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February 21, 2018

Via Email: ward49@cityofchicago.org

Alderman Joseph Moore
Chicago's 49th Ward
Chairman, City Council Committee on
Housing & Real Estate
7356 North Greenview Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Via Email: office@ward42chicago.com

Alderman Brendan Reilly
Chicago's 42 Ward
325 West Huron, Suite 510
Chicago, Illinois 60654

RE: Proposed Development along the Chicago Riverwalk

Dear Alderman Moore & Alderman Reilly:

After many years of coordinated efforts, the Chicago River is once again a wonderful natural asset for the City; an inviting attraction for residents and visitors; and a recognized gem for its aesthetics and amenities. We recognize and appreciate the delicate balance of increasing the revenue from the Riverwalk to support the public infrastructure investments while maintaining a family oriented attraction.

SOAR has reviewed the recent proposals by Urban Kayaks and Island Party Hut and we are very concerned about the potential impact that both of these projects present for the community. We thank Ald. Reilly and his staff for arranging and participating in a meeting on February 8, 2018, with representatives of 2FM; SOAR; RiverView Condominiums; Urban Kayak and Island Party Hut. In addition, the proposed projects have been reviewed by the SOAR Land Use & Development Committee (February 8, 2018) and the SOAR Board. The SOAR Board discussed these proposals at their February 20, 2018, board meeting. The Board voted not to support these proposals without Urban Kayak and Island Party Hut sufficiently addressing the concerns of the community and neighboring stakeholders including the following:

- **Design of both buildings that have the highest architectural design and features**
The design should be reviewed and approved by Alderman Reilly
- **The separation of the Restaurant/Bar area from the Riverwalk area**
The standards used for sidewalk cafes should be imposed so that individuals walking the Riverwalk do not feel as if they are walking through a bar

Streeterville Organization of Active Residents

- **Consistent monitoring of the sound from the music & noise from the party boats and entertainment areas**
Monitoring prior to the opening of each venue from the NORTH side of the river so that the residents of the RiverView Condominiums are not impacted
- **Design venue with appropriate acoustical panels to mitigate the sound to the area**
- **Conduct a Tree Survey before any trees are removed identifying only diseased trees**
Eliminate the least number of trees and each entity should replace each tree removed with a tree of similar size
- **Restrict size and number of signs**
- **Limited seating outside-**
 - Outdoor seating should be less than indoor seating
- **No stages for music and/or dancing**
Sound speakers should not face north
- **Eliminate any blocking of access to the Bridge houses and require that each entity contribute annually to the restoration/maintenance of the Bridge houses.**

We thank the Aldermen and the Committee for the opportunity to present SOAR's concerns and we are available to work with the representatives of the City, 2FM, Urban Kayak and Island Party Hut to achieve our mutual goals.

Sincerely,



Deborah Gershbein, President SOAR



Gail Spreen, Co-Chair Land Use & Development Committee

Judith Aiello-Fantus, Co-Chair Land Use & Development Committee