# Chicago Avenue Visioning Workshop



June 26, 2020





# Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Workshop Goals
- **3**. Previous Planning Efforts
- 4. Market Conditions
- **5.** Opportunity Sites
- 6. Breakout Groups
- 7. Full Group Discussion
- 8. Next Steps



# Community

Andrea Smith Audrey Woodley, Changing Oasis Darnell Shields, *Austin Coming Together* Flavian Prince Grady Norwood Jr, BCCI Letrusia May, L May Creations & AAABNA Dr. Liz Lockhart Malcolm Crawford, AAABNA Margaret Garner Melody Lewis, Austin Chamber of Commerce Melvin Bailey Morris Reed, West Side Health Authority Rufus Pulphus, BOWA Construction Shirley Fields Tenisha Jones, West Side United Vanessa Stokes, SSA 72 Manager



Chicago Central Area Committee

- Perkins + Will
- Lamar Johnson Collaborative
- SB Friedman
- Compass Realty
- Lendlease
- Integra
- Sam Schwartz
- D'Escoto Inc

Aldermen Mitts & Taliaferro DPD DOH

CDOT CTA



### **Additional Challenges**

#### COVID-19

- Health
- Economy
- Protests
- Unrest
- Reopening

#### Public Safety



## Workshop Goals

- Determine parcel-specific development possibilities & priorities for Chicago Ave
  - Create new amenities & businesses to benefit Austin
  - Develop publicly-owned land and, where feasible, partner with private owners for larger projects

#### CCAC members provide pro-bono technical assistance:

- 1. Real estate analysis & urban design work to support RFPs for development opportunities
- 2. Technical assistance & relationship building with local developers & contractors
- 3. Visible improvements that show residents progress on the corridor



# **Previous Planning Efforts**

#### 2018 LISC & ACT

#### **AUSTIN** FORWARD. TOGETHER.



#### 2020 CCAC & WBC



ARCADIS









## Previous Development Priorities on Chicago Ave

#### Entertainment & Attractions Soul City

- Entertainment Hub @ Mayfield
- Soul Center @ Menard
  - Food trucks
  - Café
  - Amphitheater
- Bar/music venue
- Public plazas / markets
  COODERLAM & MORTS





## Previous Development Priorities on Chicago Ave

#### **Health & Wellness**

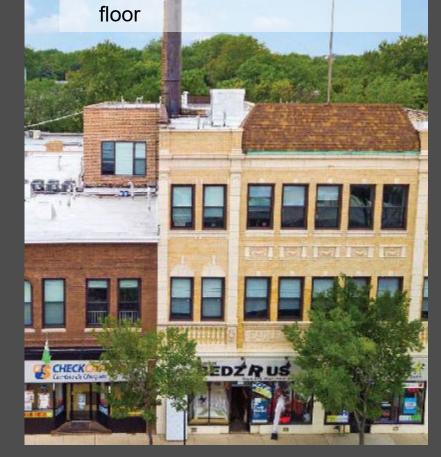
- Medical Office
- Family Care, Urgent Care
- Fitness & Training
- Rec Center





- College Satellite
- Trade School / Learning Center
- Library-Focused Space

#### ResidentialMore residential above first





#### Related Concerns on Chicago Ave

#### **Attract Private Investment**

- Educate investors & lenders on commercial opportunities
- More profitable, job-generating, wealth-creating uses

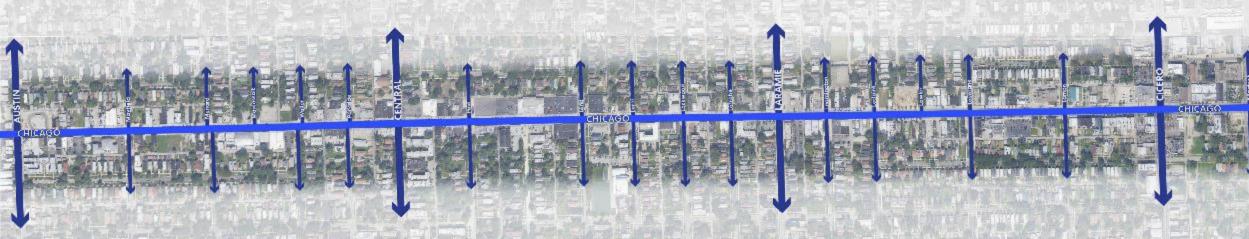
#### Invest in Existing Assets

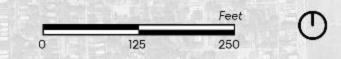
- Preserve & invest in vacant buildings
- Community arts & cultural centers
- Improve parks & vacant lots

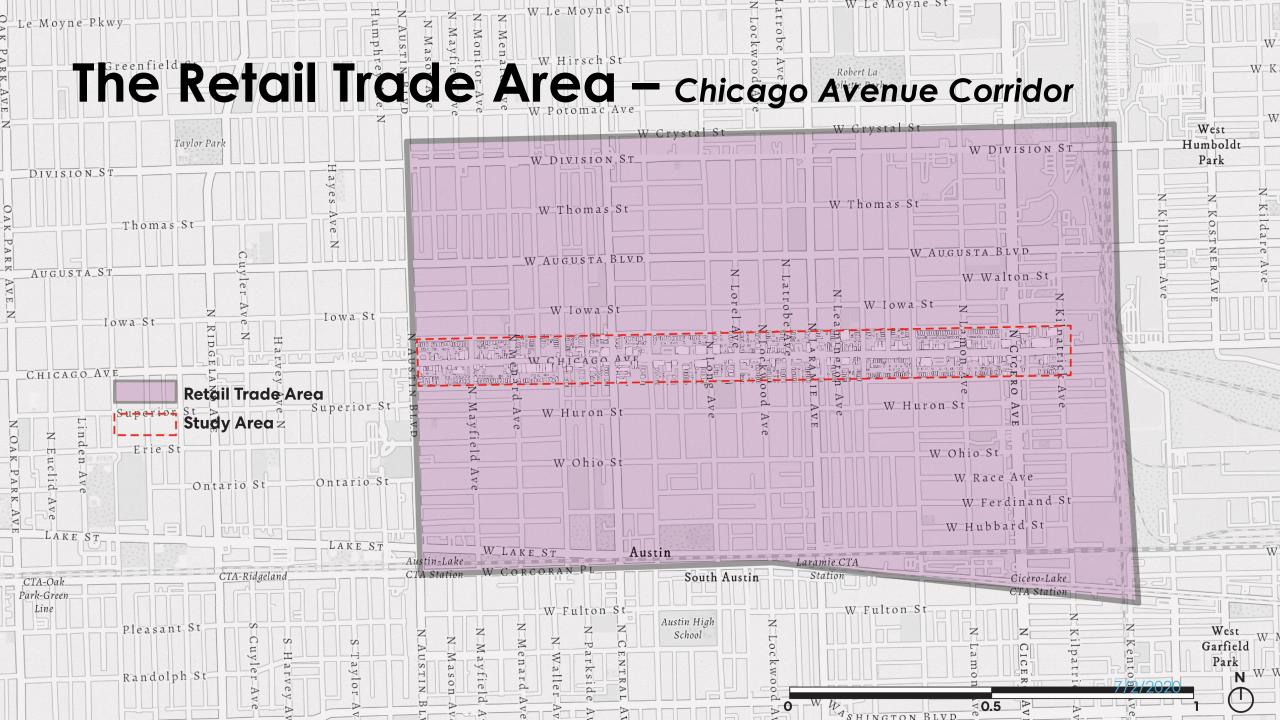
#### Public Safety Concerns



#### The Study Area - Chicago Avenue Corridor







### Market Area Demographics

**29.8%** *Owners* 

9,516

Households



52.5% Renters

Households Size

3.01

**17.** Vaca

**17.7%** *Vacant Units* 

\$32,657

Median Income

**102 years** Average age of buildings with available construction data in the Study Area

		Black , 91.7%
Race	Hispanic Origin, 6.2%	
	Other, 3.4%	
	White , 3.1%	
	Two or More Races, 1.6%	



