

South East Chicago Commission Awarded 2-Year Grant Renewal from City of Chicago For Neighborhood Business Development Center (NBDC)

CHICAGO (January 2019) - The South East Chicago Commission (SECC) is thrilled to announce a renewed 2-year grant partnership with the City of Chicago for SECC's Neighborhood Business Development Center for the second consecutive year. This funding will help SECC provide technical assistance and build capacity of businesses within its five-community footprint on the Southeast lakefront communities of Hyde Park, Kenwood, Oakland, Washington Park and Woodlawn.

“The City of Chicago’s investment will allow us to continue to provide valuable resources to neighborhood businesses, enhance business corridors with strategic activation and ultimately increase the foot traffic, local hiring and spending in the region.” said SECC Executive Director Diane Burnham.

SECC’s Business District Program activities include:

- Conducting business consultations with small businesses looking to start up or grow, help refer businesses to financial counseling, business planning, access to training and resources, and applying for City licenses and permits.
- Facilitating skills development for small businesses such as marketing City programs, arranging for local experts to speak at workshops, and hosting networking events.
- Providing economic development support in business corridors (e.g., helping to fill storefront vacancies and marketing TIF programs and projects).
- Playing an active role in driving neighborhood safety efforts by convening small businesses and Chicago Police Department (CPD)/Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) representatives.
- Organizing Small Business Saturday events and activities.

About the [South East Chicago Commission](#)

The mission of the SECC is to facilitate and support economic development within the Southeast lakefront communities of Hyde Park, Kenwood, Oakland, Washington Park and Woodlawn and to foster collaboration and coordination among businesses, organizations and institutions to promote the creation of jobs, investment and economic vitality.

About [Neighborhood Business Development Centers](#)

The City of Chicago Neighborhood Business Development Centers (NBDCs) include chambers of commerce and business organizations that have a strong network that is capable of assisting businesses via coordinated efforts with local aldermen, the City, and other community partners. They help implement the City’s Neighborhood Small Business Growth Strategy.