



April 15, 2012

The Honorable Tom Tunney  
Alderman, 44<sup>th</sup> Ward  
City of Chicago  
1057 W. Belmont Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60657

Re: Proposed LVCC Positions and Recommendations of Record Regarding Night Events/Concerts at Wrigley Field

Dear Alderman Tunney:

As you are aware, Lakeview Citizens Council (“LVCC”) represents eleven (11) neighborhoods within various wards in Lakeview. The purpose of LVCC is to promote and address quality of life issues within its boundaries. LVCC provides a forum for discussion, activities and actions for the common good of the community. LVCC provides assistance, training and information on community resources and events or activities that affect the Lakeview community.

Wrigley Field is within the area represented by LVCC Branch Members. Wrigley Field is a venue enjoyed by both residents and tourists. The Lakeview community is impacted by baseball games and other major events at Wrigley Field, particularly night baseball and night concerts that occur at Wrigley Field. These events may result in significant quality of life issues for area residents. LVCC shares the concern of area residents and businesses that a proper system of Neighborhood Protections is put into place.

Accordingly, LVCC, which includes representatives from the Cubs, has developed the following recommendations related to night events at Wrigley Field.

- Based on the definition of “events” under Chicago Municipal Code Section 4-156-430(a) (“athletic contests at night and on weekday afternoons; restrictions”), “night events” are defined in this letter as events which accommodate more than fifteen thousand (15,000) patrons at Wrigley Field and which take place between the hours of 8:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m. during the Major League Baseball season and are not Major League Baseball games. LVCC recommends events under fifteen thousand (15,000) patrons or outside the MLB season no longer qualify as night events.
- The maximum number of night games which are currently authorized under the Wrigley Field Neighborhood Protection Plan is thirty (30) night games. Each year, the Cubs initially schedule approximately twenty-seven (27) night games. They set aside up to three (3) night games each season to allow for MLB or a national television network to reschedule a day game to a night game, so there are not more than thirty (30) total night games. LVCC recommends flexibility with respect to the Cubs being allowed to initially schedule thirty (30) night games total, with the potential to allow MLB or a national television network to reschedule up to three (3) day games as night games for up to a total of thirty three (33) night games each season.

- LVCC recommends the Cubs have four (4) night events at Wrigley Field without restriction each year (i.e., there is no restriction as to the day of week the event is held). If the Cubs hold more than four (4) night events, not to exceed a total of six (6) night events, the Cubs will be required to eliminate a night game from the current or next year's schedule, depending on the time of the baseball season, for each additional night event beyond the four (4) allotted night events.
- A financial contribution from the Cubs to the Lakeview Community will be made to offset any inconveniences experienced by residents and businesses of Lakeview. The Cubs shall make a financial contribution for each of the four (4) additional night events using the following formula: a minimum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) per event with a maximum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) per season. These funds are to be spent on identified community projects that will be determined on an annual basis upon mutual agreement of LVCC and the Cubs. The goal is to identify a series of projects that can be completed within the calendar year.

### **Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic and Related Parking Controls,**

- A standard non baseball/event traffic and parking control plan should be developed by the City with input from LVCC.
- An adequate area for patrons to safely exit Wrigley Field at the end of any night event needs to be in place. A minimum of a single traffic lane in addition to the sidewalk should be maintained at all times for pedestrians on Sheffield (3600 block) and Waveland (1000 block) Avenues adjacent to Wrigley Field.
- Concert fans picnicking "Ravinia-style" on blankets or lawn chairs need to be dispersed at the end of the night event.
- Accommodations are needed for drop-offs and loading by taxis, limousines, and pedicabs. If the plan involves the use of the curb parking lanes, it is important the parking restriction used to establish the drop-off and loading be strictly enforced. (This has not been the case at past concerts.)
- There should be a single police coordinator responsible for the coordination of traffic control and enforcement activities at night concerts and that person should be available through the police Command Center. In past years, such a police coordinator was a Lieutenant in charge of the Police Detail Unit.

### **Neighborhood Parking Controls including Zone 383 Resident Parking,**

- There should be strict towing enforcement of all parking controls that are necessary for the safety of our community. This includes illegal parking at fire hydrants, driveways, and in alleys.
- There should be the tow enforcement of the Zone 383 resident parking where applicable. We believe the towing restrictions could be posted through the use of paper signs posted at the expense of the Cubs. We recommend the Cubs post a warning on the concert tickets and on any concert promotion (websites, advertising, posters, etc.) that there is no street parking in the neighborhood except for residents and that violators will be ticketed and towed
- LVCC recommends some portion of the money from the financial contributions from the Cubs be used to change the neighborhood parking signage from "Cubs Night Games Tow Zone 5 to 10 PM" to "Cubs Night Events Tow Zone 5 to 10 PM".

## **Neighborhood Protections**

The same protections that were previously delineated in the Wrigley Field Neighborhood Protection Plan should apply to all of the items discussed in this letter.

In addition, there were previous directives for the police department to provide a report detailing police activities associated with the concerts within one hundred twenty (120) days of the last musical performance. This report should include input from all involved City Departments and the Cubs. Such a report would permit LVCC to properly evaluate the impact of the additional night events on our community. To the best of our knowledge, such a report has not been prepared for past night events. We recommend that directive be followed and adhered to.

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Board.

Sincerely,

SIGNATURE ON ORIGINAL COPY

William DeMille  
Vice-President  
Lake View Citizens Council