

Dave Smith, AICP

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager Chicago Department of Transportation

Community Meeting #2
August 22, 2019





PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Identified need in Lincoln Park for increased pedestrian, bicycle, and motor vehicle safety
- No low-stress east/west bikeway exists in Lincoln Park
- Dickens was identified as the best opportunity for a family-friendly route
- Dickens was identified as a neighborhood bicycle route in the Streets for Cycling 2020 plan





PUBLIC OUTREACH

April 2019

Stakeholder Meetings

Meetings with stakeholder groups to introduce the project and get initial feedback.

May 2019

Public Meeting #1

August 2019

Public Meeting #2

CDOT and the 43rd Ward met with representatives from:

- Sheffield Neighborhood Association
- Lincoln Central Association
- RANCH Triangle
- Lincoln Park High School
- St James Lutheran Church & School
- Chicago Park District
- Active Transportation Alliance



WHAT WE'VE HEARD

- Why Dickens when there are bike lanes on Armitage?
- Will this project invite more bicyclists onto Dickens?
- Bicyclists don't follow the rules
- Concerns about pedestrian safety
- Questions about the Oz Park path
- Concerns about school pick-up/drop-off at St James



WHAT WE'VE HEARD

- This will make the street safer for people walking
- This will provide a more comfortable alternative to biking on Armitage
- Add more traffic calming
- Two-way bike travel makes sense. That's how people already use the street.
- A family-friendly bike route would be great for our children



ACTIONS SINCE MAY COMMUNITY MEETING

- MORE DATA COLLECTED on Dickens and other Neighborhood Greenways
- ADDITIONAL PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ELEMENTS ADDED
- REVISED CURB EXTENSIONS at the Dickens/Lincoln/Cleveland intersection
- OPTIONS DEVELOPED for St James School
- **OPTIONS DEVELOPED** for Oz Park
- ADDITIONAL BIKE PARKING for Oz Park



DICKENS NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY

1. IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Make it safer and easier for pedestrians to cross the street Make pedestrians more visible to motorists and bicyclists Improve access to schools, parks, and other destinations

2. ORGANIZE THE STREET

Clearly define the travel lane to stop dangerous driving behaviors Stop motorists from driving the wrong way on the street Make bicyclists already riding on the street <u>more predictable</u>

3. CONSISTENT & PREDICTABLE VEHICLE SPEEDS

Ensure cars and bicycles are traveling at appropriate speeds



NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAYS ARE NOT



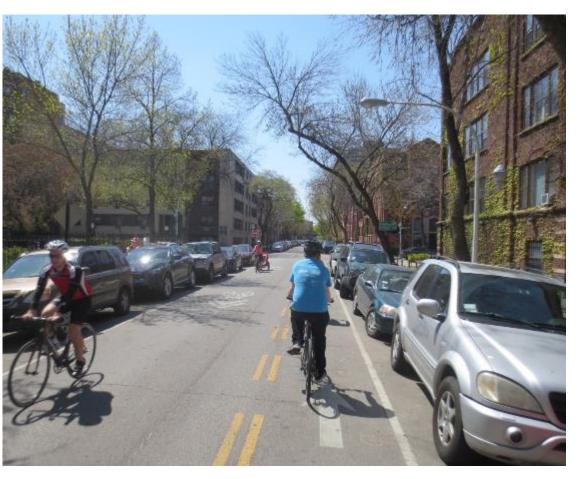










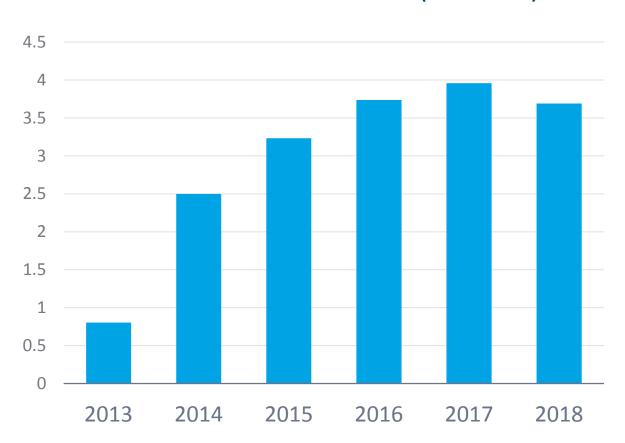


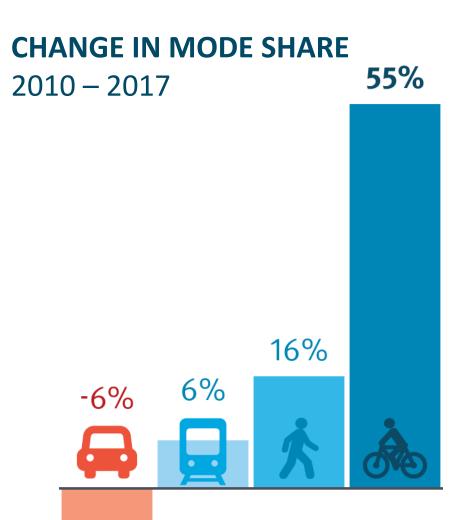


Bicycling is Growing...

IN CHICAGO

ANNUAL DIVVY TRIPS (Millions)







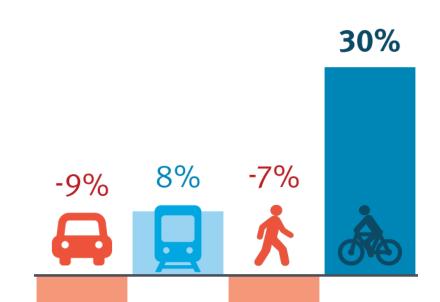
Bicycling is Growing...

IN LINCOLN PARK

OZ PARK DIVVY STATION Top 15% in Usage



CHANGE IN MODE SHARE 2010 – 2017



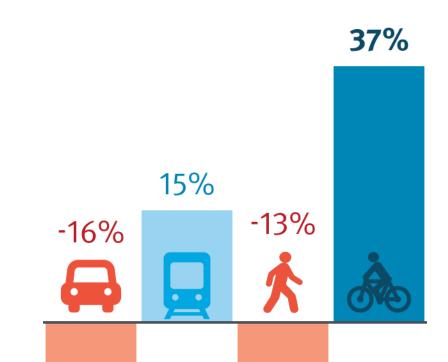


Bicycling is Growing...

