John G. Markowski has served as Commissioner to the City of Chicago's Department of Housing since 1999. Commissioner Markowski is shepherding the current 2004-2008 five-year affordable housing plan, *Build, Preserve, Lead: A Housing Agenda for Chicago's Neighborhoods.* The plan is expected to utilize $1.9 billion dollars to build or preserve 48,000 units of housing over the next five years. Commissioner Markowski's career has included extensive experience as an organizer and administrator in housing and community development. Prior to joining the Department of Housing in 1992, he served as the first executive director of the North West Housing Partnership, an organization that promotes and develops affordable housing in Chicago's North and Northwest suburbs. From 1981 to 1990 Commissioner Markowski was executive director of the Edgewater Community Council, a community organization that focused on revitalizing a diverse, densely populated North Side neighborhood. Commissioner Markowski holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and a master's degree from the University of Oregon.