars traveling by their windows imposing on their quality of life and privacy. The Riverwalk experience will also be negatively impacted as it would be necessary to install large tower platforms for cable supports, stations, the cables and 17 story steel supports. These obstacles would negatively impact the limited Riverwalk space and obstruct pedestrian traffic along the Riverwalk.

Additional issues with this proposal are:

- The negative impact of Chicago's architectural beauty along the River
- The negative impact to the Riverwalk businesses by elevating the tourists over the Riverwalk instead of experiencing it.
- In the event this project is abandoned after being constructed, the steel poles and cables will remain and create an unsightly experience along the Riverwalk, adjoining buildings and businesses. Abandoned empty cable cars could create a dangerous situation as well.
- Cable Cars traveling overhead will impact the enjoyment of those who travel along the Riverwalk and create a carnival type atmosphere.
- The strong winds along the River canyon would be a concern for those on the Riverwalk as well as those in the cable cars.
- The other cities around the world that have been used as examples of Aerial Cable Cars are not of the caliber of the City of Chicago.

SOAR strongly opposes the proposal for Aerial Cable Cars. We request your support in opposition to these proposed plans as they negatively impact the quality of life in Streeterville for residents, businesses, and stakeholders.

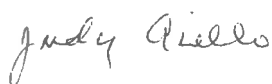
Streeterville Organization of Active Residents

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you in the future. If there are updates to any of the plans for this project, we respectfully request to be notified.

Sincerely,



Deborah Gershbein
President



Judy Aiello
Co-Chair Land Use and Development



Gail Spreen
Co-Chair Land Use and Development

cc: SOAR Board of Directors

Robert Kearney, Alderman Reilly's Office

Gabby Hart, Alderman Reilly's Office

Tom Coffee, Haymarket

Trina Janes, Haymarket

Joe Deal Mayor's Chief of Staff

David Reynolds, Commissioner of Fleet & Facilities Management

Rebekah Scheinfeld, CDOT Commissioner

David Reifman, Commissioner of Planning & Development

Margaret Frisbie, Executive Director, Friends of the Chicago River