ALONG DICKENS



CHANGE IN MODE SHARE 2010 – 2017





TRAFFIC COMPLIANCE

- We all have to do better
 Multiple national studies found bicyclists and motorists comply with
 traffic laws at the same rate
- Compliance in Numbers
 Studies show bicycle compliance in traffic laws increase as ridership increases
- In Chicago bicycle-specific infrastructure has increased compliance
 - Bike-specific traffic signals have increase red light compliance by 197%
 - Protected bike lanes have decreased sidewalk riding 73%



CHICAGO BIKE AMBASSADORS

- CDOT will commit our Bike Ambassadors and CPD as the project is implemented
- CPD believes enforcement missions are effective at improving traffic law compliance



Types of events:

- Bike safety at schools
- Safe routes for seniors
- Learn to ride a bike
- Helmet fittings
- Bike rides
- Outreach at events
- Police engagement



CHICAGO BIKE AMBASSADORS

- CDOT & CPD can provide resources and stage enforcement missions on Dickens and at Oz Park
- We believe enforcement missions make a difference and improve traffic law compliance

2018 Outreach:

- 515 events
- 115 parks
- 76 schools
- 61 police engagements

2,137 bicyclists & motorists warned75,263 people educated



TRAFFIC CRASHES

- 40,000 people are killed by motor vehicles each year in the United States
 - National Safety Council
- Motor vehicle crashes are the #1 cause of child deaths in the United States
 - Center for Disease Control
- Cities with high biking rates show a much lower risk of fatal crashes for everyone compared to other cities
 - University of Colorado

In Chicago:

- 80,000+ crashes
- 100+ fatalities
- 35+ pedestrian fatalities
- 21,000+ injury crashes



WHY DICKENS?

- Provides a low-stress alternative to Armitage
- Traffic signals and all-way stop signs to cross major streets
- Lower traffic volumes
- Neighborhood connections
- Already used by many people of all ages and abilities



LOW-STRESS BIKEWAYS

HIGH

LOW











NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY



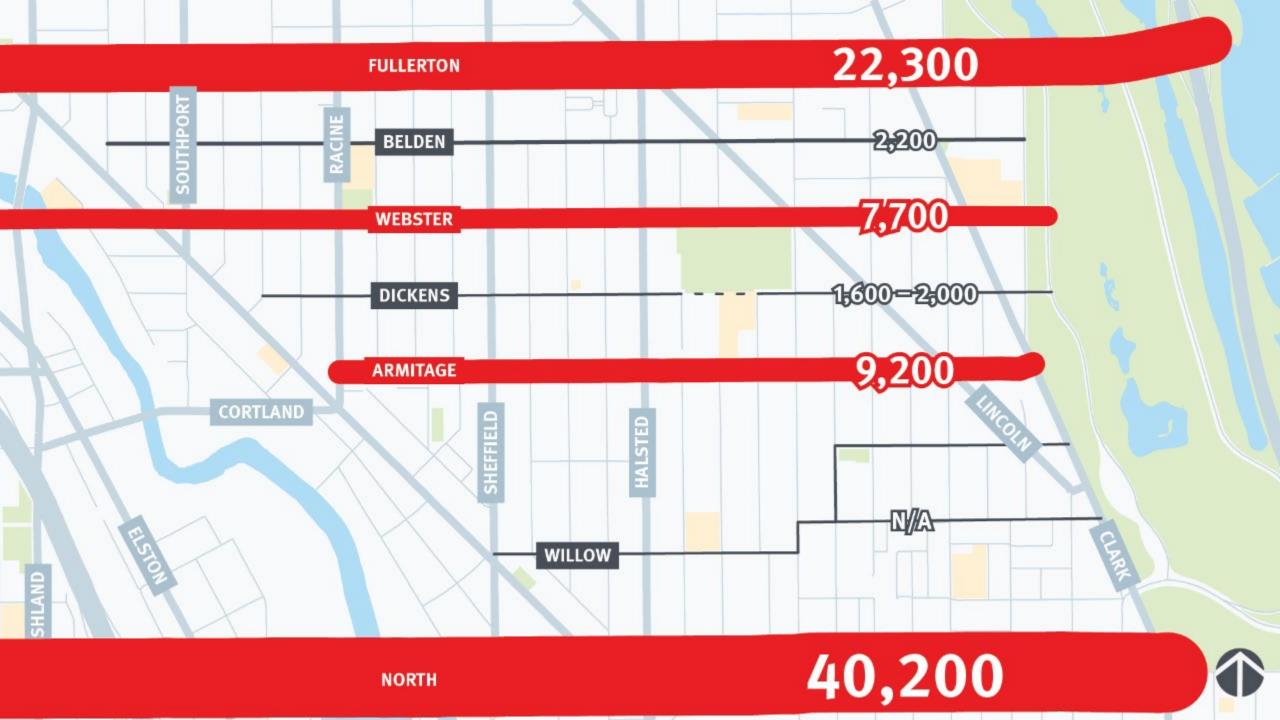
PROTECTED BIKE LANE



LOW-STRESS BIKEWAYS

Comfortable for people of all ages and abilities





ARMITAGE IS NOT A LOW-STRESS BIKEWAY

- Busy commercial corridor
- High traffic volumes
- High parking turnover
- Buses, delivery vehicles, pick-ups/drop-offs
- Minimum bike lane width
- Bike lane cannot be upgraded without wholesale parking removal





WHY DICKENS?

DICKENS

38' W Very wide one-way street

1,800

Vehicles per day

MPH average

29.4%

Over 20 MPH

Cars over 30 MPH

ARMITAGE

Narrow commercial street

9,000

Vehicles per day

18.6

MPH average

46.3%

Over 20 MPH

Cars over 30 MPH



WHY DICKENS? CRASH DATA

DICKENS

Total Crashes

21% with Injuries



86% of injuries

ARMITAGE

Total Crashes

33% with Injuries



76% of injuries



WHY DICKENS?

