

Game Off

Chicago Falls Short In Bid For 2016 Olympics

Many Chicago residents put their lives on hold temporarily Friday, October 2, as the city waited on the edge of its collective seat to hear if it would be hosting the 2016 Olympic Games.

Their lives weren't on hold very long.

Years of speculation, hand-wringing and wondering came to an anti-climatic end as Chicago was the first city eliminated by the International Olympic Committee, which eventually awarded The Games to Rio de Janeiro. The verdict was a disappointment to many in Chicago's construction community who had hoped that building due to the Games would provide a jolt to the local industry.

The Builders Association is proud to have supported Chicago 2016, the city's bid for the Games, and represented the interests of the construction industry. Through a \$100,000 donation, serving on two official Chicago 2016 committees and helping "dress the city" for the International Olympic Committee's visit in April. The Association purchased hard hat decals for members to wear and magnets for the doors of trucks operating on sites that IOC members were likely to see.

The contribution was made on behalf of its members to signify its commitment to creating more projects for business growth. The Association also feels that participation in the effort demonstrated good corporate citizenship, as winning the Olympics would have provided a tremendous benefit for the communities served by Association members.

After the decision was handed down, Director of Client Services Kristin Garcia appeared with a number of other individuals on Chicago Public Radio. The Worldview program on WBEZ-FM 91.5 discussed the impact of Chicago not winning the Games



Employees of Bulley & Andrews, LLC hang a sign near Washington Park - the proposed site of a collapsable Olympic Stadium - to welcome the International Olympic Committee in April.

and the next step for businesses who had contributed to the cause.

The Builders Association was honored to have Chicago 2016 Chairman Patrick Ryan as a guest speaker at its Annual Meeting in December of 2008. Ryan touched upon the economic and civic impact of winning the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and spoke of the legacy that hosting the Games would leave for generations to come.

Thanks to members for their enthusiasm and support in getting behind the Olympic bid. The Association plans on building on the relationships it built with civic leaders over the course of this effort to continue benefitting members in the future.



CHICAGO 2016
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