

Manuel "Manny" Flores

Chairman of the ICC



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Manuel Flores".

Sustainability Initiatives

As Alderman of Chicago's 1st Ward, Manuel Flores worked on the Addison Industrial Corridor Redevelopment Project, a revitalization plan sponsored by the City of Chicago and the Metropolitan Agency for Planning to redevelop the under-utilized planned manufacturing district at the north end of the 1st Ward. Alderman Flores worked closely with the planning team to realize his vision to create the city's first green manufacturing district in the Addison Industrial Corridor. The green manufacturing district will leverage retail opportunity and demand for manufacturing

created by the nearby Green Exchange and provide jobs for the mixed-income workforce housed at Lathrop Homes. His vision combined a sustainable philosophy with a plan to bring competitive jobs to the ward and retain the neighborhoods socioeconomic diversity.

Flores also sponsored the development of the Green Exchange. He worked closely with Baum Development, LLC, the City of Chicago Zoning Committee, and private businesses to ensure the former factory was not converted into residential condominiums.

Flores also developed the Lathrop Homes LEED Neighborhood Development (ND) project with the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) to create the nation's first ever LEED certified public housing project. Lathrop Homes is one of the oldest public housing projects in the city. Alderman Flores and CHA worked to develop affordable sustainable housing in a transit-oriented development. LEED ND is a sustainability certification in the experimental stages and Lathrop Homes could become the first development in the United States to receive the qualification.

Flores instituted the **Building Green in the First Ward** program in January of 2008. This program requires that all developers who receive a zoning change for new construction projects must participate in the Chicago Green Homes Program. Developers are required to achieve the maximum 3-star certification, ensuring that this new construction is an environmentally friendly, energy-efficient and high-quality project. This program will provide real benefits to developers, home buyers, and the environment.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn appointed Manuel Flores to the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) effective January 18, 2010.

ICC.Illinois.Gov

GreenEconomyChicago.com



Alderman Flores launched GreenEconomyChicago.com, a joint website and TV program, to bring everyday citizens into policymaking decisions concerning the development of a green economy in Chicago.

The website and program—a collaborative effort between Alderman Flores, Mike Bueltmann of Clear Content, and CN 100—features discussion and information pages that will be moderated by experts from academia, the private sector, and government. Moderators will translate these pages into steps individuals can take to promote economic development in Chicago based on sustainable practices and values.

GreenEconomyChicago.com seeks to tap into the groundswell of expertise and initiative occurring at the non-governmental level. The site utilizes a Web 2.0 approach to organizing and delivering information, allowing participants to directly provide input and feedback, and enhancing social networks directed at specific policymaking and implementation processes.

GreenEconomyChicago.com aims to open the policymaking process to Chicagoans by serving as a forum to discuss and develop ideas about building a green economy. This is more than planting a tree. This is supporting and creating sustainable jobs in the emerging green economy.

Here's how it works:

- You submit an idea that could help build support for Chicago's transition to a green economy. Maybe a targeted tax incentive or a change in zoning priorities to help spur new green business and manufacturing. Maybe a monthly lecture series from leading 'green' thinkers. The ideas are endless.
- Your peers comment on the idea. As the idea is refined and generates enthusiasm, it becomes a priority project.
- We help you build momentum around priority projects by creating a broader platform to raise awareness—public events, City Council committee hearings, social-networking opportunities.
- As support builds, we will help push the idea into new policies and initiatives.

From idea to policy, GreenEconomyChicago.com is a platform for citizen-driven policymaking and civic engagement.

BPA-Free Kids Ordinance

Chicago is the first US city to ban the sale of products containing bisphenol A (BPA), a chemical used in many plastics. The Chicago City Council adopted an ordinance proposed by Flores and Alderman Edward Burke to ban the sale of baby bottles and cups manufactured with BPA.

Alderman Manny Flores was inducted into the Chicago First Ward Environmental Hall of Fame on May 2, 2009