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Ely Chapter Newsletter

HAPPENING THIS MONTH

SALON DINNER: AN EQUITABLE PATH FORWARD

Wednesday, April 19
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

This event is almost sold out! A waitlist will open on a first come basis.

Don't miss this opportunity to attend one of the Chapter's favorite events! **Register today for one of the few remaining spots.** A member's home will serve as an intimate backdrop for an engaging conversation about land economics. Share diverse perspectives, connect over dinner, and cultivate a sense of community.

New to LAI? The Salon is a great way to meet other members in a small group setting. In addition to city locations, new for this year are host locations in Evanston and Oak Park.

[Register Now](#)



UPCOMING EVENT

MAY 2023 CHAPTER LUNCHEON

Catalyzing Economic Growth Through Tactical Urbanism

Wednesday, May 17

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy

In June 2020, at the height of the pandemic and in the wake of civil unrest, a group of architects, planners, and designers came together with the goal of helping communities on the city's South and West sides re-open during challenging times. The result was two public interventions – 75th Street Boardwalk and POPCourts!. The success of these two projects led to the Public Outdoor Plazas (POP) Program, along with ten additional plazas, which sought to activate vacant lots on commercial corridors through Tactical Urbanism.

Tactical Urbanism (n): An approach to neighborhood building that uses short-term, low-cost, and scalable interventions to catalyze long-term change.

The Mayor's Office and Department of Planning and Development (DPD) are developing the next iteration of the POP Program with a focus on vacant storefronts. The goal is to use the same Tactical Urbanism strategies to catalyze economic growth along these corridors.

The success of the POP Program and its expansion suggest that tactical urbanism could be employed in

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Speaker LineUp

- Mary O'Connor, Deputy Commissioner, City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development
- Ernie Wong, Principal & President, Site Design Group, Ltd.
- Katanya Raby, Vice President, Planning & Development, Far South Community Development Corp.
- Alan Barker, Principal, Lamar Johnson Collaborative (Moderator)

Registration closes May 10 at 4:00 PM.

[Register Now](#)

This is a terrific opportunity to bring a guest so they can make connections and discover the great value of LAI Ely Chapter membership. **Remember, the chapter requires prospective members to attend two events minimum to be eligible for nomination.**

SAVE THE DATES

CHAUTAUQUA

Friday, June 16
7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

We're heading to Northwest Indiana!

Join us for the first-ever Chautauqua in Northwest Indiana! Spend the day with us and learn first-hand how Northwest Indiana's economic future is poised for significant growth through intentional cross-agency and jurisdictional collaborations. In addition to walking tours, regional leaders will be discussing the region's economy, infrastructure, transit-oriented development, industry, and natural resources.

The day will include round-trip transportation, walking tours, meals, and happy hour.

Registration is estimated to open on April 10

NOTE: Registration will be exclusively available to members exclusively for the first month, and then the event registration will be open to member guests.

AN EQUITABLE PATH FORWARD PANEL DISCUSSION

Wednesday, July 19
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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Registration will open soon.

[Background Information](#)

SEPTEMBER 2023 CHAPTER LUNCHEON

Wednesday, September 20

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy

Registration will open soon.

NOVEMBER 2023 CHAPTER LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 15

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy

Registration will open soon.

CHAPTER NEWS

Our March Luncheon event featured Christian Beaudoin (Managing Director, Research & Strategy, JLL), Kate Waimey Timmerman (CEO, Chicago Quantum Exchange) and Michael Fassnacht (President & CEO, World Business Chicago) talking about the opportunities in quantum technology as a catalyst for growth for our city and region.

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New Member Nominations Now Open!

The Ely Chapter of Lambda Alpha International is seeking nominations for new members. If you know of a highly accomplished leader who represents the diverse professional disciplines related to land economics, please consider sponsoring a candidate for membership.

Nomination will be accepted at any time prior to July 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. deadline. Early submissions are strongly encouraged.

MEMBER NEWS



Congratulations to LAI-Ely chapter member Katanya Raby who was recently promoted to Vice President of Planning and Development at the Far South CDC.

Raby started at Far South CDC as the Director of Planning in 2021 and she immediately enhanced the department with the development of the 21,780 square foot POP! Heights Park. This development is the first public outdoor park along South Halsted in Roseland in more than 50 years. Additionally, through Raby's previous work with the City of Chicago Mayor's Office, she paved the way for Far South CDC to receive its first nine percent Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) allocation to build 286 units of mixed-income housing in East Morgan Park.

In her new role, Raby is leading the way for the Far South CDC's expansion into large-scale real estate development and regional planning with its "Bringing Communities Back Initiative" (BCBI), which seeks to redevelop more than one million square feet of vacant and abandoned properties on Chicago's far south side and south suburban Cook County.

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Any Achievements or Notices to Share?

We want to promote your professional accomplishments, speaking engagements, work projects, and other news with the chapter. Information shared with us will be posted to the Ely Chapter website, and can be sent to support@ely-chicago.org.

Keep Your LAI Profile Up to Date

Log in to the members-only portal on the [Lambda Alpha International](#) website to keep business and contact information up to date and to check if your dues are current.

If you need assistance, contact Ely Chapter staff at support@ely-chicago.org or call 773.804.8592.

Follow the Ely Chapter LinkedIn Page

As members of Lambda Alpha International, we want to share events, recognize member achievements, showcase our amazing speakers, and thank our sponsors. Follow the Ely Chapter's [LinkedIn](#) page to make sure you don't miss out on anything!

GET INVOLVED

Speakers Bureau

The LAI Ely Chapter Speakers Bureau is an initiative to bring the Ely Chapter and its members to the forefront as a land economics resource for those outside of LAI.

If you are a speaker and have interest in being a voice for the advancement of land economics please visit the [Speakers Bureau](#) page or email support@ely-chicago.org for more information. If you are ready to apply, please submit your [application](#) online.

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