

Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority

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July 30, 2007

To the Security Board Executive Team,

As you are probably aware, Chicago is in the bidding process to be the Host site for the 2016 Olympics. If Chicago is selected, the Metropolitan Pier & Exposition Authority (MPEA) is central for all media coverage and broadcasting operations for the event. In addition, the plan includes hosting eleven of the Olympic sports within our venues. Clearly, security planning for this event will be critical to all homeland security efforts. MPEA has co-sponsored the proposed Information Sharing pilot with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Obviously it will be important for the MPEA to provide "Five 9's" Resiliency to get a satisfactory grade from those managing the selection process expected to take place in 2009. We believe that "Lessons Learned" from this alone can go a long way in better preparing the region against an enemy that is little (if at all) recognizable. We also believe that the development effort will lay out a "Best Practices" approach that can be incorporated into information sharing/intelligence gathering for any region in the country.

MPEA is a major economic engine for the City of Chicago, State of Illinois as well as other states within the Great Lakes region. I am providing a brief below on the "Footprint" we represent within this region to further substantiate our desire for this pilot to move forward. I look forward to working with your team in making this country better, safer and secure.

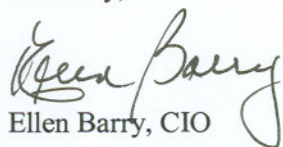
The Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) is a municipal corporation created by the Illinois General Assembly. Our Board of Directors is appointed by the Governor of Illinois and the Mayor of Chicago.

MPEA owns and manages the McCormick Place complex and seeks to promote and operate conventions, fairs and expositions in the Chicago area, in an effort to strengthen the local economy. Historic Navy Pier is also owned and managed by MPEA and the Authority is charged with carrying out the recreational, commercial and cultural redevelopment and operation of Navy Pier, which has become Chicago's most popular visitor attraction.

MPEA is also active in the community, and oversees a variety of programs that positively impact the thousands whose jobs are tied to McCormick Place and Navy Pier, as well as the millions who visit both venues each year. Take a look at our contributions and then plan to visit acclaimed McCormick Place and multi-faceted Navy Pier in the near future.

We welcome and encourage The Security Board's support and guidance in making this effort the success we believe it will be.

Sincerely,


Ellen Barry, CIO

