

# Mayor's Pedestrian Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2015, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

## **1. Introductions**

### **MBAC members present:**

Co-Chairs Rebekah Scheinfeld, CDOT Commissioner and Peter Skosey, Metropolitan Planning Council  
AARP - Bob Gallo  
Access Living - Mary Rosenberg  
Active Transportation Alliance – Melody Geraci; Kyle Whitehead  
Chicago Dept. of Family and Support Services - Joyce Gallagher  
Chicago Dept. of Housing and Economic Development (DHED)  
Chicago Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE)  
Chicago Dept. of Public Health - Margarita Reina; Jennifer Herd

Chicago Dept. of Transportation – Katie Bowes; Lauren Crabtree; Rosanne Ferruggia; Luann Hamilton; Eric Hanss; Soledad Maristany; Angel Montalvo; Claire Roggeveen; Sean Wiedel; Amanda Woodall  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) - John O'Neal  
Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children - Romona Castillo; Eric Goodwin  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Illinois Division - Greg Piland  
Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) - Laurie Dittman  
Metro Seniors in Action – Marcia Trawinski  
Neighborspace: Ben Helphand  
University of Chicago - Rudy Nimocks  
**Others present:** Craig Kaiser (SOAR), Carol Maher, Allan Mellis

**2. Approval of Minutes** - The meeting minutes from August 6, 2015 were approved

**3. Pedestrian Crash/Fatality Update** – 5 fatalities since last meeting; 35 year-to-date, higher than the 5 year average; 4 of the fatalities were seniors

**4. Safe Routes Ambassadors Update** – Provided preview of final report; Final report available mid-November on Complete Streets website

**5. Snow Removal Ordinance** – ordinance updated to clarify existing regulations, boost compliance with higher fines, address egregious/repeat violators; enforcement priority is big properties and commercial businesses, not single-family homes

- Effective 11/28/2015; must remove snow 7 days/week.
- Snow that falls between 7 am – 7 pm must be cleared by 10 pm on the same day
- Snow that falls between 7 pm – 7 am must be removed by 10 am
- New fine range \$50-\$500/day; fine set by administrative hearings judge
- Must clear 5-foot path on sidewalk and sidewalk ramps adjacent to property
- Prohibited: shoveling snow into public fixtures (bus stops, Divvy stations, bike racks) and/or public way (travel lanes, bikeways)
- No changes in process for reporting un-shoveled snow; call 311 for un-shoveled snow or for snow shoveling assistance
- Public communications will be updated including bus shelter ads, digital billboards, brochures, door hangers, and website
- Winter Wonder Award: nominations through 3/15/15

*Q: If you are a senior and you call the alderman and you get a ticket because no one will come, are you still responsible?*

*A: There is a process to contest tickets, contact 311 for specifics*

*Q: What does it mean to clear snow, a visible path?*

*A: 5 foot wide clear path along the sidewalk, must be able to see the sidewalk*

*Q: Will there be new digital billboards?*

*A: No, we will use existing digital billboards*

*Q: What is a repeat offender?*

*A: Up to professional discretion of the public right-of-way inspector; if a specific property gets many complaints, they're a repeat offender*

*Q: How many inspectors are there?*

*A: 26*

*Q: Who is responsible for clearing overpasses and viaducts?*

*A: Coordinated effort among city departments via internal task-force*

**6. Livability Chapter Update:** 20 Streetscape, Plaza and Bike Projects; Placemaking guidelines pre-final draft under internal review; People Plaza Initiative implemented under Make Way for People program; 21 Make Way for People sites activated

**7. Argyle Project Update:** *Plan photos and diagrams available in November 2015 Presentation document*

- Construction began July 2015; north side hardscape complete from Broadway to Sheridan
- South side hardscape in progress from Broadway to Kenmore; construction will continue until winter shutdown in November
- Construction will resume Spring 2016; anticipated completion July 2016

*Q: Are all crossings designated and protected?*

*A: Yes, tiles change to signify a crosswalk, crosswalks aren't eliminated*

*Q: Signage to notify drivers of pedestrians?*

*A: Notification devices: raised street, entry point signage, different pavement treatments, chicanes*

*Q: How do you measure the positive impact on businesses?*

*A: Challenging, have been working with the SSA and Chamber to do counts, working with businesses around economic data*

*Q: How do you choose the space for the project? What are the criteria?*

*A: Infrastructure, land use, overall traffic perspective, neighborhood activity, etc. Public input, elected official interest*

*Q: Who pays for the project?*

*A: TIF funds, water management funds, aldermanic MENU funds*

## **8. Public Comment**

*Q: Re: Streeterville traffic, who do I talk to at CDOT to improve safety?*

*A: Luann Hamilton and her team*

Loop Link construction on track to be complete by the end of the year

Concern about the intersection of Randolph and Green; traffic analysis in progress

Updates from Department of Family and Support Services about senior villages; the Surgeon General's call for walking and walkable communities; the America Walks summit; AARP's livability index tool at [www.aarp.org/livability](http://www.aarp.org/livability); CDC environmental audit tool; Active Trans on Playstreets, the Go Campaigns