



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority and Navy Pier have received and continue to receive significant support from the taxpayers, residents, and businesses of the City; and

WHEREAS, a substantial segment of the support given to the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority and to Navy Pier has come and continues to come from taxpayers, residents, and businesses associated with communities comprised in large part by minorities and women; and

WHEREAS, both the bases of Navy Pier's operations and the bases of the compensation received by the former representatives of the Authority who now manage Navy Pier have been and continue to be public debt and public commitment secured and given by the taxpayers, residents, and businesses of the City;

WHEREAS, at the time that the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority spun-off operations at Navy Pier, the Authority and those representatives of the Authority who now manage and derive significant compensation from Navy Pier assured City taxpayers, residents, and businesses that the Authority's commitment to minority and women-owned businesses would continue unabated, including with respect to operations, projects, and construction at Navy Pier; and

WHEREAS, in a current and major construction project associated with renovations of Navy Pier, Navy Pier orchestrated an alignment of contracts and subcontracts, which realignment resulted in many of the minority and woman-owned businesses who had committed to and undertaken significant work on the project not being paid, and are possibly facing dire financial circumstances that could threaten their financial viability; and

WHEREAS, based on reports received, it has become apparent that purchases and projects associated with Navy Pier are not resulting in the participation of minority and woman-owned businesses to any measurable or meaningful degree; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that its bases of support have been and continue to be public debt and public commitment secured and given by the taxpayers, residents, and businesses of the City, Navy Pier continues its pattern of not being transparent and open regarding its operations and affairs; now therefore

Be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Chicago:

That no later than November 30, 2016, the Finance Committee hold a public hearing regarding the compensation due and owing minority, woman, and small businesses who tendered goods and services to Navy Pier during and as a part of the Navy Pier renovations; and the level and quality of participation of minority and woman-owned businesses in Navy Pier's operations, projects, and constructions from the time that the operations of Navy Pier were taken over by and those representatives of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority who now manage and derive significant compensation from Navy Pier; and

Be it Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Chicago:

That in the event Navy Pier does not cooperate with the aforementioned hearing or does not provide the information sought in advance of or through said hearing, the City Council take further and additional action to gather relevant information from Navy Pier and other sources.

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