DICKENS

- 115 bicyclists per weekday
- 110 bicyclists per Saturday
- 40% riding contraflow



ARMITAGE

- 530 bicyclists per weekday
- 385 bicyclists per Saturday





















CDOT analyzed three existing Neighborhood Greenways & their corresponding arterial street

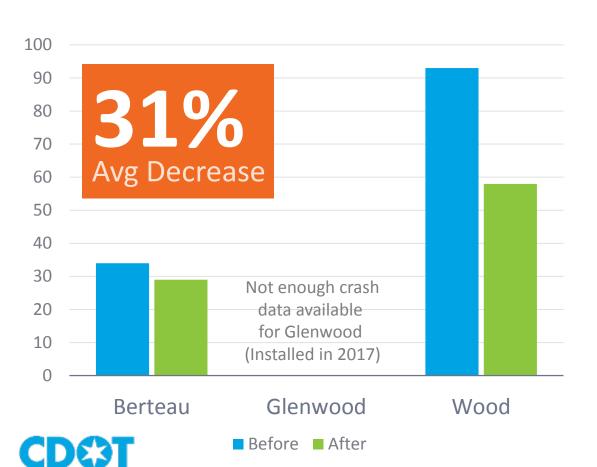
- Berteau Greenway Damen to Clark
 Provides a low-stress alternative to Montrose Avenue (signed bike route)
- Glenwood Greenway Foster to Ridge
 Provides a low-stress alternative to Clark Street (shared lane markings)
- Wood Greenway Augusta to Milwaukee
 Provides a low-stress alternative to Damen Avenue (bike lanes)



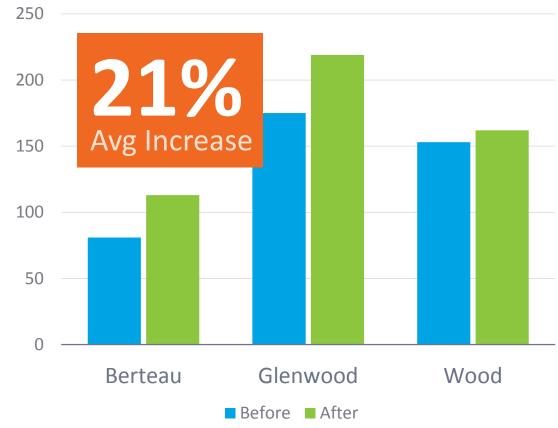
- CRASHES DECREASED on Neighborhood Greenways
- NUMBER OF BICYCLISTS INCREASED on Neighborhood Greenways, but they are still <u>not as busy as the nearby arterials</u>
- MORE WOMEN AND CHILDREN bike on Neighborhood Greenways than on the nearby arterial streets
- BICYCLISTS RIDE SLOWER on Neighborhood Greenways than on the nearby arterial streets



CRASHES DECREASED



BICYCLISTS INCREASED



- Cities across the country have implemented neighborhood greenways
- Neighborhood Greenways have been found to reduce crashes
- Evaluation of nine greenways in Seattle, Washington found:
 - Motor vehicle speeds dropped 17%
 - No fatal or serious injuries from crashes
- Study of seven greenways in Berkley, California found:
 - Greenways carry a lower overall severe injury risk than arterials



BERTEAU GREENWAY

- Damen to Clark
- Provides a low-stress alternative to Montrose Avenue (signed bike route)
- Installed in 2013
- Includes contraflow bike lanes

Chicago's first Neighborhood Greenway





















GLENWOOD GREENWAY

- Foster to Ridge
- Provides a low-stress alternative to Clark Street (shared lane markings)
- Includes contraflow bike lanes
- Installed in 2017

























WOOD GREENWAY

- Augusta to Milwaukee
- Provides a low-stress alternative to Damen Avenue
- Includes contraflow bike lanes
- Installed in 2014













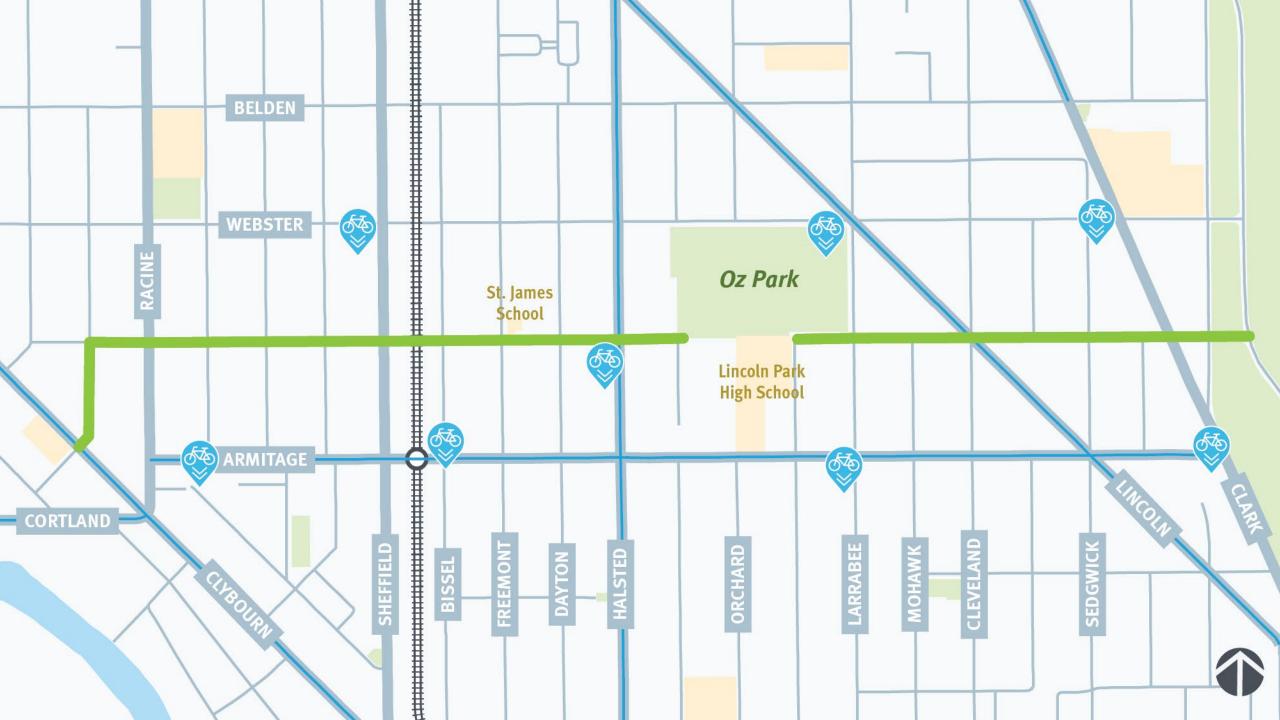




DICKENS GREENWAY

- Already a popular bicycle route
- Providing a FAMILY-FRIENDLY alternative to bicycling on Armitage
- CONNECTING people to Oz Park, Lincoln Park, Schools, Retail Corridors





TRAFFIC CALMING

Elements added to the street which...