**Source -** 2019 Esri estimates based on U.S. Census 7/2/2020

#### "We Would Shop Here If We Could"



#### Total Retail Leakage In Austin

Austin Quality of Life Plan 2018

	Leakage	Supportable SF on Corridor
Grocery Stores		
Health & Personal Care Stores		

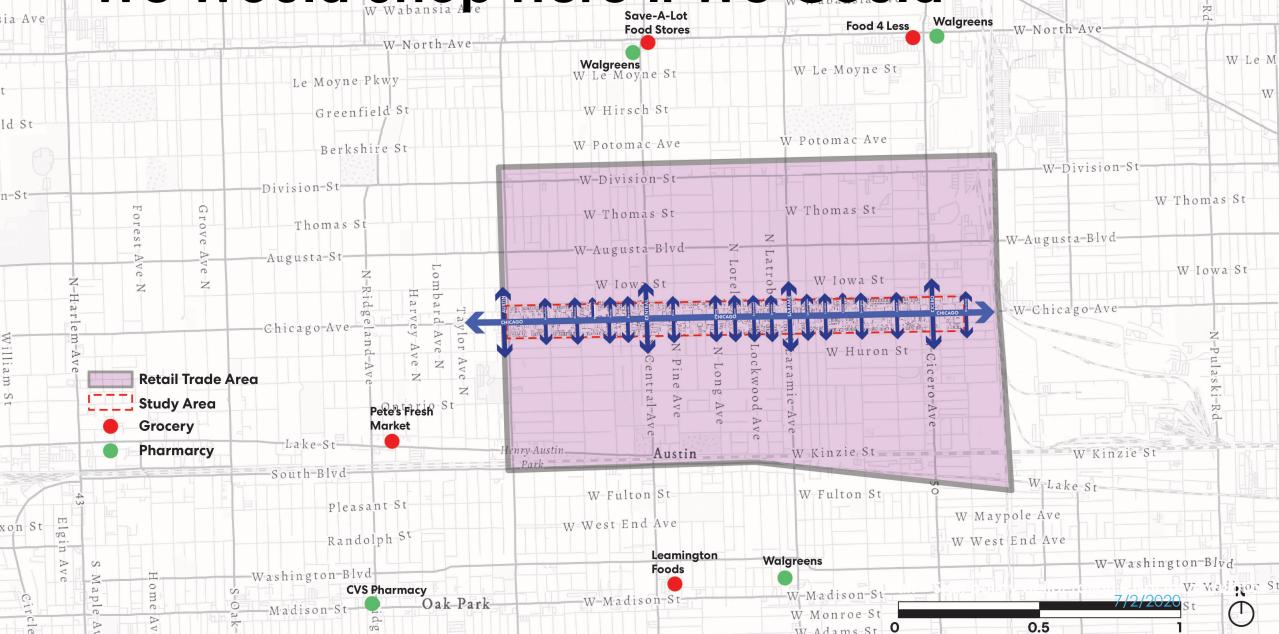


W Cortland St

C t d Av

Walmart Pharmacy

#### "We Would Shop Here If We Could"



### Active Ground Floors - Traditional Retail

 Chicago Avenue is a traditional commercial corridor and the Vision should address existing gaps

#### Traditional Ground Floor Retail

Food & Beverage – Restaurants, Bars Neighborhood Serving – Grocery Store, Pharmacy, Boutiques, Merchandise Retail





#### Active Ground Floors - Beyond Traditional Retail

• With changes to consumer patterns, new, traditional retail is limited on corridor

Consider other types of uses that can activate the street frontage

Health and Wellness

*Medical Office (incl. mental health) Fitness* Fresh, Healthy Food Economic/ Workforce Development

Building Trades Manufacturing Training Entrepreneurship Small Business Scale-Up Career Counseling **Civic and Cultural** 

Arts Music Museum Library Services

Professional Childcare Social Government



# Market Conditions

#### **Positives**

- Community Anchors/Assets
- Recent leasing and sales activity around Central and Chicago Intersection
- Absence of full-line grocery and pharmacy within half mile
- No nearby competing corridor (but strong competitors within 1-2 miles)
- Significant car traffic along Chicago Avenue

#### Challenges

- Reverse pattern of spending leakage
- Difficult to fill first floor traditional retail
- Commercial rents not sufficient to support development cost
- Residential rents and pricing are below cost of new construction
- Demand/interest for multifamily residential not yet known
- Development on the corridor will need public subsidy to be realized



