

INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR MODERNIZATION

Little Village



2ND WORKING GROUP MEETING SUMMARY

June 22, 2018

DPD

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



CDOT
CHICAGO DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION

MEETING

On June 22, 2018, the City’s Department of Planning and Development (DPD) co-hosted the second Little Village Industrial Corridor Modernization (LVICM) Working Group meeting with the Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Transportation (CDOT). Working group members listened to a presentation of new public health data that was requested at the first working group meeting, an overview of proposed community priorities and strategies, and next steps for community engagement. Following the presentation, working group members formed small groups of 4-5 people to discuss and refine the ideas presented as well as add new ideas to the proposed list.

None of the strategies proposed by the City received negative feedback. However, several additional ideas were shared during the meeting. Below is an overview of discussion highlights from the small group activity:

Community Priorities

(ideas added/refined by the working group in **blue**)

- Air Quality
- Pedestrian Safety
- Workforce Development
- Economic Growth
- Water Quality
- Physical Health
- Energy Efficiency
- Access to Transit
- **Engaged Public**
- **Neighborhood Connectivity**
- **Access to Open Space**
- **Reduced Traffic**

Proposed Strategies

(ideas added/refined by the working group in **blue**)

LAND USE: Maintain the Little Village Industrial Corridor as an employment center

- Facilitate business expansion and relocation to the Little Village Industrial Corridor
- 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**
- Encourage innovative and sustainable models of industry within the Little Village Industrial Corridor **for quality job creation**
- Promote partnerships to provide job readiness

TRANSPORTATION: Provide better access for all modes within and around the Little Village Industrial Corridor

- To enhance workplace access, improve the Little Village Industrial Corridor to better serve all modes
- 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
- Assess the feasibility of establishing an East/West industrial access road

- Improve pedestrian safety along West 31st Street between South Kedzie Avenue and South Pulaski Avenue
- 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**
- **Add bus shelters and Divvy stations adjacent to the Little Village Industrial Corridor, where appropriate**
- **Coordinate with CTA to mirror existing bus stops on both sides of the street (or merge stops) along 31st Street**

SUSTAINABILITY:

Incorporate best practices for new development within the Little Village Industrial Corridor to improve economic, environmental and social conditions

- Prioritize and/or add strategies from the sustainable development policy for implementation in new industrial developments
- Preserve the waterway infrastructure of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal for industrial users
- Encourage the use of alternative fuel vehicles for freight operations
- Support the development of El Paseo as an opportunity to provide access for people biking and walking to the employment center
- Support **improvement** 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**
- **Educate industrial building owners about the benefits of community solar and available funding options**

At the end of the meeting, comments were expressed about the desire for a robust community engagement program to support the Little Village Industrial Corridor Modernization process that includes youth engagement, three meeting locations for each round of public input and a variety of meeting times. The City agreed to this approach and will rely on working group members to assist with youth engagement as well as allow interested community groups to facilitate additional outreach as desired for an agreed upon amount of time following any City-hosted events.

Lastly, several comments were made about utilizing Industrial Impact Fees from development in other corridors for improvements to the Little Village Corridor. To clarify how that program works, please see the Industrial Corridor System Fee overview, [here](#). It is important to note that funds are paid for at the time of building permit issuance for projects within the identified conversion areas. Therefore, availability of funds will be contingent on proposed zoning changes and permit issuance within these conversion areas.

The next step in the process will be for the City to bring draft community priorities and strategies to a public forum for further confirmation and/or refinement. Details about public meeting dates, times and locations will be posted

on the project website [here](#).

STAY INFORMED

DPD will post upcoming meeting dates and presentations on our website:

<https://www.cityofchicago.org/dpd>

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

DPD@cityofchicago.org