- Make people walking MORE VISIBLE to motorists and bicyclists
- Encourage SAFER & MORE PREDICTABLE SPEEDS for everyone
- Allow vulnerable users, such as children and the elderly, to more SAFELY CROSS THE STREET
- Improve the safety of people walking, biking, and driving by
 REDUCING THE LIKELINESS AND SEVERITY OF CRASHES in the future
- DISCOURAGE DANGEROUS DRIVING like going the wrong-way



TRAFFIC CALMING

- Proven safety countermeasures
- Reduce motor vehicle speeds
- Decrease crashes
- Improve the safety of people walking
- Effective throughout the country

Endorsed by:

- US Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- Illinois DOT & other state DOTs
- Institute of Transportation Engineers
 & other professional organizations



WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

- 20 MPH speed limit
- Wayfinding signage
- High visibility crosswalks (27)
- Concrete curb extensions (45)
- Raised crosswalks (5)
- Sinusoidal speed humps (5)
- Shared lane markings
- Bike lanes and contraflow lanes





WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

- Indicates bicyclists are on a designated bikeway
- Typically placed at decision points along a neighborhood greenway
- Directs bicyclists to nearby destinations



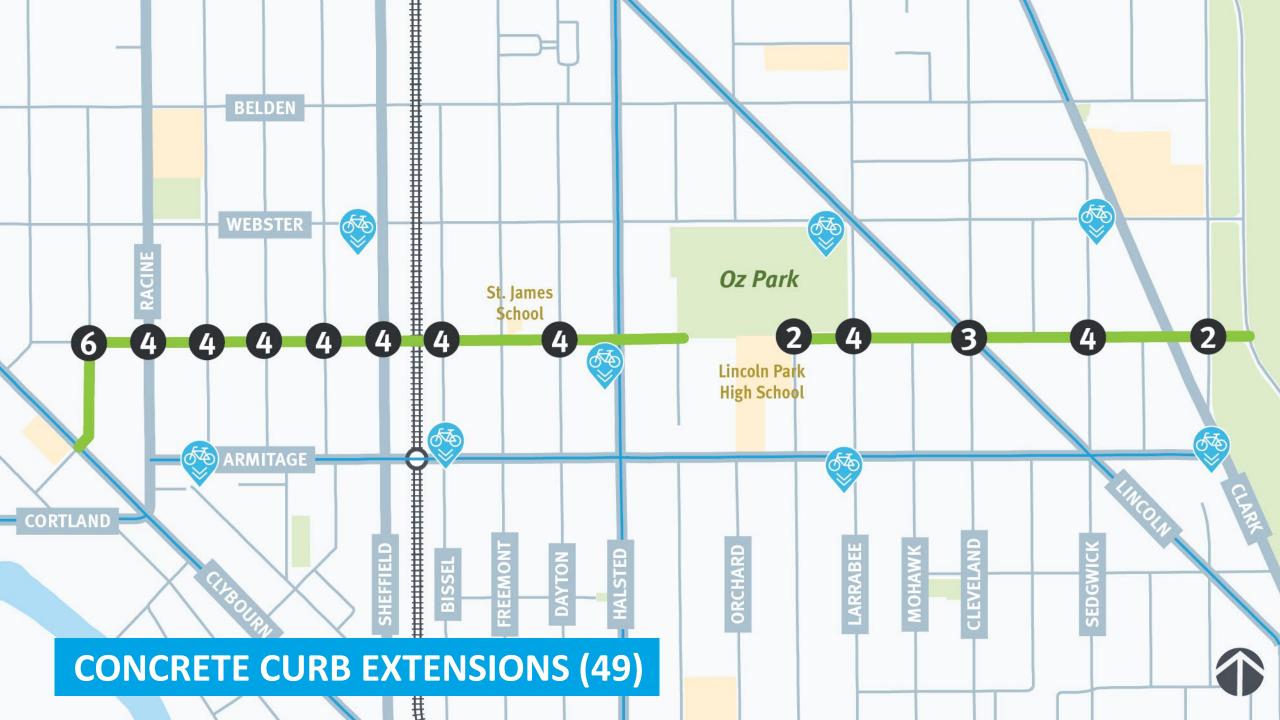
HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALKS

- More visible to approaching vehicles than standard crosswalks
- Have been shown to improve yielding behavior of motorists



CONCRETE CURB EXTENSIONS

- Reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians
- Make pedestrians more visible to motorists and bicyclists before crossing the street
- Encourage slower speeds for turning and through vehicles
- Stamped concrete or landscaped