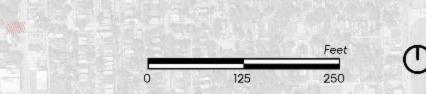
# **Opportunity Sites**



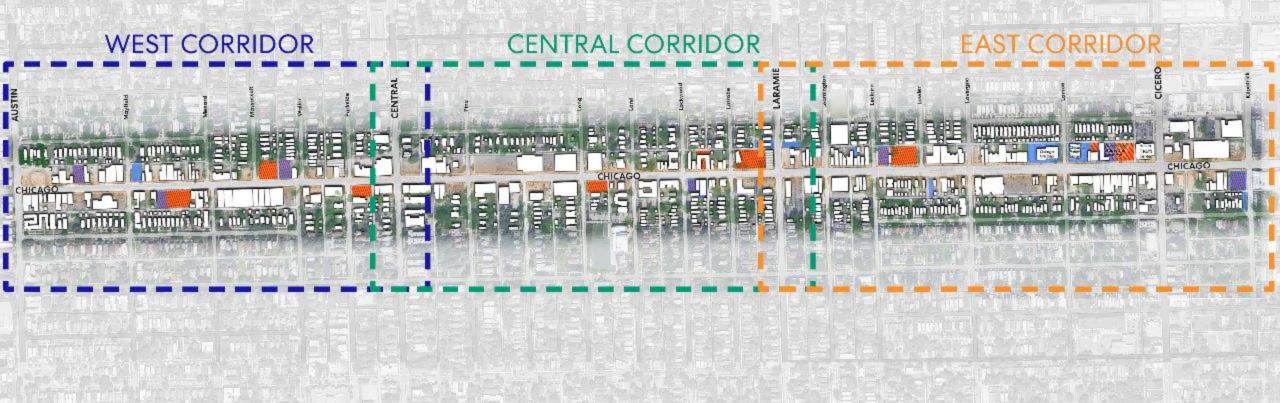
## **Opportunities Along the Corridor**



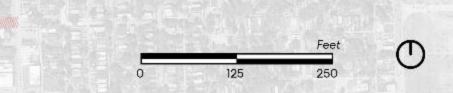




# **Corridor Segments**

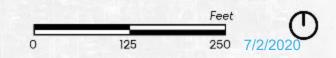


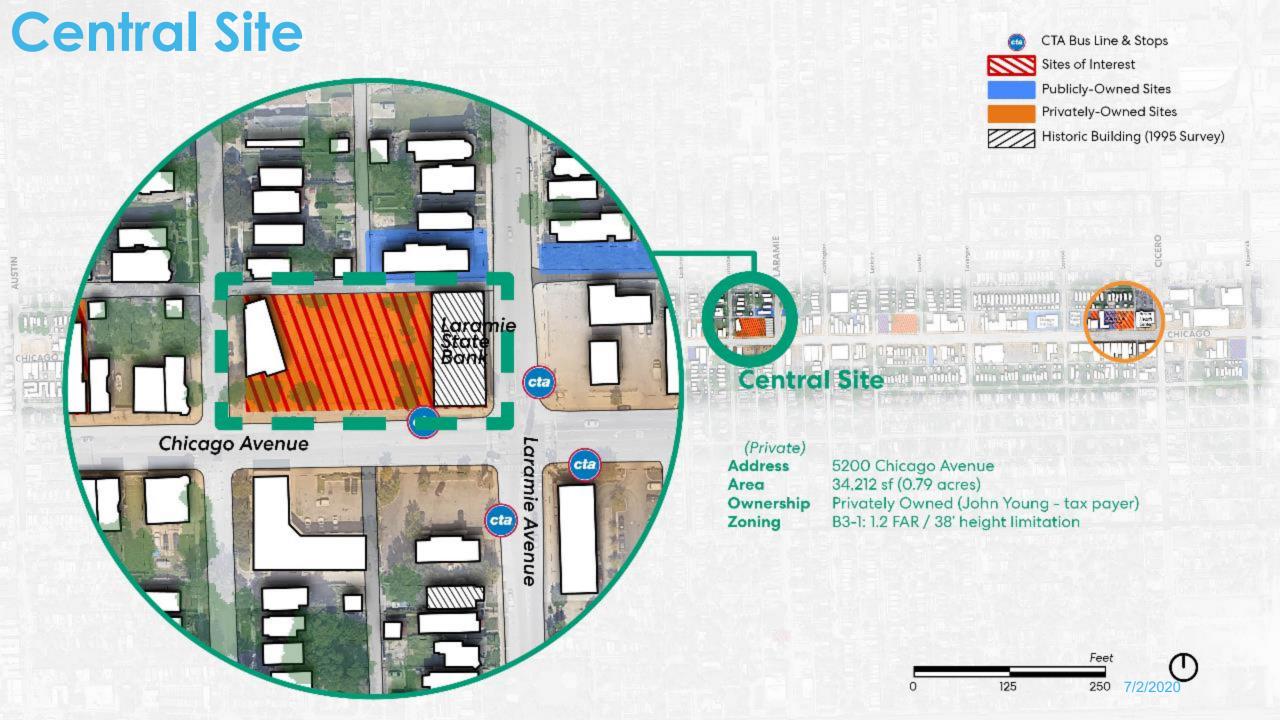




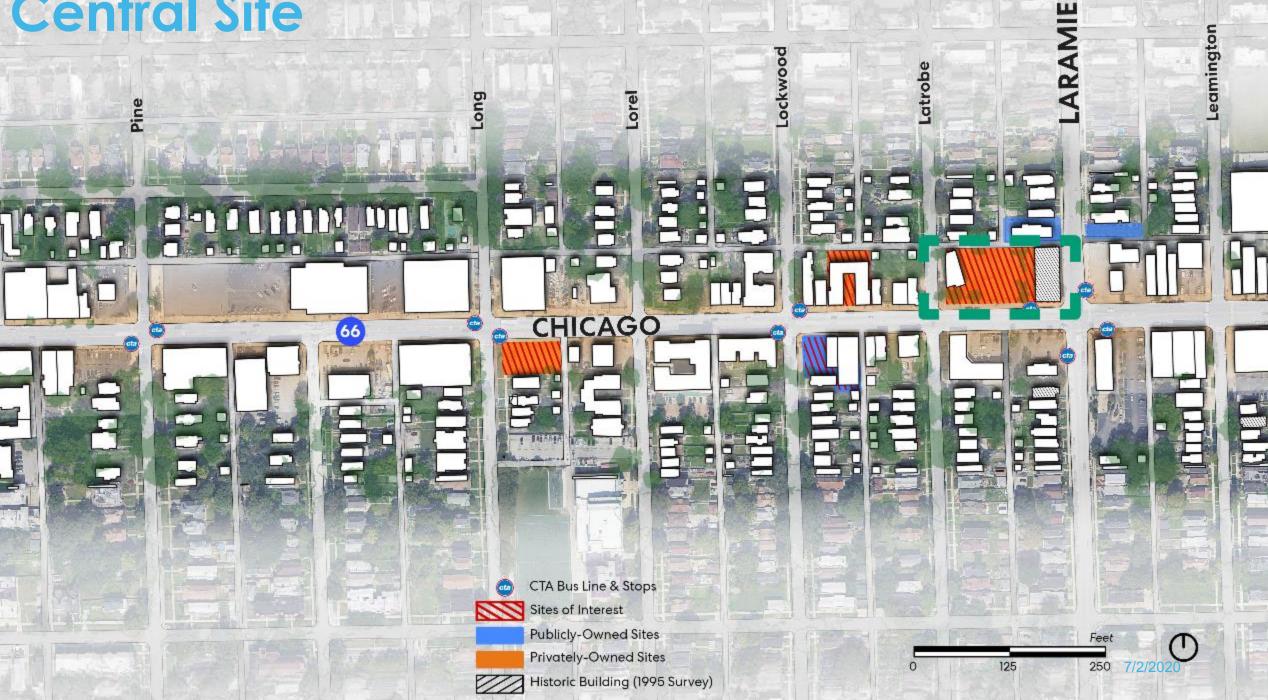
# **Focusing on Three Sites**







#### **Central Site**

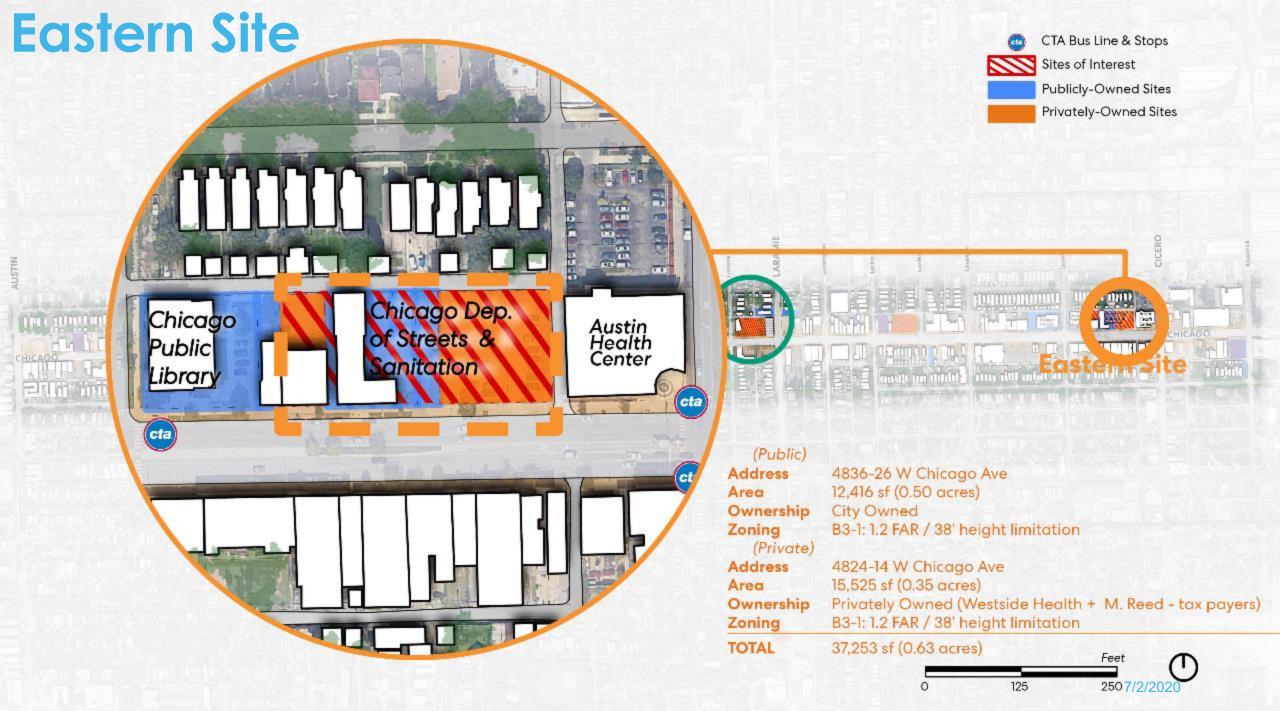


#### **Central Site**

#### **Central Site**







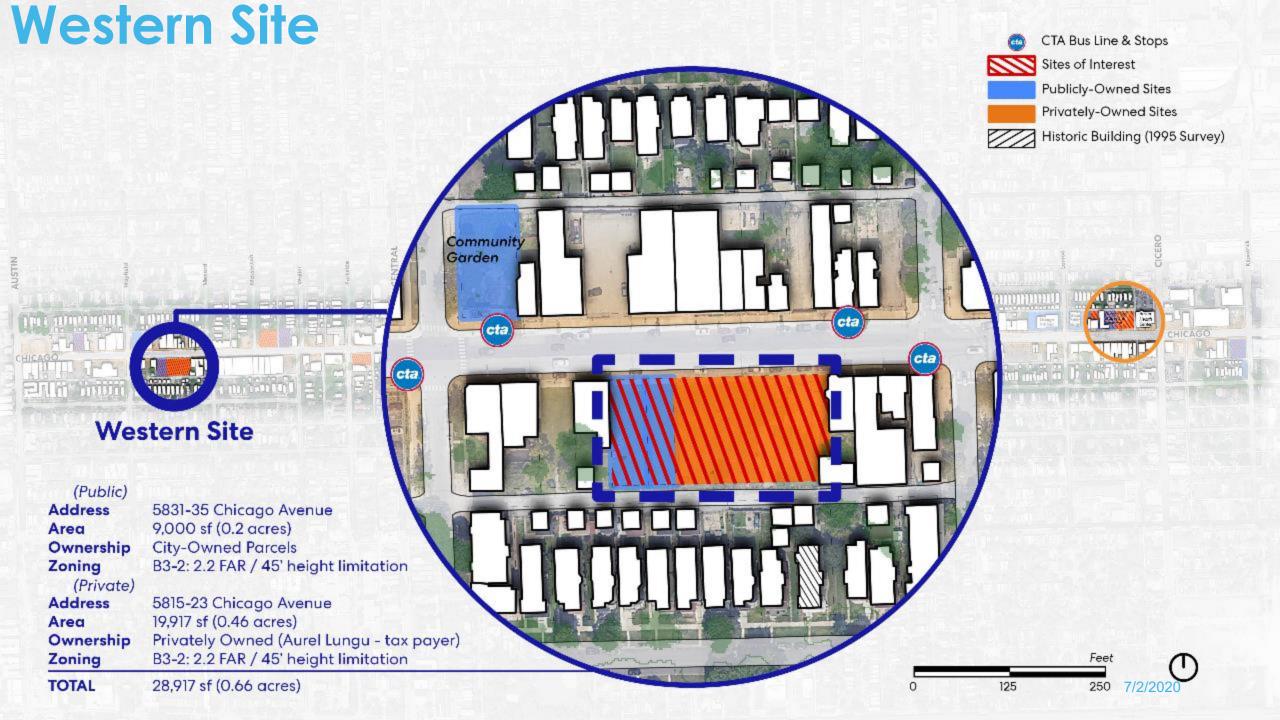
#### **Eastern Site**



#### **Eastern Site**







#### Western Site



#### Western Site







Everyone Assigned to a Breakout Group

**Rules of Etiquette** 

- One person speaking at a time
- Be courteous and respectful of other ideas and comments

**10-Minutes Each** 

- 1. Central Site Input
- 2. Eastern Site Input
- 3. Western Site Input



Questions:

- Given development priorities shown in 2020 Soul City and 2018 Quality of Life plan, *what are your two development priorities along Chicago Ave?*
- 2. What building scale & program makes the most sense to you based on what we've gathered so-far?
- 3. What within CCAC's site options should change?
- 4. Is there community priority that is missing?



Click Pop-Up Box Now!

It looks like this:





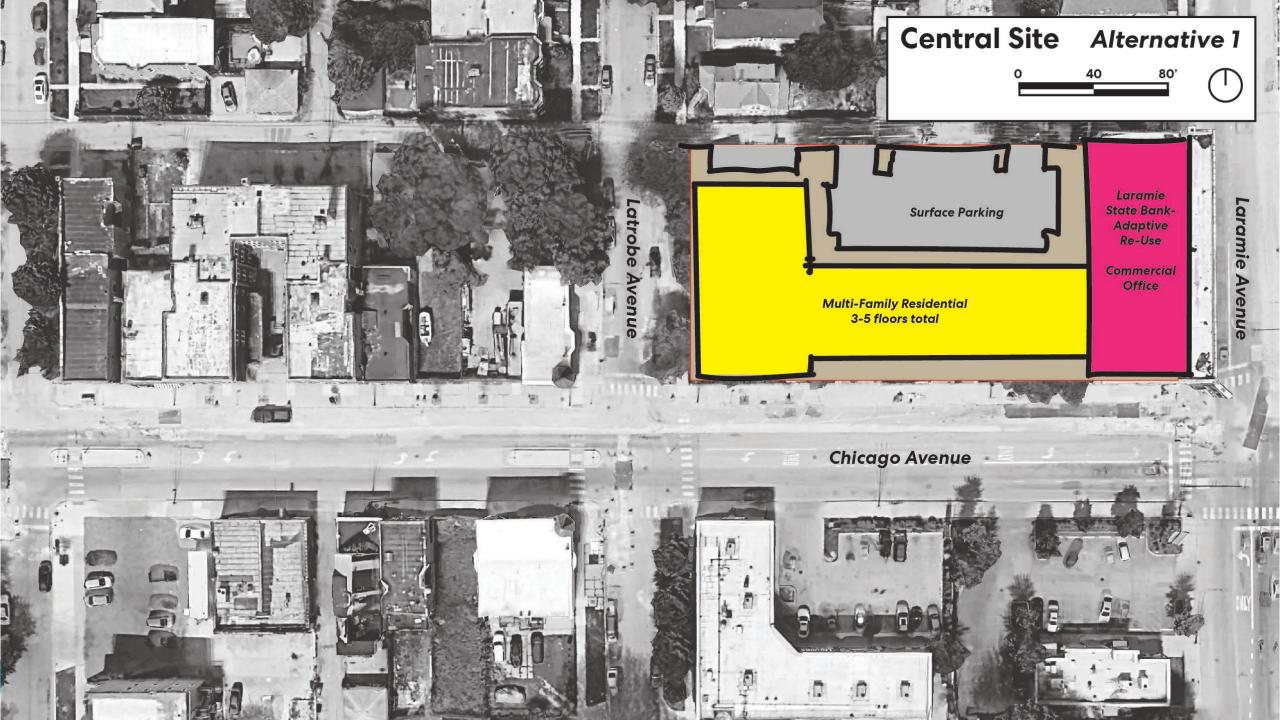
### **Central Site**

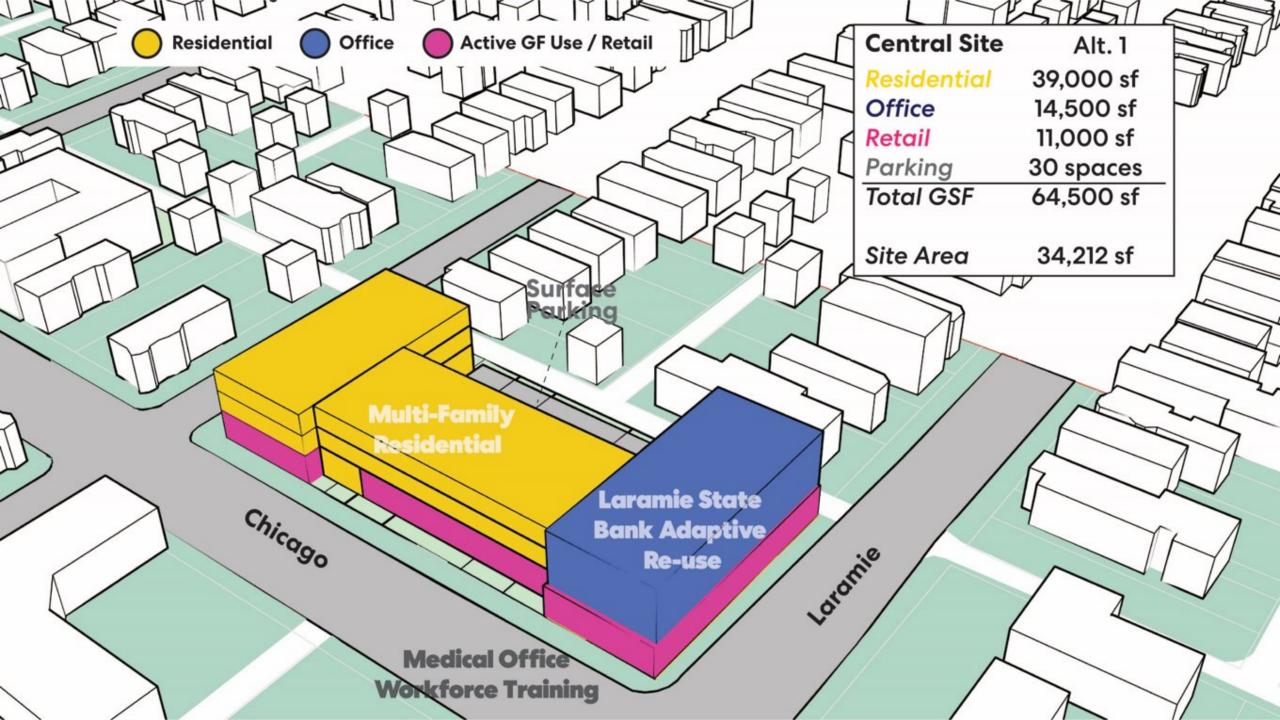


