

Mayor's Pedestrian Advisory Council Meeting Agenda

February 5, 2015, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

1. Introductions

MPAC members present:

Co-chair, Rebekah Scheinfeld – Commissioner, Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT)
Co-chair, Peter Skosey – Metropolitan Planning Council
Jaime Arteaga – Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago's Children (CLOCC)
Ed Christopher – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Marcus de la fleur – de la fleur LLC
Laurie Dittman – Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)
Dennis Embree – Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Bob Gallo – American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
Melody Geraci – Active Transportation Alliance
Ben Helphand – NeighborSpace
Jennifer Herd – Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Mary Lopez – Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety
Dr. Julia Morita (Commissioner, CDPH)
Greg Piland – Federal Highway Administration
Sujata Shah – Chicago Public Schools (CPS)
Dr. Karen Sheehan – Lurie Children's Hospital
Marcia Trawinski – Metro Seniors in Action
Robert Vance – Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)

Others present:

Regine Antenor (Alta Planning and Design), Anna Barnes (CLOCC), John Greenfield (Chicago Streetsblog), Benet Haller (Chicago Department of Zoning), Elizabeth Hubbard (Funflector), Kristen Maddox (Alta Planning), Allan Mellis (Public), Daniel Ronan (National Public Housing Museum), Michael Sobczak (Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection), Tracy Swartz (Redeye), Herminia Vanna (CDPH)

Chicago Department of Transportation Representatives Present:

Mike Amsden, Suzanne Carlson, Lauren Crabtree, Katie Bowes, Luann Hamilton, Eric Hanss, Angel Montalvo, Charlie Short, Amanda Woodall

2. Approval of Minutes:

- The meeting minutes from 11/5/2014 were approved

3. Council Roles and Process Feedback *(Peter Skosey)*

- The council reviewed the role of MPAC: to promote policy for the advancement of pedestrian mobility, to improve pedestrian safety and access, to provide guidance in the Chicago Pedestrian Plan formulation, to serve as an advisory resource and information support body on all pedestrian matters

4. Safety and Connectivity Updates

- A. Pedestrian Crashes: 2014 in Review and Five-Year Trends (*Rebekah Scheinfeld*)
- Year-end fatalities for 2013 are now available per IDOT reports
 - From Chicago Police Department, there were a total of 30 pedestrian fatalities in 2014, a total of 27 in 2013, and in 2015 there have been 7 fatalities to date.
 - From 2005 – 2013 pedestrian crashes in Chicago went down by 19%, however Chicago accounts for 59% of pedestrian crash injuries in Illinois (from 2009-2013)
 - Crash factors include more pedestrian activity, drivers failing to yield (in 43% of crash reports), and intoxication of motorists
 - In a pedestrian fatality report for cities of more than 500,000 citizens, Chicago ranks 4th lowest from 2008-2012
 - The Commissioner commented that any pedestrian fatality is one too many, and that Chicago is committed to the Zero in Ten plan and long term improvement
- B. Sidewalk Snow Removal Outreach Updates (*Suzanne Carlson*)
- The Winter Wonder Awards (WWA) for snow removal in business districts are open for nominations, please submit your nominees at www.cityofchicago.org/cdot/snow.
 - Sidewalk snow removal promotions for all residents have been advertised through Twitter, mailings and flyers, bus shelter ads, and the help of other organizations spreading the word (CLOCC, Active Trans)
 - The Commissioner commented that the intent of WWA is not to fine people, it is to focus snow removal efforts on repeat offenders, large businesses and multifamily buildings
 - Some physical outcomes of snow are more pronounced this year because of continued snow, plowing byproduct, and intense winter storms
 - Bob Gallo suggested to include snow removal in the Chicago Works app
 - Ward offices manage volunteers for snow removal, and people can contact 311 for assistance

5. Chicago Pedestrian Plan: Health

- A. Scorecard Highlights (*Suzanne Carlson*)
- Continued goals are to increase pedestrian trips for school, entertainment, errands and to increase mode share
 - Many of the health items are long term, and while focus has been on safety, health items are being addressed along the way
- B. Healthy Chicago (*Dr. Julie Morita, CDPH*)
- Healthy Chicago 2.0 is a public health agenda focusing on 12 health priorities and a health improvement plan for the next 3-5 years, in order to help citizens have equitable access to resources, opportunities and environments that maximize their health and well-being
 - Community health assessments (including variables of demographic, housing, education, neighborhood walkability, poverty) helped to identify issues, the goal is to identify and prioritize strategy for the plan, by end of March 2015
 - The plan will focus on social determinations of health, as well as disease, and would like to promote Pedestrian Plan program (Car Free Day, Pedestrian Awareness Week)
 - Launch is expected in August 2015, with a goal to integrate the agenda and health assessments into existing programs and processes
 - Luann Hamilton commented that CDOT continues to look for opportunities to pursue Health Initiative Assessments as a part of new developments

- Ed Christopher commented the FHWA is in the process of developing framework to bring health into new development processes and that it is a priority

C. Play Streets (*Herminia Vanna, CDPH*)

- Data gathering from 2010 shows that two thirds of Chicagoans are overweight, with children in Chicago from 3-7 years old twice as likely to be overweight than in other areas of the US
- 2011 launched Healthy Chicago, a plan of 12 health priorities, including obesity prevention
- The plan works with CDOT, Chicago Park District, Chicago Police Department with goals to provide safe places for exercise. Play Streets are 1-2 closed off blocks for activities like jump rope, basketball, Zumba, and Tai Chi.
- Target neighborhoods were areas that ranked high on the hardship index areas, meaning communities with lack of jobs, food deserts, etc. and were mainly Northwest and Southwest areas
- In 2012 there were a total of 61 events with 5,402 participants; in 2014 there were 151 events with 26,117 total participants

6. Looking Ahead – Chicago Pedestrian Plan: Safety (*Rebekah Scheinfeld*)

- Next meeting will look at safety and Zero in Ten Plans for 2015
- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 6, 2015

7. Announcements from the Council

- Mike Amsden announced that the USDOT Safer Streets Safer People initiative includes that each state will host a bicycle and pedestrian safety assessment, Chicago was chosen for Illinois.
- The assessment will take place in April-May, at 79th Street, South Chicago and Stony Island.

8. Public Comment

- Allan Mellis suggested low cost home delivery for seniors from grocery stores, also suggested contacting CTA with planning construction of future senior housing near transit
- Daniel Ronan commented on his appreciation of the council's inclusion of previous meeting minute handouts, and the section for public comment, as well as his interest in looking at parking minimum requirements.

9. Adjournment