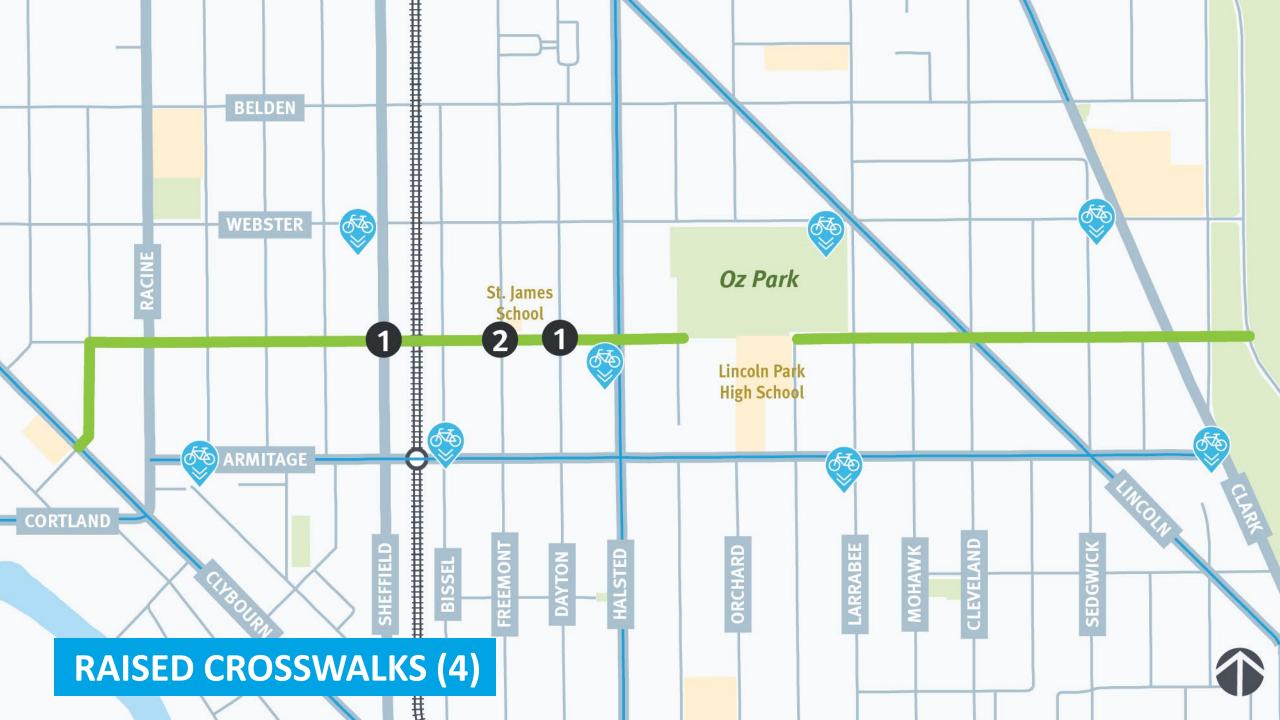




RAISED CROSSWALKS

- Make pedestrians more visible to motorists and bicyclists as they cross the street
- Encourage <u>motorists</u>
 and <u>bicyclists</u> to fully
 stop before entering the
 intersection
- Encourage slower, more consistent speeds

45% Pedestrian Crash Reduction

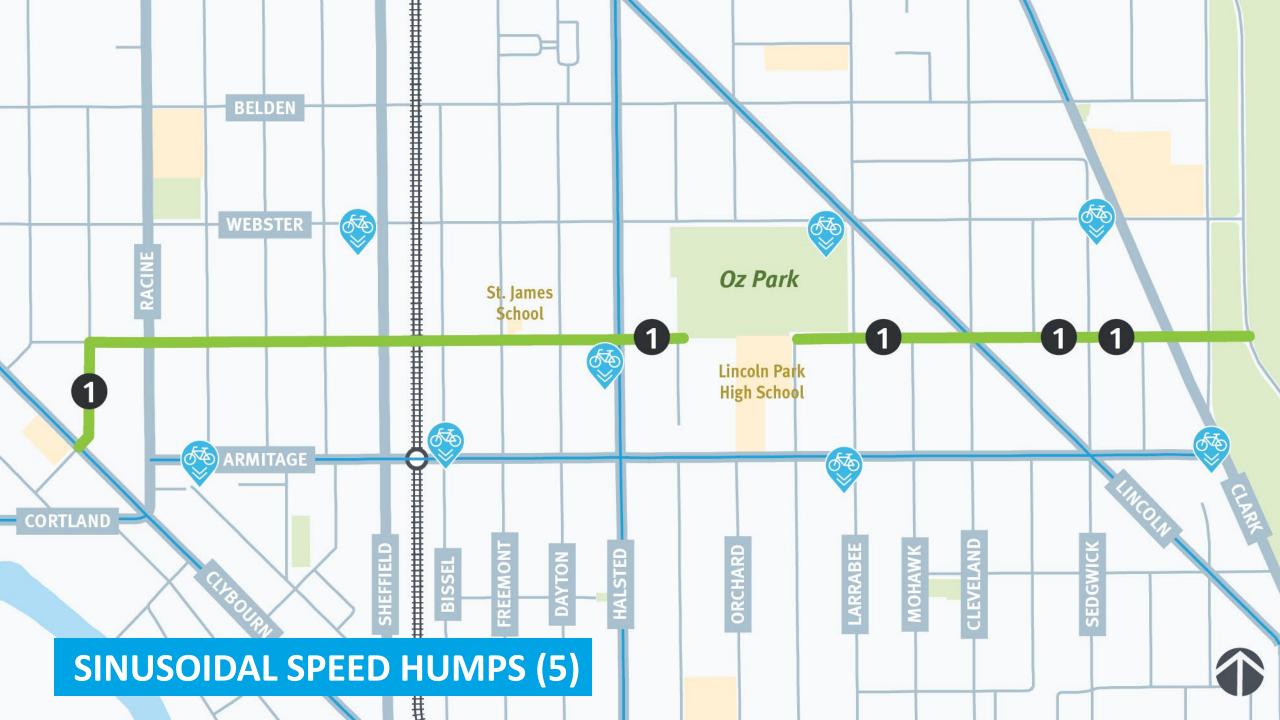




SINUSOIDAL SPEED HUMPS

- Effective at reducing speeds and volumes on neighborhood streets
- Smoother to drive and bike over than regular speed humps
- Encourage slower and more consistent <u>vehicle</u> and bike speeds

50% Crash Reduction





SHARED LANE MARKINGS

- Denote shared bicycle and vehicle travel lanes
- Remind motorists that bicycle travel is prioritized
- Encourage proper positioning by bicyclists
- Help direct bicyclists along a route



