From:	Bernard Loyd
To:	Lavin, Jack
Cc:	Ken Dunkin; Jacqueline Collins; Will Q. Davis; Kamis, John; Barnett, Sara; Tsadakeeyah Emmanuel
Subject:	Follow-up on Bronzeville Cookin" Food Desert initative
Date:	Wednesday, October 06, 2010 2:40:30 PM
Attachments:	test.jpg ATT3466301.htm Bronzeville Cookin'™ project summary.pdf ATT3466303.htm Community Benefits Summary.pdf ATT3466305.htm 100602 Simmering in Bronzeville - Sun-Times.pdf ATT3466307.htm
Importance:	High

Jack,

Per your request at Governor's Quinn press conference this morning, I am attaching three pieces of information about the Bronzeville Cookin' project:

1. An electronic copy of the brief project overview that I provided you this morning
2. A summary of community benefits
3. A recent Sun Times article about the project

Bronzeville Cookin' will create 4 restaurants and a fresh produce store at 51st Street and the CTA Green Line in order to provide healthy food and over 140 jobs to our community. We have purchased the site; leadership teams for the culinary venues are in place; we have completed architectural plans; and, we have selected a general contractor. We have received enthusiastic support from our alderman, state representative, state senator, congressman, and the City of Chicago; and, the City Council recently approved $3M in Tax Increment Financing support for the project. However, we are unable to move forward at this time due to a financing gap of $1.4 - $1.8M of the $9+ million project.

We are interested in exploring several state financing opportunities:

1. The Fresh Food Fund.
2. Use of state New Markets Tax Credits, which currently appear to be accessible only to projects that already have all the needed capital in place.
3. Use of DCEO's Participation Loan Program to help finance the culinary venues.
4. Business development/job creation funds within the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative.

We would appreciate your help in exploring these and any other state support opportunities that will help us bring good food and legitimate economic opportunity to Bronzeville.

I'd be happy to provide additional information about the project. Some information is also available at our web site, www.urban-juncture.com. In addition, we recently opened the nearby Bronzeville Community Garden, which serves as a key neighborhood outreach platform for our broader effort and for which information can be found at www.facebook.com/pages/Chicago-IL/Bronzeville-Community-Garden/116547401698902.

Thanks for your help.

Bernard
773 [redacted] (c)

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