



**Woodlawn Residents to Host the 13th Annual Woodlawn Community Summit:  
“Stronger Together” on Saturday June 11, 2022**

CHICAGO (June 2022) - The Woodlawn Community Summit and South East Chicago Commission (SECC) will host the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Woodlawn Community Summit on Saturday June 11, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Coffee reception begins at 8:00 a.m. followed by the program which starts at 9:00 a.m. The event will be held at the University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, 969 E. 60th Street Chicago, IL 60637. The goal of the Summit is to bring together residents, business owners, and stakeholders to create a united vision to strengthen and develop Woodlawn including the surrounding communities.

“The past two years have been very trying for us all.” stated Elizabeth Gardner, Summit Co-founder, “We hope this event will allow everyone to learn more about the exciting opportunities which lie ahead for all communities of color. This event allows for everyone to provide input providing honest conversation in order to drive change from a grassroots level.”

The main session will focus on Economic Development and the plans for a “Stronger Southside.” Special guest panelists include Samir Mayekar, Deputy Mayor, Economic and Neighborhood Development for the City of Chicago; Maurice D. Cox, Commissioner, Department of Planning and Development (DPD) and Meida McNeal, Senior Manager, Arts & Community Impact Investments, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

Woodlawn Community Summit Lead Sponsor Associated Bank will continue to host the Housing session, which has been a critical topic in in the changing socio-economic landscape of Woodlawn.

“Housing is a main issue for many Woodlawn residents. Associated Bank has been able to provide much needed counseling, housing assistance and mortgages for residents who want to own homes within underrepresented communities.” stated Paula M. Grantt, Vice President, Associated Bank.

Other notable breakout sessions include a Safety discussion with Commander Roderick Watson from the 3rd District Chicago Police Department and new University of Chicago Police Department (UCPD) Police Chief Kyle Bowman, and a Sustainability session hosted by Woodlawn’s leading sustainability organization Founder Naomi Davis of Blacks in Green.

The Summit is led and organized by resident volunteers and has continued its growth since its inception in 2009. It is the largest event of its type on the South Side of Chicago. The Woodlawn Summit Advisory Committee includes professionals, residents and stakeholder who have worked tirelessly to deliver an insightful program designed to ensure resident and stakeholder participation. Visit [www.woodlawns summit.com](http://www.woodlawns summit.com) for additional details.

13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**WOODLAWN COMMUNITY SUMMIT**

STRONGER TOGETHER | SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS**





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**About the [Woodlawn Community Summit](#)**

The Woodlawn Community Summit is a progressive initiative that drives the collaboration of neighbors, youth groups, elected leaders, business owners, and community stakeholders to promote the comprehensive growth and well-being of the Woodlawn community.

**About the [South East Chicago Commission](#)**

The mission of the South East Chicago Commission 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.

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