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MAYOR EMANUEL INTRODUCES ORDINANCE TO EXPAND LEASE FOR URBAN EDUCATION FARM

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today introduced an ordinance which would amend an existing lease agreement with Sweet Water Foundation to expand the operations of this urban educational farm. The original lease of what was then vacant land was passed by City Council in the summer of 2014.

Sweet Water Foundation is an education-based entity which combines mathematics, engineering, architecture and technology with food production initiatives to transform blighted areas and underutilized properties into viable sources of local food production. The foundation currently leases City property at 5700 S. Perry for an urban farm.

Under the proposed ordinance, their lease would be expanded to include additional parcels at 5749 S Perry, which includes a building that would provide the foundation with office space, meeting rooms and storage in support of the farm. Further, three other parcels at 45-47 W 57th Place and 5743 S Perry would be used for community gardening and demonstrations.

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