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News Advisory:

“Ald. Tillman uses neighborhood improvement funds for self benefit,” Mell Monroe asserts

Mell Monroe, who is running for Third Ward Alderman against Dorothy Tillman in next February’s election, today will call for an investigation of how Ald. Tillman used more than \$300,000 of the ward’s infrastructure funds to benefit herself and her grown children.

Monroe will detail how Tillman spent the money at a news conference:

**Monday, November 27
at 11 a.m.
in front of Ald. Tillman’s Third Ward Office,
4645 S. Martin Luther King Drive,
Chicago, Illinois**

Monroe’s charges followed a front-page expose published last Wednesday by the *Lakefront Outlook*. The newspaper reported that Alderman Tillman used \$215,123 of her 2004 allotment under the “Aldermanic Menu Program” for four 25-foot tall bronze sculptures of musicians installed at 47th Street and Martin Luther King Drive. An additional \$85,000 was spent for lighting on 46th Place and at 47th Street and King Drive.

The Lakefront Outlook also said that in 2004, Dorothy Tillman only spent \$316,123 including the sculptures of her budgeted \$1.2 million. She did not spend \$883,877 that she could have used for infrastructure improvements in the ward. “This fact, alone, is very fishy. No one in their right mind leaves \$884,000 on the table,” Monroe said.

Monroe went beyond what was reported in the *Lakefront Outlook*. He said it appears that Ald. Tillman’s only priority was to increase the property values of buildings she owns and to improve businesses run by her daughter and employing her son.

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