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Name:	Christian Diaz
Organization:	Palenque LSNA
Title:	Director of Equitable Communities
Telephone number:	(773) 384-4370
Email:	cdiaz@palenquelsna.org
Address:	2840 N Milwaukee Chicago , IL 60618
Name:	Wendy Lehman
Organization:	Palenque LSNA
Title:	Director of Development
Pronouns:	She, her
Telephone number:	(773) 384-4370
Email:	cdiaz@palenquelsna.org
Address:	2840 N Milwaukee Chicago, IL 60618
For which project type are you applying? (Choose one – You may apply for more than one type of assistance by completing a separate application form.)	Transit Station Activation Project (pilot program)

Transit Station Activation Project

Describe your proposed activation project:

With the support of RTA, Palenque LSNA respectfully requests funding to activate our Logan Square Blue Line Station for the purposes of increasing feelings of safety, belonging, accessibility and comfort. Our goal is to curate, organize and facilitate free family-friendly accessible bilingual programming that fosters a sense of belonging and safety in and near our train station. What this means is piloting a resident-led initiative to host culturally vibrant outreach and events 2-4 times per month. Once a month, weather permitting, Palenque LSNA will work with Mujeres Artesanas Con Carrillo to support their mercaditos which are small pop-up craft artists vendor markets composed of immigrant woman of color small businesses. These pop ups will happen at least once per month, weather permitting. In addition to these pop up markets, which we put together with the support of CDOT, DCASE and the Logan Square Chamber of Commerce, we will also host transit activation days where we will set up a photo booth with positive messaging that promotes the use of transit and features the work of local artists. Finally, on our transit activation days we will create and distribute a newsletter that highlights and advances our Logan Square Blue Line ETOD Action Plan, specifically promoting small local business and resources for vulnerable populations. These newsletter will be distributed by community residents wearing bright clothing. In summary, our intention is to increase feelings of safety and belonging in public transit through small pop up markets, cultural programming, a photo booth and the distribution of our newsletter 2-4 times per month. This work is a natural extension of and an opportunity to implement parts of the award-winning Logan Square ETOD Action Plan which was also partly funded by RTA.

Where will the project take place? (State the name of the transit station or stop and the specific location where the activation project will take place. Please also note the name of the property owner if not on Service Board property.)

Logan Square Blue Line Station area, there are 4 different entrances including a large area under a canopy and a public garden with a stage across the street.

How much funding are you requesting? Please detail the expenses (estimates are fine).

We respectfully request \$30,000-\$60,000 or \$2500-\$5,000 per month toward implementing our transit activation days 2-4 times per month. The awarded amount will determine the frequency and capacity of our events. The breakdown for our budget is:

20% Admin

40% Staff or Consulting

40% Program costs including: materials, stipends for artists, payment for Photo Booth and payment for graphic design.

What is the timeline for this activation? (i.e. What is your thinking about the time of day, day of the week, month, for your proposal)

We intend for our transit activation days to be during weekday afternoons/evenings and weekend mornings.

Will the project process include activities in which the general public will be invited to participate? If so, please describe:

Yes, all programming will be bilingual in Spanish and English and free for community to participate.

Is your organization currently in communication with the relevant transit agency and/or property owner? Do you anticipate needing assistance in making contact?

Yes, we work closely with the alderman's office, CDOT and DCASE.

Describe any experience you have with implementing something similar to your proposal:

We already do a lot of outreach near our train station, this funding will give us an opportunity to be more intentional about our outreach and cultural activities. We currently already plan cultural events adjacent to our station for Mexican Mother's Day, Day of Children and Day of the Dead. We anchor our outreach and programming in hispanic culture. In the past we have organized lucha libre, mariachi concerts, zumba classes, face painting and other activities for families, seniors, young adults and children.

What resident or community support do you have or would like to gain for the proposed activation?

We have the benefit of 44 member organizations who participate and help steer our work. These organizations range from cooperatives to schools to churches and other non-profits. In 2023 we published the Logan Square ETOD Action Plan in partnership with CMAP and Elevated Chicago. This plan won the IL Planning Association Award for Advancing Diversity. As part of the process for creating our plan we engaged a resident council composed of youth, seniors, parents and residents of affordable housing projects and this same resident council will help us implement our transit activation days 2-4 times per month.

Is there any additional information you want us to know?

This is a pilot and we intend to document successes and challenges to inform future strategies for public safety in our CTA stations and bus stops. As members of Elevated Chicago we believe all people deserve access to safe and walkable communities and access to safe, reliable, accessible, comfortable and affordable public transportation.

Please upload a map of where specifically the activation will take place:

<https://rtaform.formstack.com/admin/download/file/16106408019>

Closing Questions

How did you find out about the call for projects? (Select all that apply)

CMAP newsletter
Other: Elevated Chicago

What resources did you find helpful as you apply for the call? (Select all that apply)

Web page FAQ
Receiving assistance from CMAP or RTA staff

How difficult was it to fill out this application?

Somewhat easy
