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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago Jewish Alliance Condemns Antisemitic Rhetoric Targeting Emanuel Congregation, Commends Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth's Leadership

CHICAGO –The Chicago Jewish Alliance strongly condemns the recent antisemitic rhetoric directed at Emanuel Congregation regarding its proposed redevelopment project in Edgewater.

Public debate over development projects is healthy and necessary. However, invoking centuries-old stereotypes portraying Jews as driven by greed or financial gain has no place in those conversations. These harmful tropes have fueled antisemitism for generations and should be rejected wherever they appear.

We are grateful to Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth for speaking out clearly against antisemitism and for recognizing that while neighbors may disagree on policy, hate has no place in those discussions. Her leadership sends an important message that the Jewish community will not stand alone.

Lost in this controversy is the vision Emanuel Congregation has put forward for both its members and the broader community. The proposed redevelopment would create a sustainable future for the congregation while adding new housing, affordable housing, neighborhood retail, expanded green space, improved pedestrian access, and continued opportunities for worship, education, and community engagement.

These efforts reflect longstanding Jewish values of strengthening communities, caring for our neighbors, and building for future generations. We welcome respectful dialogue about the project, but that dialogue must be rooted in facts and mutual respect, not antisemitic stereotypes.

The Chicago Jewish Alliance stands with Emanuel Congregation and thanks the many community leaders who have spoken out in support of the Jewish community and against antisemitism.

Daniel Schwartz
Founder & President
Chicago Jewish Alliance