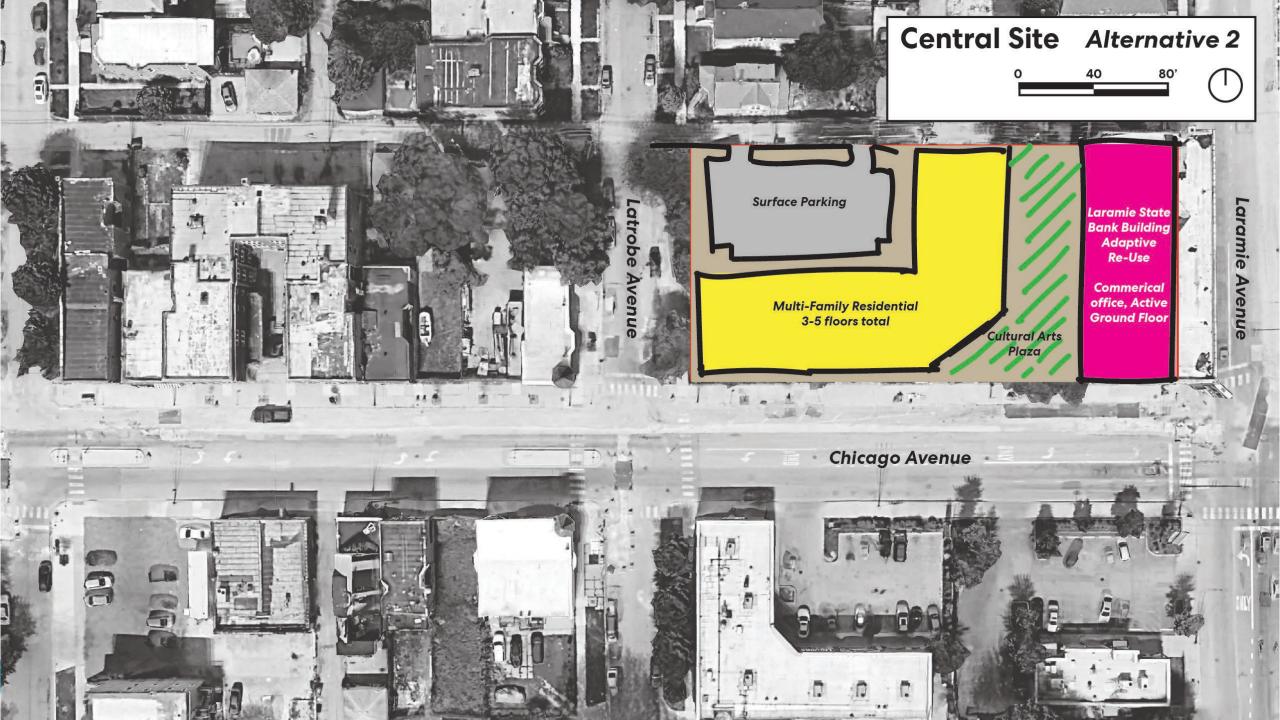


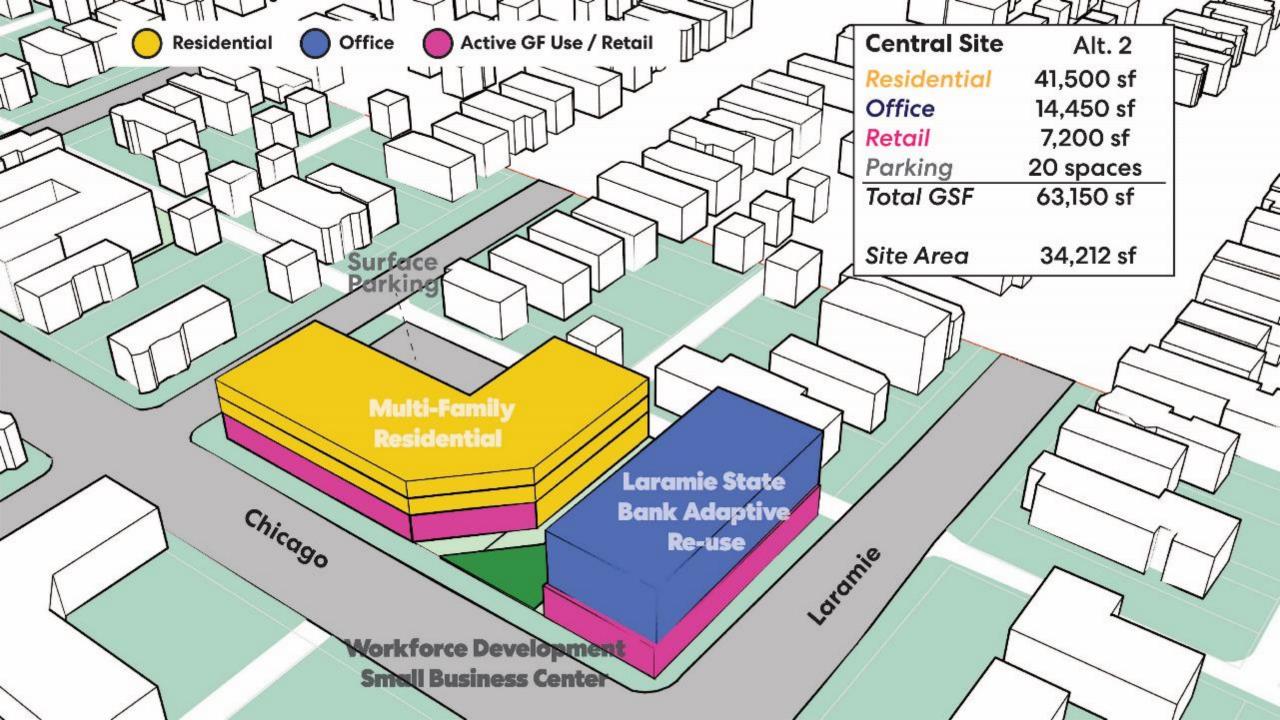


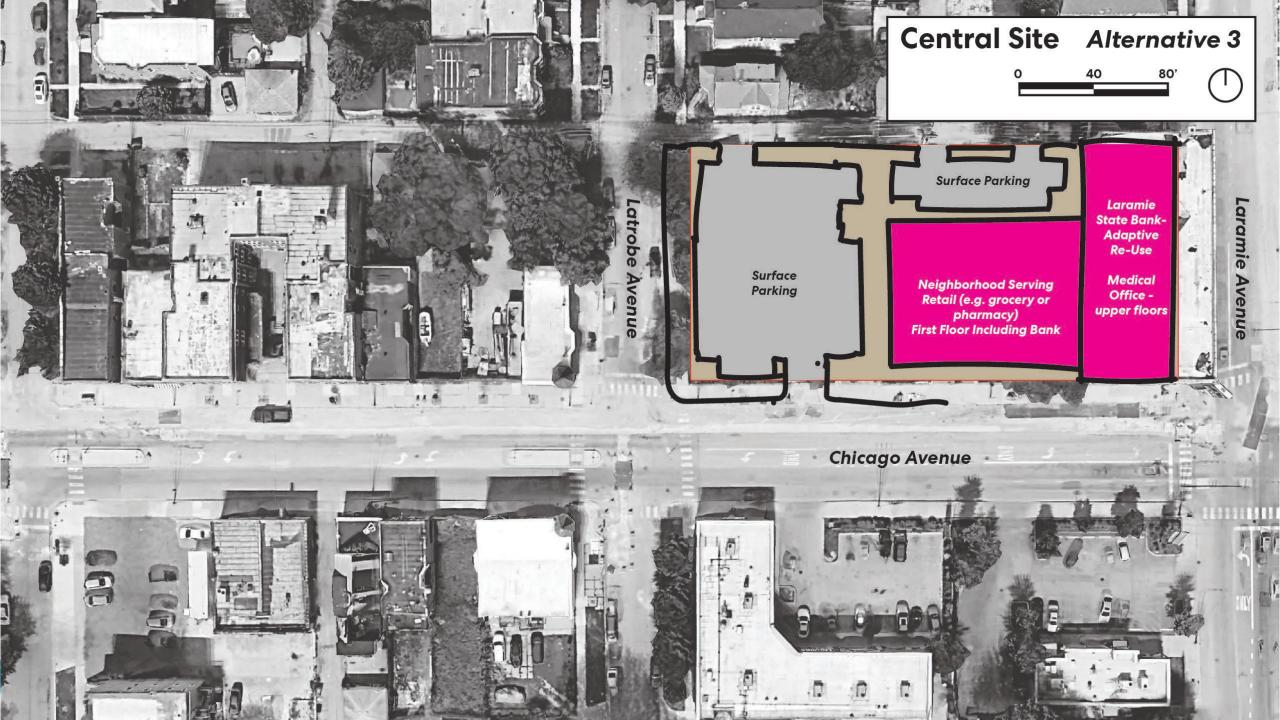


