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COMPLETE

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Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Brandon R. Evans
Organization (if any):	Center for Neighborhood Technology
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60602

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

Cook County Finance Committee FY 2025 Executive Budget Recommendation Public Hearing (Morning Hearing) 10/17/2024 10a

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

24-5641

Q4

What do you want to do?

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Good morning, members of the Cook County Finance Committee. My name is Brandon Evans, and through my role with the Center for Neighborhood Technology, I currently work with Cook County's Department of Environmental Sustainability to implement the RainReady Calumet program in six of Cook County's south suburban communities. This program installs vital green infrastructure in these southland communities, providing much-needed flood mitigation solutions for residents.

I'd like to speak in support of the Department of Environmental Sustainability and its impact on our most vulnerable populations. Through the RainReady program, we are working directly with municipalities and residents that have long struggled with chronic flooding and water management issues, particularly in lower-income neighborhoods where the resources to address these problems are often limited.

Without the department's support, these residents would have limited access to the green infrastructure that helps prevent flooding, such as permeable pavements, rain gardens, and other nature-based solutions. These elements are not just environmental upgrades—they are vital tools that protect homes, improve public health, and enhance the overall quality of life for people who have historically been underserved.

Programs like RainReady, with the support of departments like DES, help make communities more resilient in the face of climate change and are crucial for closing the equity gap in flood prevention efforts. I urge the committee to continue supporting the Department of Environmental Sustainability and programs like RainReady, which directly improve the lives of Cook County residents. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brandon R. Evans

Manager, Outreach and Engagement

Center For Neighborhood Technology

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Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Board or Committee live (virtually or in-person), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

Q8

No

If addressing the Board or Committee live (in-person or virtually), do you require translation services?

Q9 **Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, which language do you need translated?