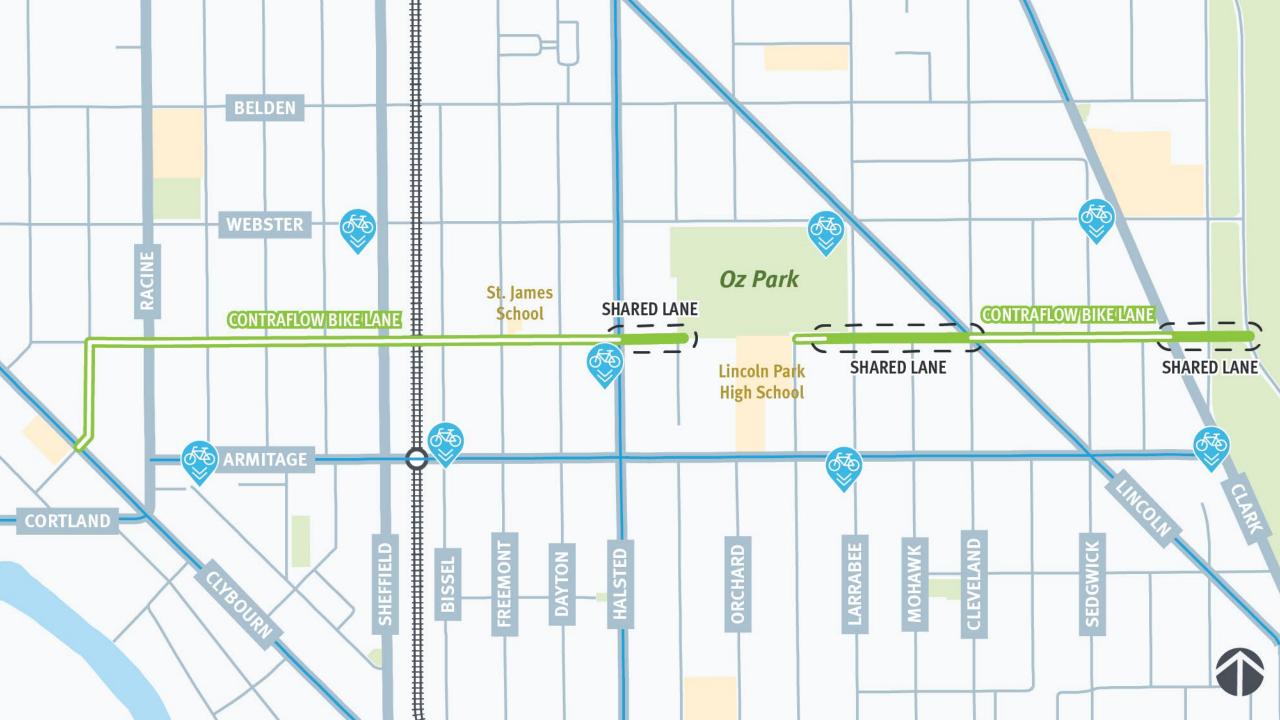
BIKE LANES

- Separate bicyclists from motorists to provide a dedicated space to ride
- Organize the street so motorists know where to expect bike riders
- Slow automobile traffic to safer speeds



CONTRAFLOW BIKE LANES

- Allow two-way bicycle traffic on one-way streets
- "Desire lines" where bicyclists are already riding in both directions
- Organize the street so motorists know where to expect bike riders
- Slow automobile traffic to safer speeds





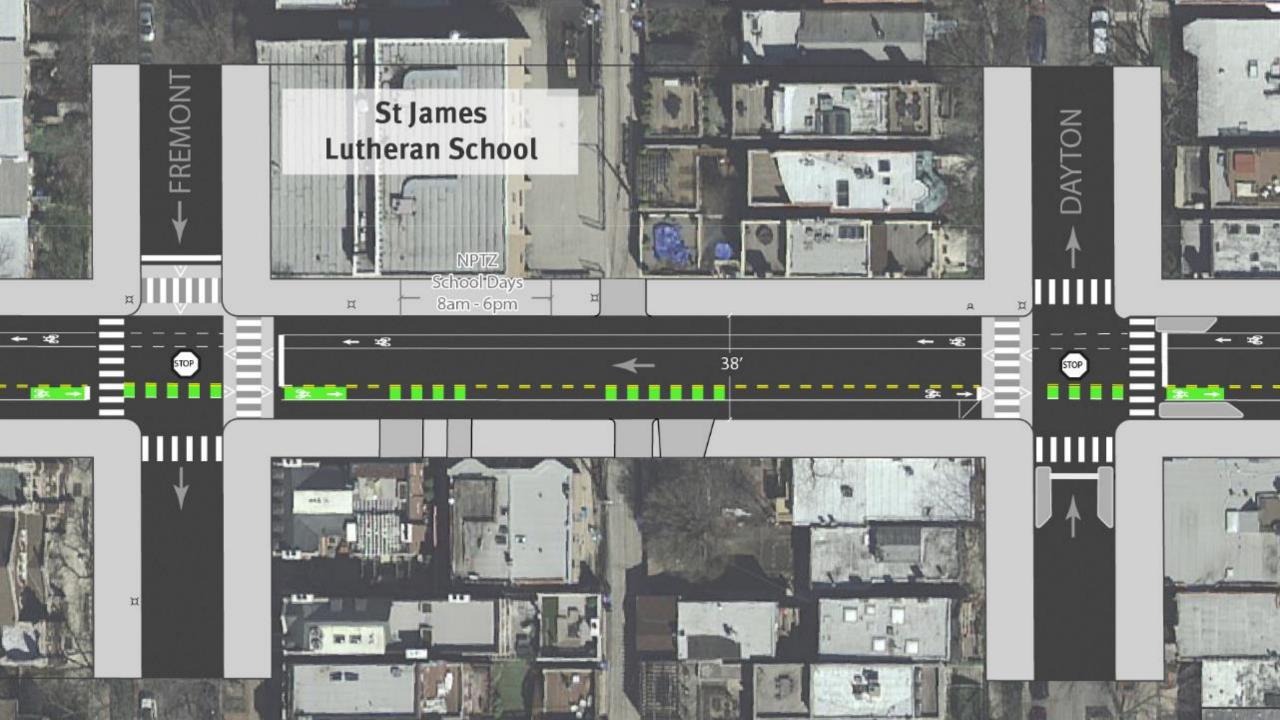


ST JAMES SCHOOL

Pick-up/drop-off was identified as a concern from the community

- Raised crosswalks added to increase the safety & visibility of students, parents, teachers, and visitors to the school
- Working with the 43rd Ward to provide more curbside space for student pick-up and drop-off
- St James evaluating their pick-up and drop-off procedures



