

INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR MODERNIZATION

Little Village



PUBLIC MEETINGS SUMMARY

AUGUST 8 & 9, 2018



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT





MEETINGS

On August 8 and 9, 2018, the City’s Department of Planning and Development (DPD) co-hosted the first round of Little Village Industrial Corridor Modernization (LVICM) public meetings with the Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Transportation (CDOT).

Three meetings were held at the following locations and times:

- Wednesday, August 8th, 2018; 1pm – 3pm
Little Village Branch Library
2311 S. Kedzie Ave
Chicago, IL 60623
Estimated Attendees: 51
- Thursday, August 9th, 2018; 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Toman Branch Library
2708 S. Pulaski Rd.
Chicago, IL 60623
Estimated Attendees: 28

- Thursday, August 9th, 2018; 6:30pm-8:30pm
Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez Elementary School
3000 S. Lawndale Ave.
Chicago, IL 60623
Estimated Attendees: 32

Members of the public listened to a presentation of proposed goals for the LVICM, including a review of existing conditions, an overview of proposed community priorities and strategies, and next steps for community engagement. Following the presentation, city staff were available to answer questions and gather feedback at a series of interactive stations. Questions and further comments were taken after the interactive activities.

Below is an abbreviated summary of the primary feedback received at the public meetings:

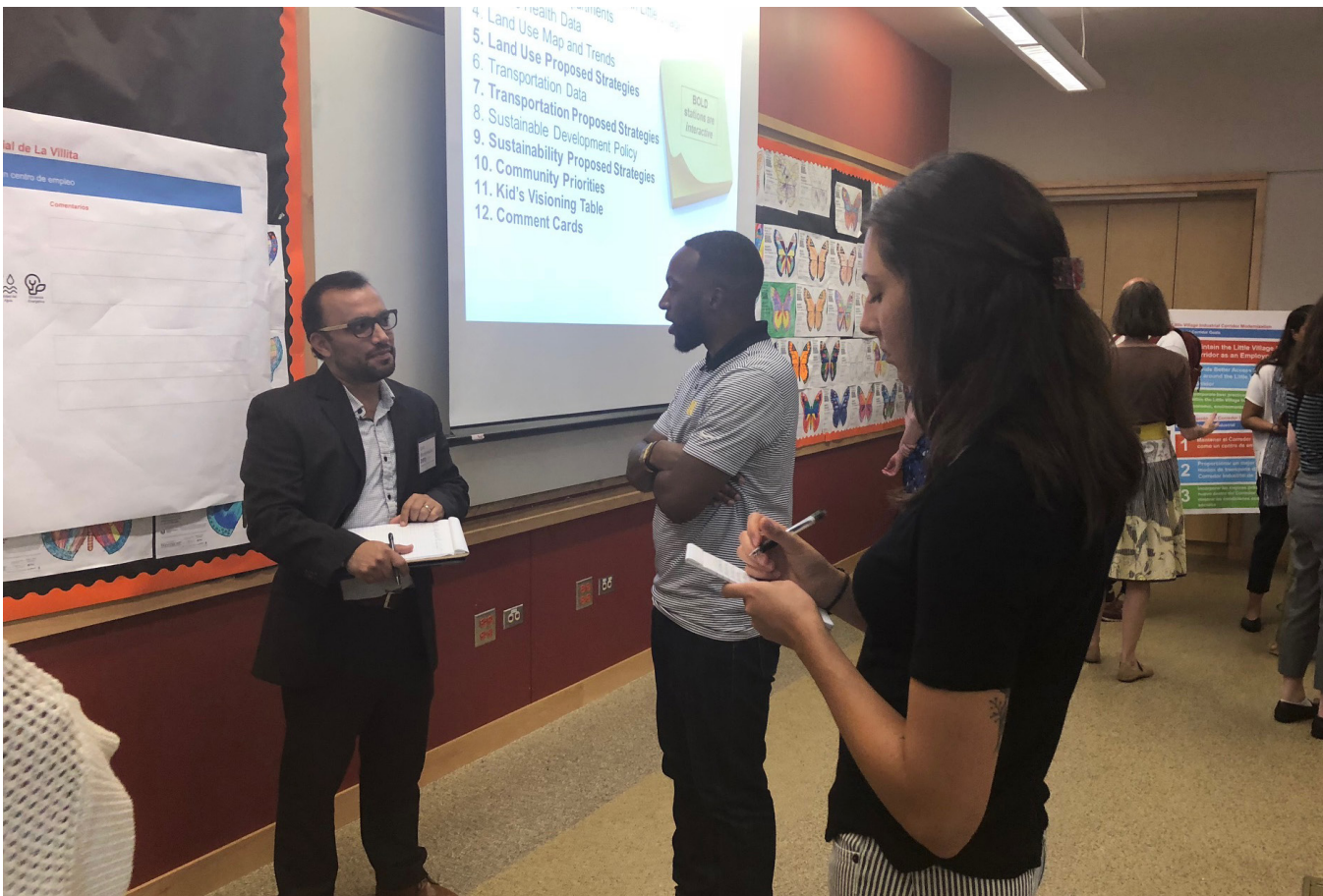
- The community is interested in high quality jobs for the community, particularly in agriculture and food manufacturing.
- There is a strong desire for more time in the project schedule to allow for additional community feedback.
- Several questions were asked about the effectiveness of the Sustainable Development Policy in addressing pollution.
- Traffic congestion and truck traffic, particularly along 31st Street were a concern.
- Simultaneous translation should be provided at upcoming meetings.

