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4 Sections — 50 cents



A Good Neighbor on Bloomingdale

Developer Bruce A. Fogelson, president of Paramount Homes, recently won a Good Neighbor Award from the Chicago Board of Realtors for the Bloomingdale Avenue mural and the development of Bucktown View, a 33-residence new-construction condo project at 2342 W. Bloomingdale Ave. Fogelson hired local artists convert the concrete retaining wall of a railroad embankment along Bloomingdale into a neighborhood canvas. For more about Fogelson (and for a roundup of recent property sales in Bucktown, Wicker Park and other neighborhoods) turn to the Homes section on Section 3, Page 5.

Flores: City will appeal OK for McDonald's plan

By JACK BESS
Managing Editor

Following a meeting last week with around 75 Wicker Park residents, Ald. Manny Flores (1st) said that the city would appeal a Cook County judge's ruling that would allow McDonald's to build a restaurant at North and Bosworth.

McDonald's had earlier appealed an administrative decision of the city's Zoning Board of Appeals, which, on Feb. 19, 2002 rejected McDonald's application for a special use permit allowing it to open a drive-through window at the proposed restaurant.

But on May 6 of this year, Judge Nancy Arnold ruled that the ZBA's rejection "was against the manifest weight of the evidence and contrary to law," according to a court document.

The controversial proposal drew fire from some residents, saying that the fast-food restaurant's drive-through window

would entice motorists from the Kennedy Expressway, add to traffic congestion and make the streets less safe for pedestrians, especially children.

Those concerns were reiterated when Flores met with around 20 residents at an "emergency" community meeting Tuesday night, May 20 at Pulaski Park field house, 1419 W. Blackhawk, and again the following night, May 21, with the larger group of residents, where it was decided that the city would appeal Arnold's decision, according to a Flores aide.

After the May 20 meeting, East Village resident Howard Crawford said he feared that traffic would be a "total nightmare" if a drive-through service was created at the site.

"Coming down North Avenue, as it is there are a ton of accidents waiting to happen," he said.

A Bosworth Avenue resident

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