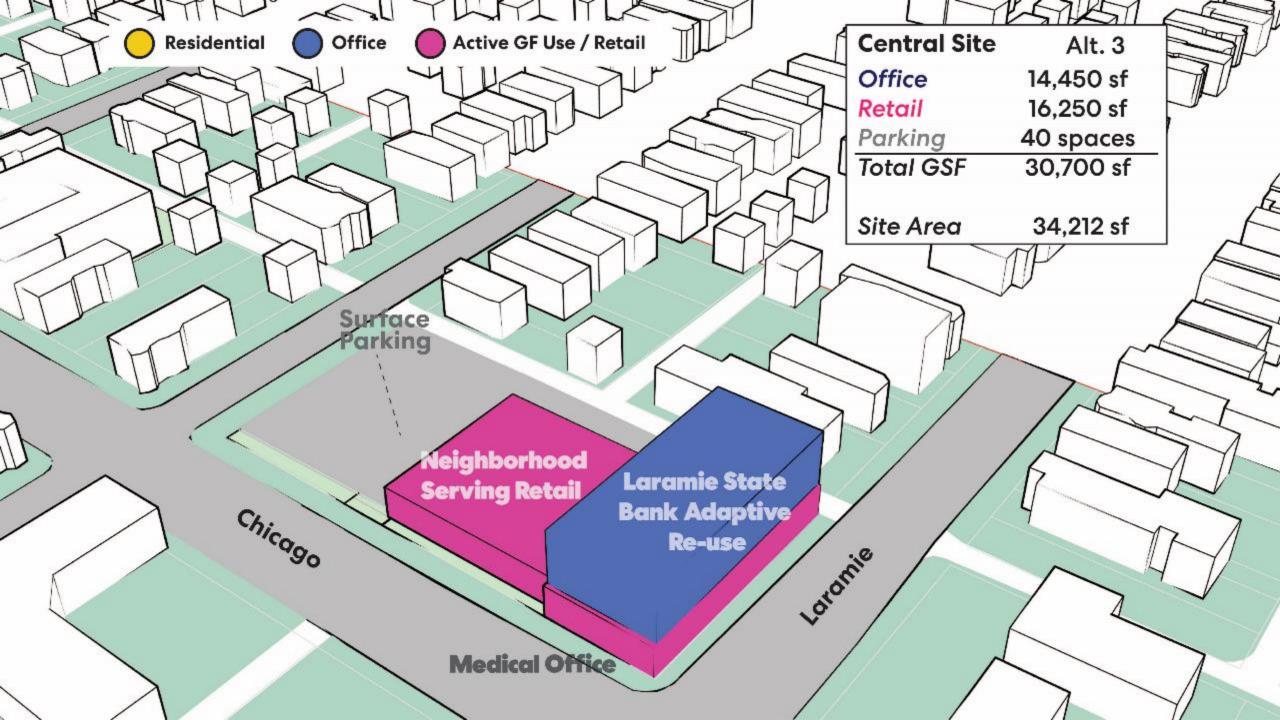












## **Eastern Site**

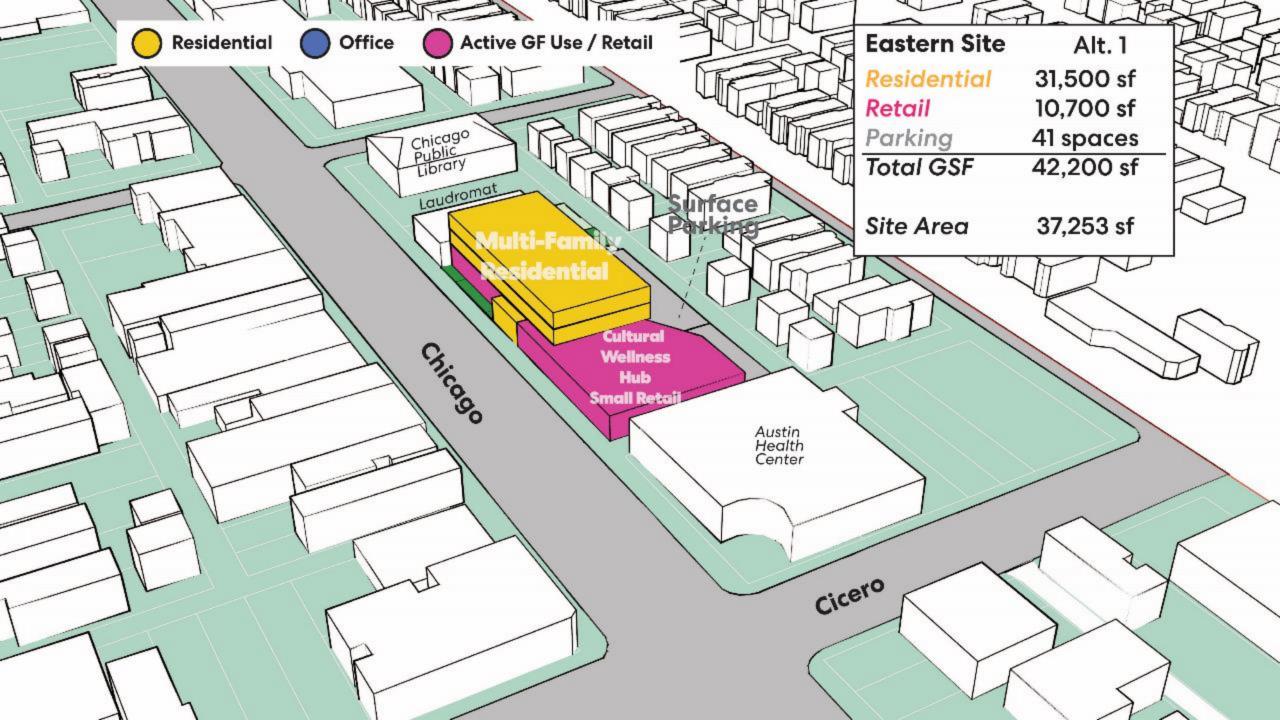




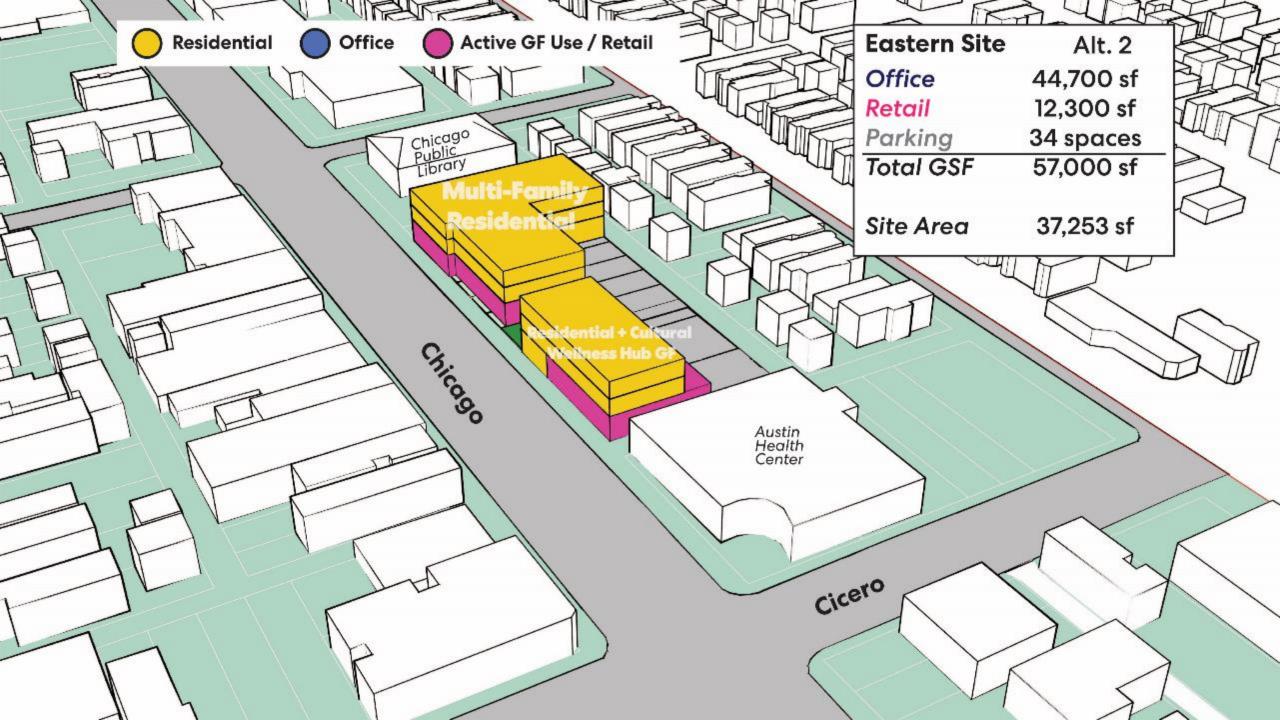
