Mayor’s Pedestrian Advisory Council

November 2, 2011
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

1. Introductions
**MPAC Members Present:**

Co-chair, Gabe Klein, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Transportation

Co-chair, Peter Skosey, Metropolitan Planning Council

Michael Bartello, Department of Streets and Sanitation

Jim Boratyn, Illinois Department of Transportation (for Les Nunes)

Marcus de la Fleur, Streetscape Advisory Committee

Laurie Dittman, Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities

Joyce Gallagher, Department of Family Support Services / Senior Services

Melody Geraci, Active Transportation Alliance

Adolfo Hernandez, Active Transportation Alliance

Rosemary Krimble, Commissioner Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection

Kim Kolody, CH2M Hill (for Pricilla Tobias)

John LaPlante, TYLin International

Rudy Nimmocks, University of Chicago

John O’Neal, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Karl Peet, Chicago Transit Authority (for Joe Iacobucci)

Elvia Rodriquez Ochoa, Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago’s Children (for Dr. Adam Becker)

Marcia Trawinski, Metro Seniors in Action

**Others Present:**

Mark de la Vergne, Sam Schwartz Engineering

Stacey Meekins, TYLin International

Mike Noblett, IBM Global Business

Marissa Novara, Metropolitan Planning Council

Morgan Whitcom, Sam Schwartz Engineering

Howard Zar, citizen and Active Transportation Alliance member

**Staff Present:**

Luann Hamilton, Chicago Department of Transportation
Kiersten Grove, Chicago Department of Transportation

Chelsea Richer, Chicago Department of Transportation

Charlie Short, Chicago Department of Transportation

Carlin Thomas, Chicago Department of Transportation

Jerad Weiner, Chicago Department of Transportation

Chris Wuellner, Chicago Department of Transportation

David Zavattero, Chicago Department of Transportation

# 2. Approval of Minutes

* The meeting minutes from 8/3/2011 were approved.
* Kiersten Grove updated the group on pedestrian crash statistics since the last MPAC meeting.

# 3. Introduction of New MPAC Co-Chair

* Peter Skosey discussed his interest in pedestrian issues.
* The discussion highlighted how improving the pedestrian environment can promote economic development and enhance quality of life.

# 4. Pedestrian Safety Press Event

* Kiersten Grove reported on the Oct 25, 2011 launch of the Pedestrian Safety Campaign.
* At the event, NHTSA Administrator David Strickland delivered the opening remarks.
* The event was well attended by local news media.
* The Pedestrian Safety Campaign elements include:
	+ Installation of mannequins, representing the 32 pedestrians killed in Chicago last year, on Wacker Drive and at cooperating city agency facilities throughout the year.
	+ Campaign messaging on solar trash compactors, CTA bus backs, and other highly visible locations throughout the central business district.
	+ Installation of temporary pedestrian crossing flags at locations across the city.

# 5. Speed Enforcement Camera Update

* Luann Hamilton presented an update on the speed enforcement camera initiative.
* This effort includes automated speed enforcement in the proposed safety zones (areas within 1/8 mile of schools or parks) using existing red-light cameras and mobile units. All zones will be visibly signed and posted on the CDOT website to maintain transparency. Funds from the enforcements will be dedicated to public safety efforts and the maintenance of transportation infrastructure.
* The automated speed enforcement bill is SB0965 .

# 6. Chicago Pedestrian Plan Update

* Mark de la Vergne gave a recap on the Chicago Pedestrian Plan public outreach process.
	+ The Chicago Pedestrian Plan website was accessed by over 5000 visitors and collected over 215 Big Idea comments.
	+ Over 120 people attended the downtown public meeting. Many attendees appreciated the opportunity to talk directly with city transportation officials and to discuss various issues related to pedestrian safety.
* Mark de la Vergne led a discussion on the draft plan outline, goals and recommendations. MPAC members were asked to provide feedback on the draft documents.

# 7. Sidewalk Snow Removal Campaign Update

* Jerad Weiner presented on the 2011-2012 Sidewalk Snow Removal campaign.
* The Sidewalk Snow Removal website was updated with new content: [www.cityofchicago.org/cdot/snow](http://www.cityofchicago.org/cdot/snow)
* CDOT created a “Sidewalk Snow Removal Guidance for Businesses and Residents” flyer to help answer frequently asked questions regarding sidewalk snow removal and to promote compliance with the city ordinance.

# 8. Next Steps for MPAC

* Peter Skosey led a discussion on potential focus issues for MPAC in 2012
* Some suggestions included the ability to use technology to get an accurate picture of pedestrian volumes, how to promote safe pedestrian behaviors, and how to improve outreach to cyclists.

# 9. Announcements and Adjournments

* MPAC recognized Adolfo Hernandez’s contributions to the council and wished him luck on his new position in the Mayor’s Office. Melody Geraci will take over as the Active Transportation Alliance representative on the council.
* The schedule for the Chicago Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 meetings will be distributed to the MPAC list as soon as it becomes available.
* Chicago earned Gold status from the Walk Friendly Communities program, a national recognition to encourage cities across the US to commit to a safer pedestrian environment.