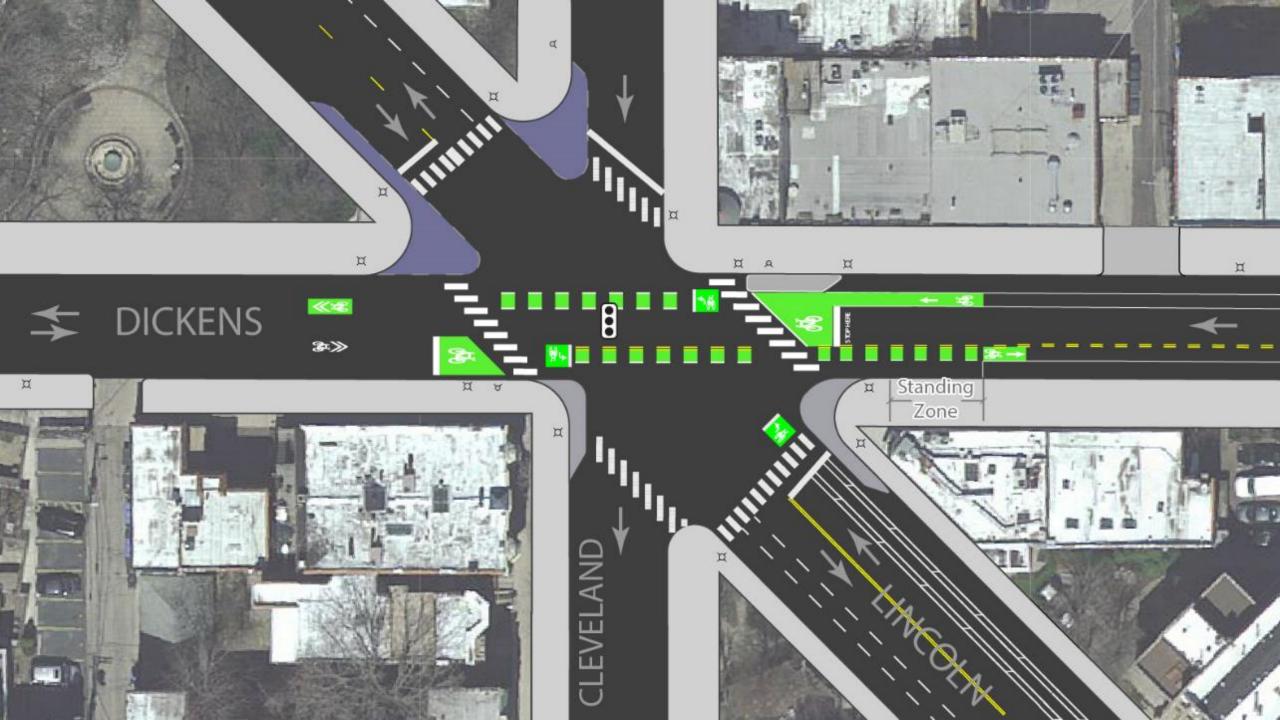


DICKENS/LINCOLN/CLEVELAND

Intersection identified as a concern for people walking and biking

- Curb extensions to improve pedestrian safety and shorten crossing distances
- Pavement markings to help guide bicyclists through the intersection
- Turn boxes to help bicyclists turn onto Lincoln from Dickens
- Coordination with CTA to improve transit operations





OZ PARK

Oz Park was identified as a concern from the community

- Oz Park is a destination for people on bikes
- Numerous options were evaluated near Oz Park
- Bike parking proposed throughout the park
- Wayfinding signage to highlight Oz Park as a destination
- Park entrances designed to slow people biking if they enter the park









