



Neighborhood Action Initiative-Back of the Yards Neighborhood

The intersection of 47th Street and Ashland Avenue has played a significant role in the continuing evolution of New City / Back of the Yards throughout its long history. The neighborhood is currently experiencing a renaissance of young entrepreneurs creating and promoting small, community based development. Chicago’s Invest South/West Initiative and the “Development Framework: 47th St and Ashland Ave” recommendations provide a path for the city and neighborhood to generate both public and private investment along the corridor. The recommendations leverage existing planning studies, market analysis and economic data, along with community engagement and input. The plan for the corridor considers both vacant and underdeveloped sites, with an emphasis on those that can be developed in a manner that provides benefit to both local residents and the emerging small, local business community... Building upon that fabric that already exists – complimenting existing neighborhood infrastructure – enhancing the community dynamic.

Team Leaders



Sarah Jacobson
Executive Director
The Lamar Johnson Collaborative



Cale Doornbos
Associate Principal
The Lamar Johnson Collaborative



Team Members



Malek Abdulsamad
Real Estate Consultant
Compass Commercial



Lynnette Slater Crandall
Director of Development of Finance
Landmark Development Services Company



Kekeli Dawes
Architectural Designer
The Lamar Johnson Collaborative



Anezka Gocova
Associate
The Lamar Johnson Collaborative



Sarah Disney Haufe
Associate, Deputy Director of Traffic Engineering
Sam Schwartz



Stacey Meekins
Principal & Director of Transportation Planning
Sam Schwartz



Tyler Meyr
Managing Director
The Lamar Johnson Collaborative



Stuart Zadra
Executive Vice President
Landmark Development Services Company



Kelly O'Brien
Executive Director
Chicago Central Area Committee