



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

New Items Agenda

Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 11:00 AM

17-3227

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**URGING SUBURBAN-NEIGHBORHOOD INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS**

WHEREAS, Cook County is the largest County in Illinois and is home to 5.2 million people and 132 municipalities; and

WHEREAS, many of those municipalities are thriving and flourishing with resources and economic development; and

WHEREAS, there are, unfortunately, many others that struggle attracting economic development and are instead stricken with poverty and violence; and

WHEREAS, there are at least nine neighborhoods in the city of Chicago where unemployment is above 20 percent; and

WHEREAS, jobless rates for teens ages 16 to 19 in Austin stand at 91 percent, in Englewood they are 89 percent, and in Greater Grand Crossing they are 91.8 percent, according to the University of Illinois at Chicago's Great Cities Institute Study; and

WHEREAS, that study found jobless rates among young adults ages 20 to 24 in Austin are 59 percent, in Englewood they are 67 percent, and in Greater Grand Crossing they are 66 percent; and

WHEREAS, the best anti-poverty, anti-crime program is a job; and

WHEREAS, a strong Chicago is in the best interest of surrounding suburban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, several suburban communities have attracted manufacturing jobs and have job available signs up; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners encourages suburban municipalities to adopt a neighborhood in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, we encourage actions that will lead to the breaking down of imaginary walls that have been created; and

WHEREAS, we encourage collaboration around building the economy of the neighborhood in the city, sharing of ideas regarding ways to boost the local economy, sharing and collaborations of park districts, the mentoring of young people in neighborhoods and collaboration with the schools; and

WHEREAS, these relationships between communities should involve elected officials, community

leaders, chambers of commerce, business leaders, and residents of the communities; and

WHEREAS, rebuilding communities that have suffered years of disinvestment will benefit other communities across Cook County; and

WHEREAS, all residents of Cook County should work together to benefit their neighbors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that municipalities across the County are encouraged to work with neighborhoods suffering from violence and a lack of economic development.