



## SOAR Position Statement

January 21, 2019

To: SOAR Members  
Community Stakeholders

Re: Dave and Busters Water Tower Proposal

SOAR had major concerns when it was announced that Dave & Busters Entertainment was seeking to relocate from their approximate 10,000 square feet of space on Clark Street to a 42,000 square foot facility in Water Tower Place in Streeterville. SOAR communicated these concerns about the impact of this use upon our community to Alderman Hopkins. Subsequently, SOAR and Alderman Hopkins convened a community meeting on December 18, 2018, to seek the input of the community regarding the proposed use. At that time, the community heard a presentation from representatives of Brookfield Development (Management Company of Water Tower Place) and several corporate representatives of Dave & Busters. SOAR'S primary concerns were the proposed hours of operation and anti-social behavior inside and outside of Dave & Buster's current location which were communicated to Alderman Hopkins and Brookfield Development prior to the community meeting. SOAR sought additional information from the Chicago Police Department regarding criminal incidents in the immediate vicinity of the current Dave & Busters. The criminal statistics at the current location substantiated our concerns.

At the community meeting, there was overwhelming opposition to the proposed move to Water Tower Place primarily based upon the proposed hours of operation and the incidents where conduct necessitated calling the Chicago Police Department. SOAR also received many calls and emails from members and community stakeholders in Streeterville.

The SOAR Board of Directors discussed the matter at the January Board meeting and unanimously voted to recommend to Alderman Hopkins that he deny all the licensing requests from Dave & Buster's. We appreciate that Alderman Hopkins heard the concerns of the residents of Streeterville and concurred with the recommendation of SOAR that Streeterville was not the appropriate location for a greatly expanded Dave & Busters.

**Streeterville Organization of Active Residents**

SOAR strives to listen to and work with the community to maintain the highest quality of life for all residents of Streeterville. In this effort, we persevered in SOAR's mission to preserve, promote and enhance the quality of life in Streeterville. SOAR sees Streeterville as a very unique mixed use community with luxury high rises, world class institutions, exceptional retail and commercial uses. SOAR knows that this community must maintain that delicate balance of uses and we take our task very seriously to protect the neighborhood. We thank all of the community stakeholders for their help every day.

Sincerely,

The SOAR Board of Directors

cc: Alderman Brian Hopkins, City Hall,  
121 N.LaSalle St. Room 200, Chicago, IL 60602

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