



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Wicker Park Bucktown SSA #33: 2027 Rat Birth Control Distribution Contractor

The Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce is seeking a Rat Birth Control Distribution Contractor (RBCDC) that will help facilitate the SSA#33 community-driven initiative focused on humane and effective solutions for controlling the rat population in Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods.

Services will be provided during a 12-month period

- Beginning **January 1, 2027**
- Ending **December 31, 2027**

Area of Service:

- **(OPTION A)** Participating commercial alleyways within Special Service Area #33's Rat Birth Control Program, specifically:
 - W North Ave alleyways between N Western Ave & N Ashland Ave
 - N Milwaukee Ave alleyways between N Western Ave & N Ashland Ave
 - W Division St alleyways between N Damen Ave & N Ashland Ave
 - N Ashland Ave alleyways between W North Ave & W Division St
 - N Western Ave alleyways between W Armitage Ave & W North Ave
 - Wicker Park Gardens (1425 N Damen Ave)
 - with potential to expand the limits of the program to additional alleyways within Special Service Area #33's boundaries (Attachment A) should bandwidth allow.
- **(OPTION B)** All tree pits, parkways, and planters in the public way, within the area of the Rat Birth Control Program, including:
 - All tree pits in the public way within the rat birth control program area (Attachment B)
 - All parkways in the public way, whether planted or empty, within the rat birth control program area
 - All landscape planters in the public way within the rat birth control program area for which the Chamber has a formal agreement to maintain including the following locations
 - All fenced planters along W Division St. between N Damen Ave. and N Ashland Ave.
 - All fenced planters along W North Ave. between N Western Ave & N Bosworth St.
- **(OPTION C)** Participating commercial alleyways within Special Service Area #33's Rat Birth Control Program, as listed above **AND** all tree pits, parkways, and planters in the public way within the area of the Rat Birth Control Program, as listed above.

Please note that this does not include:

- The planters located in the median of Ashland Avenue from Division Street to the south and the 90/94 Kennedy Expressway to the north, which are maintained by the City of Chicago
- On-street orange planter containers on Milwaukee or Damen Avenue (separate contract)

Services Requested:

- Distribute Evolve rat birth control product to designated alleyways and/or public way planters once a week
- Monitor bait boxes for damage or missing items and report any issues
- Remove and replace damaged bait boxes with new, properly labelled bait boxes
- Ensure that all distribution is done in a timely and thorough manner, following safety and community guidelines
- Track progress and provide weekly reports on activities completed

Qualifications:

- Strong attention to detail and ability to track and report information accurately
- Ability to lift 30 pounds and walk long distances while towing a handcart
- Ability to work independently and manage time effectively
- Comfortable working outdoors in an urban environment
- Good communication skills and reliable access to a phone or email for reporting purposes
- Previous experience in fieldwork or environmental/urban services is a plus but not required
- Knowledge of the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods is a plus

Service Schedule:

Timing to be determined through coordination with WPBCC staff and selected contractor. Contractor must be flexible and able to accommodate schedule changes before and after holidays. All changes would be coordinated and approved in advance.

Proposals should include:

- Basic description of your firm: size, location, areas of expertise (IF APPLICABLE)
- Cover Letter and Resume, highlighting professional experience and qualifications
- 2-3 relevant references with contact information (other SSAs or pest control services preferred)
- Scope of services and timelines as necessary (**PLEASE CLARIFY WHETHER YOU ARE SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL FOR OPTION A, B, or C**)
- Full monthly and yearly cost breakdown and pricing associated with:

A) Pricing for daytime rat birth control distribution services in alleyways and/or landscaping

- 10 hours/week
- 15 hours/week
- 20 hours/week

Please refer to *Attachment A: SSA #33 Service Map*, *Attachment B: Rat Birth Control Program Area*, and *Attachment C: Background on WPB SSA #33 and Core Values*. If you have questions prior to submission, please email us at ssa33@wickerparkbucktown.com

Submission Deadline:

Thursday, October 1, 2026 at 5:00pm

Proposals should be sent via:

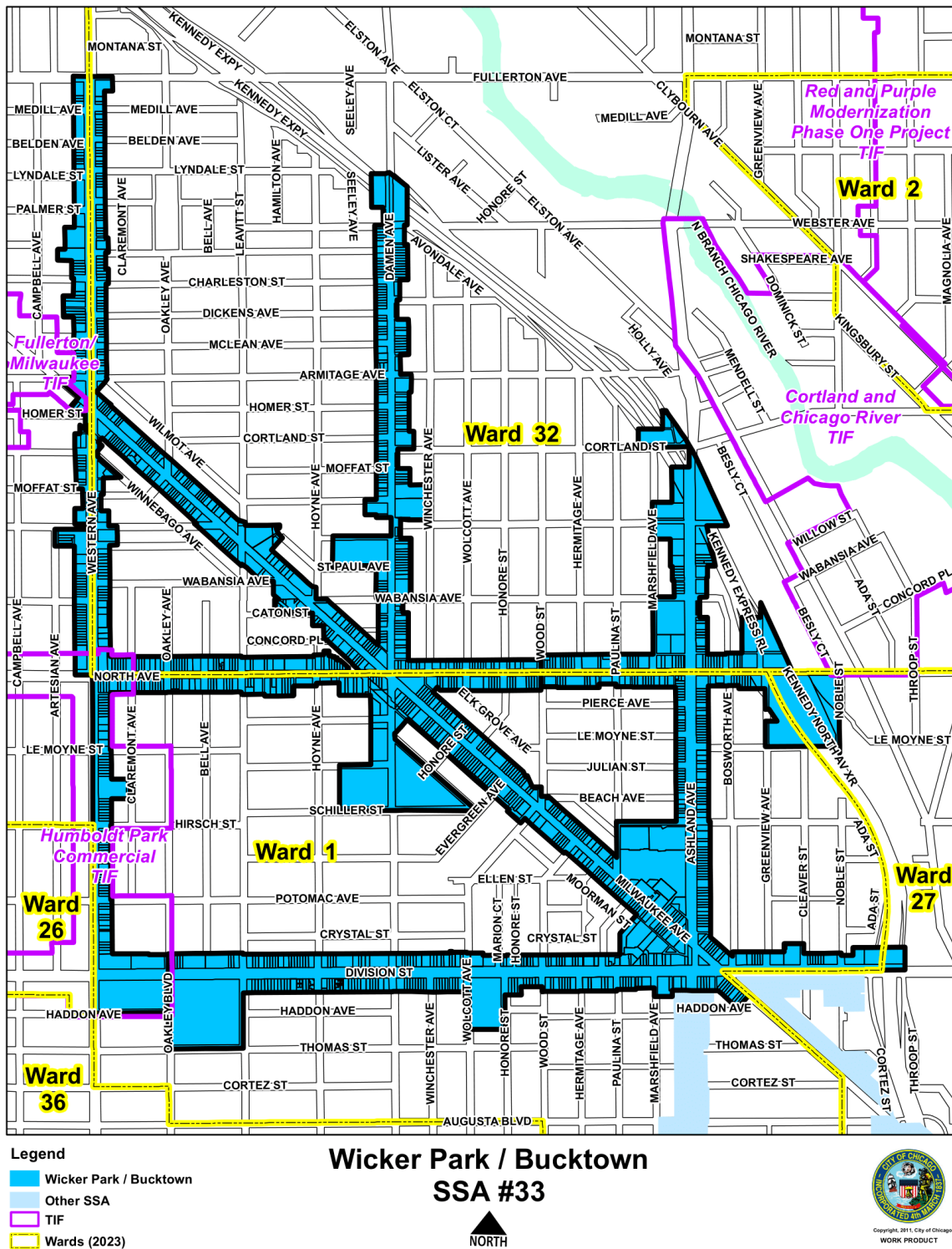
Email (preferred method) to: ssa33@wickerparkbucktown.com

Or mailed to:

Wicker Park Bucktown SSA #33
1414 N. Ashland Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622

Late proposals will not be accepted or considered.

Attachment A



Attachment B



Attachment C

Background on WPB and Core Values

What is WPB SSA #33?

WPB is the Special Service Area for the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods of Chicago. The mission of WPB is to sustain and promote the prosperity and unique qualities of life in the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods and commercial district, whilst preserving its diverse character for the benefit of its residents, visitors, and businesses through the wise and discerning investment of resources to enhance our public ways.

Core Values

The Commission of SSA #33 has a set of core values that are at the heart of any and all decisions made. These values guide the Commission, influencing goals, priorities, and allocation of funding for projects.

Environmental best practices are preferred, and should be incorporated into all projects. Being located in a well-established urban area presents unique environmental challenges. Green space is limited, while hard, impervious surfaces abound, especially on the commercial streets of WPB. Alternatives to conventional methods of managing stormwater runoff should be explored and implemented whenever possible. As natural resources become more and more limited, the need to recycle as well as find alternative methods for powering vehicles, buildings, etc. is becoming more imperative. The Commission of WPB is committed to finding ways to encourage recycling and a more “green lifestyle” in order to lessen the burden on infrastructure and resources.

Walking, bicycling, and public transit are preferred methods of transportation. Traffic congestion and parking are major concerns in the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods. The Commission of WPB feels that it is important to maintain the neighborhoods as safe, interesting, and inviting places to walk and bike. When residents are walking and biking, they are more likely to use transit. The private vehicle is here to stay and needs to be considered in planning, however, the Commission of WPB desires to put the needs of walkers, cyclists and transit riders first, as they are the more sustainable means of transportation in an urban setting.

Public space, particularly streets, are an integral part of making a neighborhood exciting. When people talk about a great neighborhood, they are often referring to the public life of the neighborhood, an experience that can only be had in the public way, on streets or sidewalks. An active, exciting, and interesting street life is the backbone of successful neighborhoods, as it serves residents, visitors, and businesses of all kinds equally. When people talk about a great neighborhood, they rarely speak of the interior of houses or stores, but rather the people they watch, the storefronts that catch their eye, the outdoor spaces where they relaxed, and the overall experience of being in the neighborhood as experienced from its sidewalks. To this end, the Commission of WPB is interested in maintaining the unique atmosphere of Wicker Park and Bucktown that can only be experienced in the public way.

Honoring the heritage of the neighborhoods while progressing into the future.

The Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods have been home to many artists, musicians, writers, and others in the creative community for many years. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the creative community, a detriment to the culture and liveliness of the neighborhoods. Similarly, the neighborhoods have a wealth of architectural history that has also been lost. The Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods are at an important crossroads: find ways to nourish the creative community and preserve architectural heritage so that it continues to flourish or risk further decline and the loss of what has helped define the neighborhoods for so long.

Any community process should be open and transparent to its stakeholders. WPB is funded through property tax dollars and exists as a public body. Any planning, budgeting, or decision-making process shall be open to the public. Innovative methods to solicit public comment and input are expected; WPB considers transparency and engagement to be paramount to its success and validity in the community.