The following pages include graphics and additional summaries of responses and feedback received from the interactive stations and via comment cards:

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES BUCKETS: Which of the following community priorities are most important to you? (Participants were invited to select up to three topics)

Community Priority	Rank (All Meetings)*
Air Quality	1
Engaged Public	2
Access to Open Space	3
Water Quality	4
Physical Health	5
Economic Growth	6
Pedestrian Safety	7
Reduced Traffic	8
Workforce Development	9
Energy Efficiency	10
Transit	11
Neighborhood Connectivity	12

*1 = highest number of votes



LAND USE STRATEGIES

<p>Facilitate business expansion and relocation to the Little Village Industrial Corridor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will current industry be evaluated? • Focus on M/WBEs and community owned businesses • Local hiring • Youth development for available jobs • Consider constraints of undocumented workers • Clean up the river • No more toxic users in the corridor • Focus on food business development
<p>Mitigate environmental effects between different uses through design guidelines that incorporate best practices for industrial site and landscape design, including physical buffers between heavy industrial uses and residential or institutional uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space does not belong in the IC • Prioritize solar power • More information for community members • Prioritize air quality • Buffers are not enough, need to clean up pollution sources • Require car/truck filters
<p>Encourage innovative and sustainable models of industry within the Little Village Industrial Corridor for quality job creation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more industry, prefer schools, parks, community centers • How can vendors and community based co-ops be given priority? • Trade schools • More agriculture or and community culture • Consider the types of jobs that make sense for Little Village: landscaping, construction, food
<p>Promote partnerships to provide job readiness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Jane Adams Resource Corp, Manufacturing Renaissance, Daley College AVI, West Side Tech • Community initiatives and cultural initiatives • Work with community to provide these partnerships • Link job readiness to proper education and actual opportunities • Business incubator for vacant industrial sites • Encourage Little Village residents to start businesses • Train for emerging technologies • Youth trainings and summer camps
<p>Other Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports stadium/indoor recreation facility • Open access to river • River taxis • What are the tradeoffs of increased waterway traffic vs. increased street traffic? • Want to see a farmer's market in the corridor

TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES

<p>To enhance workplace access, improve the Little Village Industrial Corridor to better serve all modes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with community-based organizations on appropriate industrial development and best practices in public health • Keep trucks on designated routes and off of residential streets
<p>Coordinate this Industrial Corridor Plan with several upcoming transportation studies that assess existing traffic and roadway conditions and transportation management flow within the City's industrial corridors in the Southwest Side</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move Pulaski bus turnaround off 31st street • Wide setbacks with trees as buffers • Want to see this data as soon as possible • Data should be gathered at various times of day • Truck specific data
<p>Assess the feasibility of establishing an East/West industrial access road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can truck traffic be re-routed to avoid Kostner between 26th/31st?
<p>Improve pedestrian safety along West 31st Street between South Kedzie Avenue and South Pulaski Avenue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic on 31st is horrible • Not enough lights • Fix the sidewalks and make them wider • Gateway entry to 26th St retail • Make 31st a complete street, enjoyable place • Extend from Kedzie to Kostner
<p>Assess viaduct clearance projects for North/South and East/West viaducts outside of the Industrial Corridor Modernize traffic signals and timing to alleviate traffic congestion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawndale/32nd streets are damaged due to truck traffic • Are the viaducts suitable for trucks?
<p>Add bus shelters and Divvy stations adjacent to the Little Village Industrial Corridor, where appropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about additional bikes in the area given all of the safety concerns • Are there bus fare discounts available to community groups? • This is a good idea
<p>Coordinate with CTA to mirror existing bus stops on both sides of the street (or merge stops) along 31st Street</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus routes are needed on 31st/35th streets • Regular bus times to be reliable • Bus pilots will end soon on 31st/35th can these routes become permanent?
<p>Other Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happened to El Paseo? • Create a transportation policy group in Little Village • Indicate years in data presented

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

<p>Prioritize and/or add strategies from the sustainable development policy for implementation in new industrial developments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve historic Crawford buildings • Prioritize local hiring • Points for owners being local • Points for good food purchasing • Improve partnerships with community colleges for job training • Improve river access and water quality • Prioritize food related enterprises, incubator and shared kitchens • Allow greenhouses for food production • Address air quality specifically • Can the index apply to all new projects, not just PDs? • Include air monitoring • How can TIF funds best be used?
<p>Preserve the waterway infrastructure of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal for industrial users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about recreational users? • Clean up this waterway • Monitor air quality nearby • Can you do this and clean the river?
<p>Encourage the use of alternative fuel vehicles for freight operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough, freight vehicles should be eliminated
<p>Support the development of El Paseo as an opportunity to provide access for people biking and walking to the employment center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want to be able to bike between neighborhoods • Strongly agree to develop the Paseo • Clean up along the route before developing the path
<p>Support improvement and remediation of the Collateral Channel to enhance the local environment for people and nature Increase public access and use of open space along the river's edge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water must be cleaned up first, before public access • Focus on parks near IC • Community members are aware of the paths, • Areas are fenced to prevent public access
<p>Educate industrial building owners about the benefits of community solar and available funding options</p>	
<p>Other Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote cultural planning

The next step in the process will be for the City to bring further refined community priorities and strategies to the working group and subsequently, another public forum for further confirmation and/or refinement.

STAY INFORMED

Details about public meeting dates, times and locations will be posted on the project website [here](#).

Please email DPD with any questions, or if you would like to be added to our contact database:

DPD@cityofchicago.org