



MEDIA ADVISORY

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South Side Alderman Calls on Community Leaders to Support Completion of the South Suburban Airport at Saturday News Conference

Two reports in as many weeks show the ongoing investment disparities that black communities experience. In a report released by Northwestern University, *A Penny on the Dollar: Racial Inequalities in Wealth among Households with Children*, it reveals the wealth gap between Black and white families has widened since the Great Recession of 2008. Astonishingly, for every dollar a white family has, black families have only one-cent.

In another report on lending disparities, *Where Banks Don't Lend – 2012 – 2018*, it shows for every dollar banks loan in white neighborhoods, only 12-cents goes into black neighborhoods. Chase Bank, which is the second largest lender in loan dollars made only three loans in the Black middle-class community of Chatham over a six-year period. The giant lender made loans totaling \$1 million in the South Side communities of Englewood and West Englewood, while at the same time investing \$800 million in Lincoln Park.

This ongoing disinvestment is also why South Side communities have the largest population losses in the city. West Englewood, Englewood, Auburn Gresham and Roseland have lost more than 75,000 residents since 1990.

To stop the exodus of residents, create jobs, attract businesses, stop the violence and generate a tax base, 17th Ward Alderman David Moore says the South Side must support a project that will help to transform communities like his. **That is why he is officially announcing his support of the South Suburban Airport near University Park at a news conference, Saturday, June 27, at 10 a.m., Auburn Gresham Metra Stop, 79th and Lowe Streets.**

“In 2015, I ran on economic development that takes a regional approach. This is not an either/or, but an “and/both,” said Ald. Moore. “We need to throw everything we have at the South Side to address the myriad problems residents are facing. The South Suburban Airport is 90% complete and community leaders need to support its completion.”

South Side residents have some of the longest daily commutes in the nation. Moore is choosing the proposed Auburn Gresham Metra stop to show how transportation, infrastructure investments and connecting residents to jobs will make it possible for them to stay in place.

“These are the kinds of investments that need to take place on the South Side to create jobs, connect residents to jobs, allow people to stay in their own communities and create community wealth through investments in their homes, businesses, schools and families,” explains Moore.

The alderman is asking community leaders to imagine the Auburn Gresham Metra stop, the Redline extension, the Metra Electric Line extension from Governors State University to the South Suburban Airport and completion of the airport taking place all at the same time.

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