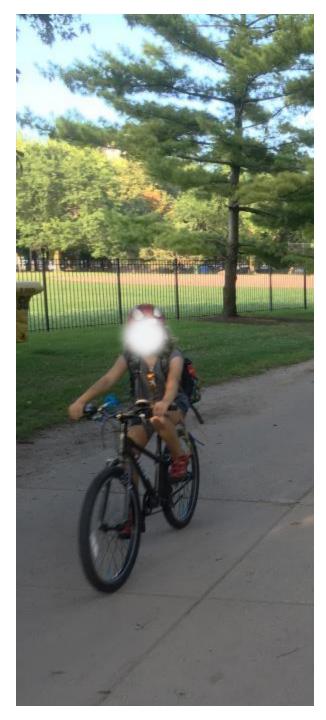


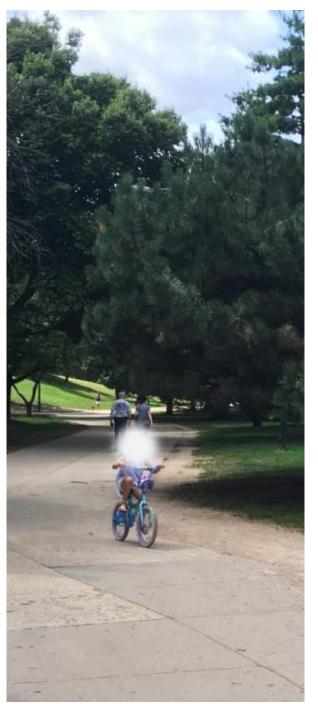




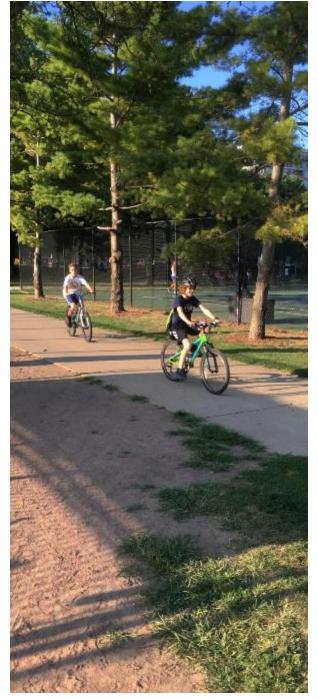
























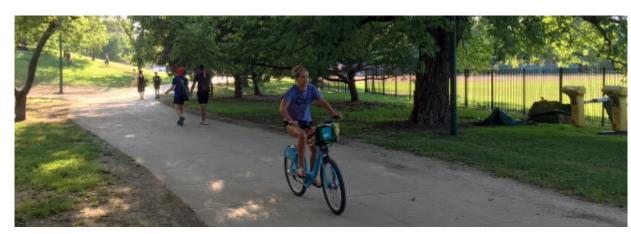




















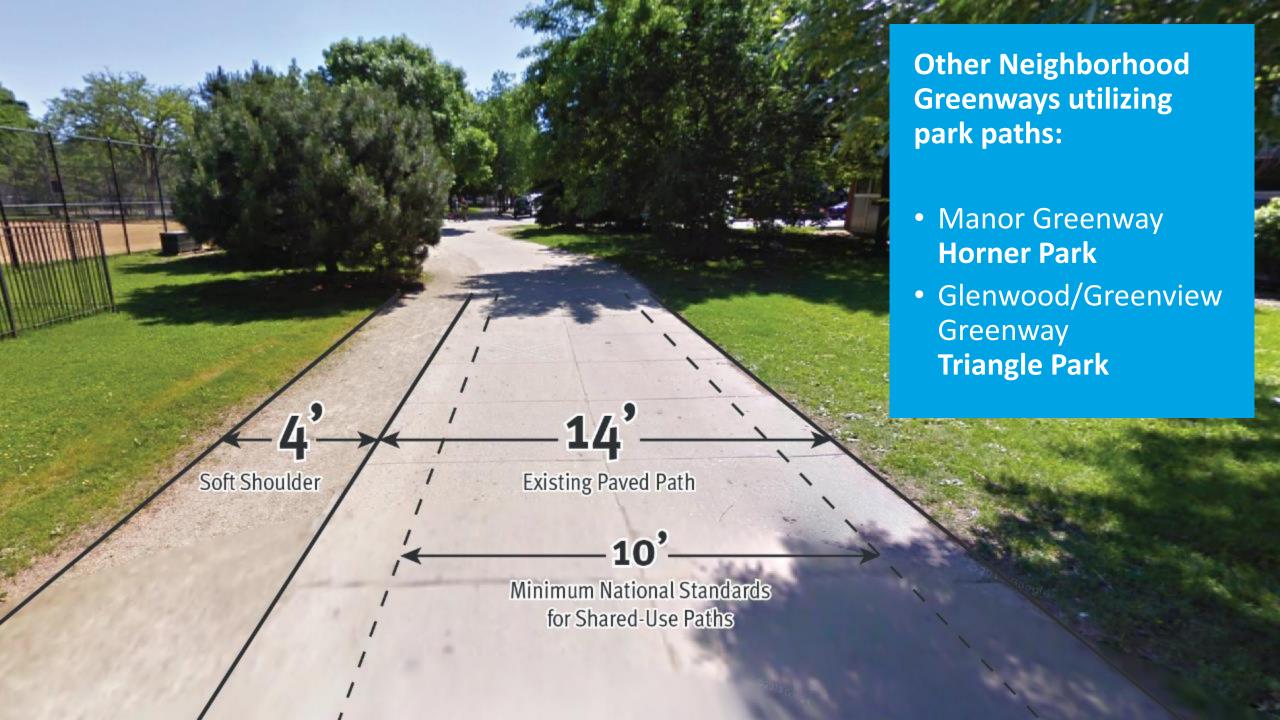


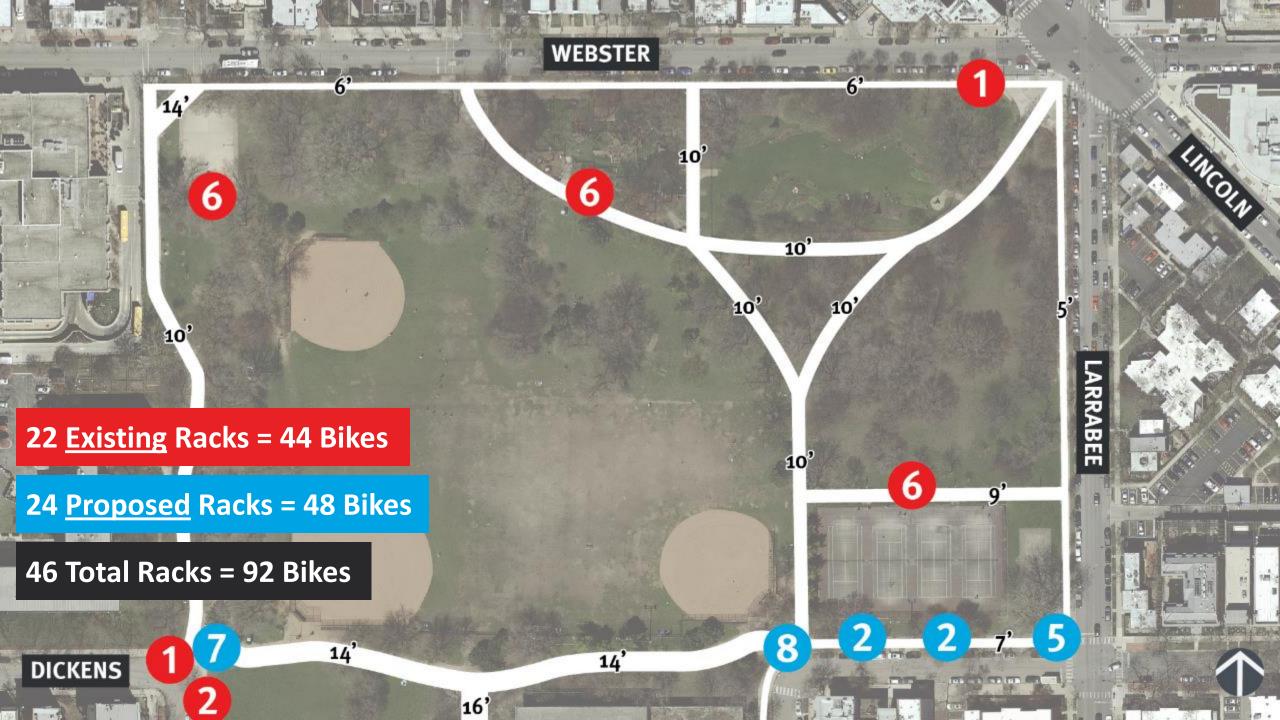




PATH WIDENING

















NEXT STEPS

- Compile feedback from tonight
- Post presentations and exhibits on 43rd Ward website
- Collect and review all feedback
- CDOT to make a final recommendation

Please visit the boards to provide comments on proposed project elements



THANK YOU!



David Smith, AICP

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager Chicago Department of Transportation

CHICAGOCOMPLETESTREETS.ORG

CDOTbikes@cityofchicago.org

