

Seven Plaintiffs Including Protect Our Parks File a Motion for Preliminary Injunction to Halt Construction In and Around Historic Jackson Park

The Obama Foundation and the city of Chicago have indicated that "groundbreaking" is anticipated to begin as early as mid-August in Jackson Park. We are deeply concerned that construction associated with the "groundbreaking" in and around Jackson Park puts the historic and environmental elements in the park in imminent danger and may also derail the ability for the Court to thoroughly examine the legal arguments outlined by the Plaintiffs in our lawsuit. Moreover, any removal of trees or destruction of roadways, vistas, and the landscape in Jackson Park will be irrevocable, which is why we have asked the Court to stop such activity forthwith pending a full adjudication of the merits of our complaint.

Importantly, this Spring, Protect Our Parks began sharing its support for a site plan created by an accomplished architect, South Side resident, and committed preservationist as one of many feasible and prudent alternatives to the current proposal. We will continue to share and support the proposed alternate via our website and with the broader community. In addition, we hope that the Obama Foundation will sit down with us to reconsider its choice of Jackson Park for a more feasible and prudent alternative as the law requires. The aforementioned alternative plan meets the concerns outlined in the lawsuit, will help the community build back better, and will honor the legacy of the 44th President of the United States.