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Ald. Milele A. Coggs
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Common Council Approves City Purchase of Black Holocaust Museum Building

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs Pleased With Acquisition

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs said the Common Council's move today to acquire the building that has been the home of America's Black Holocaust Museum is a "step in the right direction."

Alderwoman Coggs, who sponsored the resolution to pay \$250,000 to North Shore Bank, holder of the mortgage on the building and museum artifacts, said the building is a key property in the Bronzeville area and the neighborhood. "This is a step in the right direction as we continue growth in Bronzeville, and I'm happy to see that my colleagues support this effort to create something that we can build upon," she said.

Last week the measure won unanimous approval from Council's Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee. The 15,000 square foot building is located at 2233 N. 4th St., just south of North Ave. The museum shut its doors earlier this year, and directors and supporters are attempting to reorganize and to help it reopen.

Alderwoman Coggs said the museum building and parcel is an important part of the new Bronzeville, the arts, entertainment, and cultural district along W. North Ave., between I-43 and King Drive.

The museum was started in the basement of the home of Dr. James Cameron, who survived a lynching in 1930 in Indiana. Cameron, who passed away in 2006, made it a lifelong mission to teach others about the historical struggles of African Americans, from slavery to the present.