



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

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CONTACT:

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

press@cityofchicago.org

MAYOR EMANUEL ANNOUNCES RIVERWALK CONCESSIONS FOR 2018 SEASON

*A variety of dining, educational, cultural and recreational activities
to be available this summer*

The Chicago City Council today approved several measures that would enable six entities to operate on the Riverwalk under 10-year agreements.

"Further developing the Chicago Riverwalk will transform our downtown area and help to make the river the next great recreational frontier of the City of Chicago," Mayor Rahm Emanuel said. "We are excited that residents and visitors will have a variety of opportunities to relax, dine and enjoy the river this summer."

The Department of Fleet and Facility Management (2FM) has overseen the concession program since 2015. Building on the past success of Riverwalk vendors, 2FM issued an RFP for the Operations of Concessions on the Chicago Riverwalk in January of 2017. Proposals were due in March and were reviewed by an Evaluation Committee. Vendors making significant capital improvements and expanding their operations/offerings received 10-year agreements, which will improve the visitors' experience and allow the vendors to establish their destination.

The lineup of vendors will provide a variety of dining, educational, cultural and recreational activities along the entire waterfront stretch from Wells Street to Lake Shore Drive for the 2018 season. The exciting new lineup includes numerous dining options, live entertainment, kayaking, cruises, boat rentals and water taxis.

The following vendors were approved by City Council to operate for a ten year term with two possible five year extensions:

LOCATION: Lakeshore Drive to Michigan Avenue

Island Party Hut

Will offer island themed food and beverage as well as charter boat rentals

305 East Riverwalk South- between Field Drive and Columbus

www.islandpartyhut.com

Urban Kayaks & Cantina

Returning to the riverwalk, will offer kayak rental and guided tours. New to their operations is the inclusion of food and beverage

435-499 East Riverwalk South

www.urbankayaks.com

Northman on the River

New to the Riverwalk, will offer food and beverage options, specializing in cider

233 East Riverwalk South- immediately west of Columbus

LOCATION: The Marina - State to Dearborn

City Winery

Will offer food, drink and live music with an expanded menu

11 West Riverwalk South- State Street Side

www.citywinery.com/chicago

LOCATION: The Cove - Dearborn to Clark

Tiny Tapp, Café and Market

Will offer food and beverage, specializing in signature cocktails, coffees and pastries, and grab and go food and merchandise options

71 West Riverwalk South- Clark Street side

www.tinytapp.com

LOCATION: The Water Plaza - LaSalle to Wells

Frost Gelato

Will offer gelato, milkshakes and other desert options

151-155 West Riverwalk South- Clark Street side

www.frostgelato.com

The following vendors were approved to operate for a three year term:

LOCATION: Wabash Avenue - East

O'Brien's Riverwalk Cafe

Will offer food and beverage

45 East Riverwalk South- between Field Drive and Columbus

LOCATION: Wabash Avenue - West

Chicago Brewhouse

Will offer food and beverage, specializing in microbrews made in Chicago

35 East Riverwalk South- between Field Drive and Columbus

LOCATION: The Marina- State to Dearborn

Downtown Docks

Will provide recreational boat docking

10 West Riverwalk South- between Field Drive and Columbus

LOCATION: The River Theater – Clark to LaSalle

Wendella- Chicago Water Taxi

Will offer boat tours and water taxis service throughout the entire Chicago River system
105 East Riverwalk South- between Field Drive and Columbus

The six new sections of the Chicago Riverwalk between State Street and Lake Street were financed through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (TIFIA) program. Revenues generated from the concessions are pledged towards repayment of the loan. Vendor revenues have increased each year with \$4.5 million in 2015, \$9 million in 2016 and an estimated \$11 million in 2017.

The Riverwalk has been honored with 20 major awards for its merits, design and economic impact. Additional information is available on the website at www.Chicagoriverwalk.us which is updated throughout the season.

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