

Alliance of Chicago Rowing Organizations
c/o Chicago Training Center
P.O. Box 7076
Chicago, IL 60680-7076

February, 2007

Dear Supporter –

We need your help.

We are working with the Office of the Mayor to secure a site for rowing in Chicago. The site in consideration is on land being developed as a park at Eleanor Street in Bridgeport. The local rowing community is working together to develop the site for rowing for youth in Chicago. The following groups are all asking for you to spend five minutes of your time to sign the attached letter and return it to us for submission to the city:

- Big Shoulders Rowing Club;
- Chicago Training Center;
- Chicago Youth Rowing;
- Ignatius Chicago Crew;
- Lincoln Park Juniors;
- Lincoln Rowing; and,
- University of Chicago Crew.

Here is what we need you to do.

- o Complete the box at the bottom-right of this page for our records.
- o Review and sign the attached letter.
- o Check each of the applicable boxes on the bottom-right of the attached letter.
- o Return this page and the attached letter to us at:
Chicago Training Center, P.O. Box 7076, Chicago, IL 60680-7076.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Montana Butsch
Executive Director
Chicago Training Center

CTC-00

Name:

Address:

City, ST, Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Office of The Mayor
Room 406, City Hall
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Date:

Dear Mayor Daley –

As you are aware, inner city youth face a number of daunting challenges. As you may know, several local non-profit organizations are using the sport of rowing to help youth in Chicago face some of these challenges, including:

- Awareness and access to post-secondary education;
- Addressing the financial burden of post-secondary education;
- Learning to apply time management and teamwork skills for success;
- Establishing discipline in their lives, including their schoolwork;
- Networking with successful role models; and,
- Overcoming the growing threat of obesity and a lack of physical fitness.

It turns out that The Chicago Training Center and an alliance of local rowing clubs are working together to apply and further develop a model program for bringing the health, mental and inter-disciplinary skills of the sport of rowing to the youth in our city

The national organization for rowing, USRowing, and its members are committed to increasing access to the sport and have a task force in place to bring rowing to at-risk youth. Chicago has the natural resources, and with local alliance of rowing organizations, dedicated individuals ready to bring this program to the youth in our community. The greatest impediment we face, as a recent survey of 500 stakeholders confirms, is ready access to a river-based facility in the community.

It has come to my attention that the original launching site used by a number of Chicago rowing organizations, on the south branch of the Chicago River, is in the process of remediation and will be available to the City of Chicago. I strongly urge you to consider working with the resources our city can bring to bear to help ensure that a facility is developed at the confluence of Bubbly Creek and the South Branch of the Chicago River for use in training and supporting our youth in the sport of rowing.

Sincerely,

Name:

Title:

CTC-00

Chicago Resident	☐
Resident of 11 th Ward	☐
Education Professional	☐
Clergy Member	☐
Member of Government	☐
Rowing Coach	☐
Rower	☐
Parent of Rower	☐
Other _____	☐