On Tuesday, September 26th, Alderwoman Hadden and representatives from St. George’s Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church hosted a community meeting to discuss a proposed zoning change for the property located at 1530 W. Touhy Ave. A recording of the meeting can be viewed here.

The church has requested a zoning change (RS-2 to RT-4) and special use permit to construct an expansion of the church’s parking lot. The church is proposing a parking lot expansion for their congregants and to cut down on congestion and parking issues when they hold services.

PLEASE NOTE - the zoning change request only covers the expansion of the parking lot. The church has owned the property at 1530 W. Touhy since 2011 and the zoning change request would not involve the demolition of the house currently on the property. Since the church already owns the property and it currently does not have any historic preservation protections, the demolition of the house can proceed as of right. Alderwoman Hadden does not have any say or control over the demolition of the property.
190 RESPONDENTS

How far away do you live from the proposal site?

- Within 1 block (1/8 mile)
- Within 2 blocks (1/4 mile)
- Within 4 Blocks (1/2 mile)
- More than 4 blocks (1/2 mile)

KEY FOR BAR GRAPHS

- Red: Aggregate
- Orange: Within 1 Block
- Yellow: Within 2 Block
- Green: Within 4 Block
- Blue: More than 4 Blocks
The applicant is requesting a zoning change from RS-2 to RT-4 to expand a parking lot onto the property they currently own at 1530 W. Touhy. Would you support this zoning change in its current form?

The house at 1530 W. Touhy does not have any historic protections and, therefore, can be torn down by right. Does this affect your opinion if a zoning change should be granted or not?
St. George's says this proposal will help alleviate traffic congestion during their services by providing 22 additional parking spots for their congregants. The church also provides shuttle service to the parking lot at Eugene Field Elementary School to help with congestions but some congregants still must use street parking. Do you believe this proposal would help with traffic congestion in the neighborhood?

Many at the community meeting expressed environmental concerns over this proposal, such as flooding and exasperating the "heat island effect." Do you think these environmental concerns should be considered in this zoning change request?
If modifications were made to this plan, such as environmentally sustainable materials or allowing neighborhood use of the parking lot at off-times, would that change your opinion if this zoning change should be granted or not?

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

- Many felt that housing is a better land use than parking in this location
- Some felt there was already additional parking options, like nearby garages, that could be utilized
- Many felt that the additional 22 parking spaces would not solve the issues of traffic congestion during services
- Some felt this is community overreach on a private property