7/2/2020

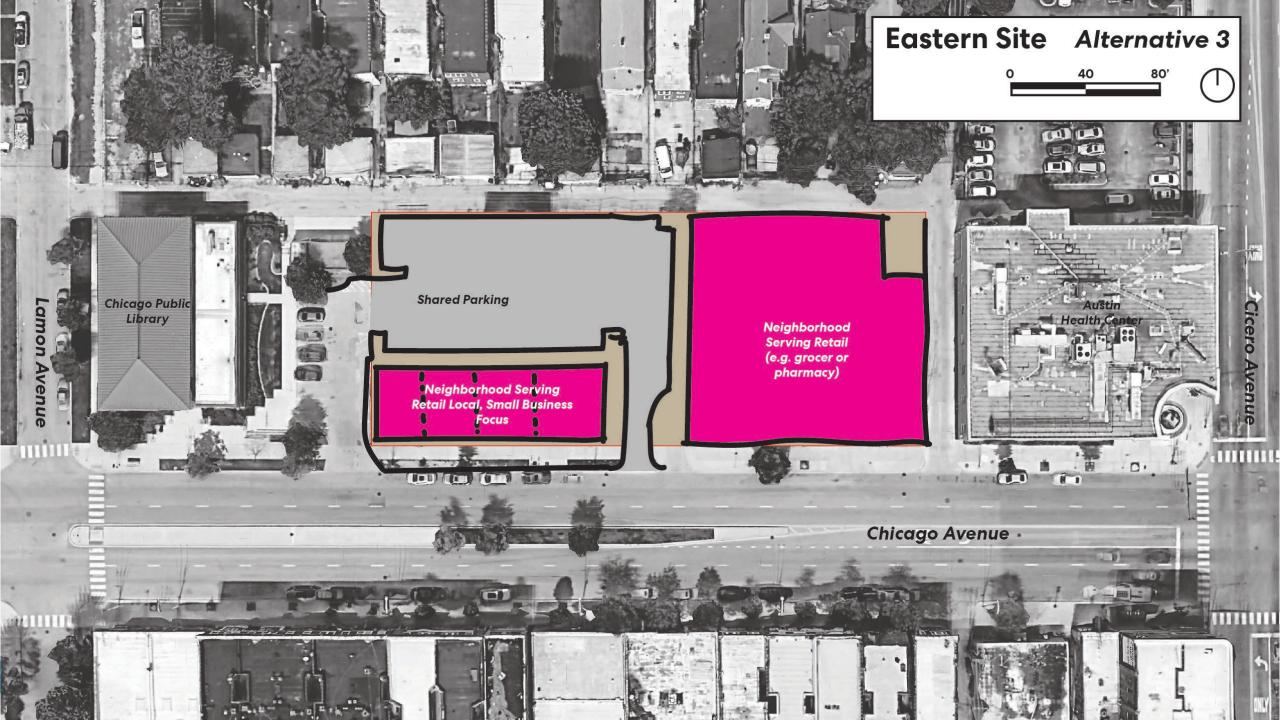


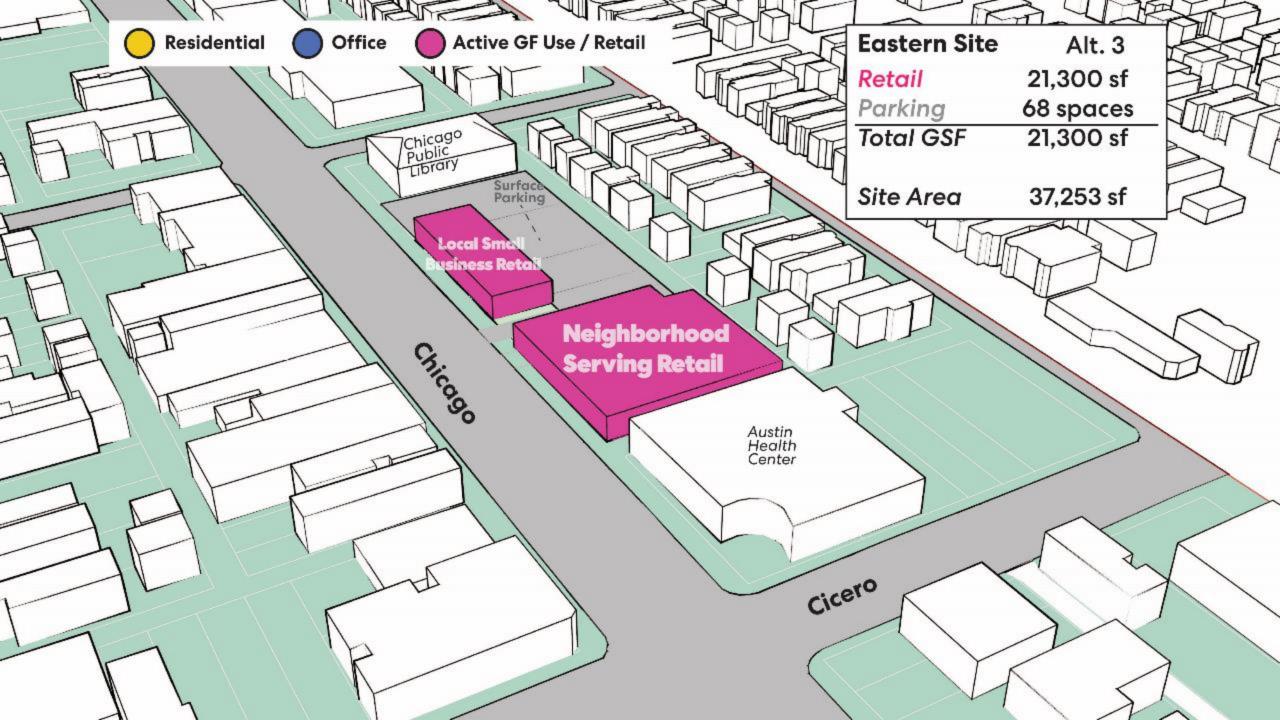












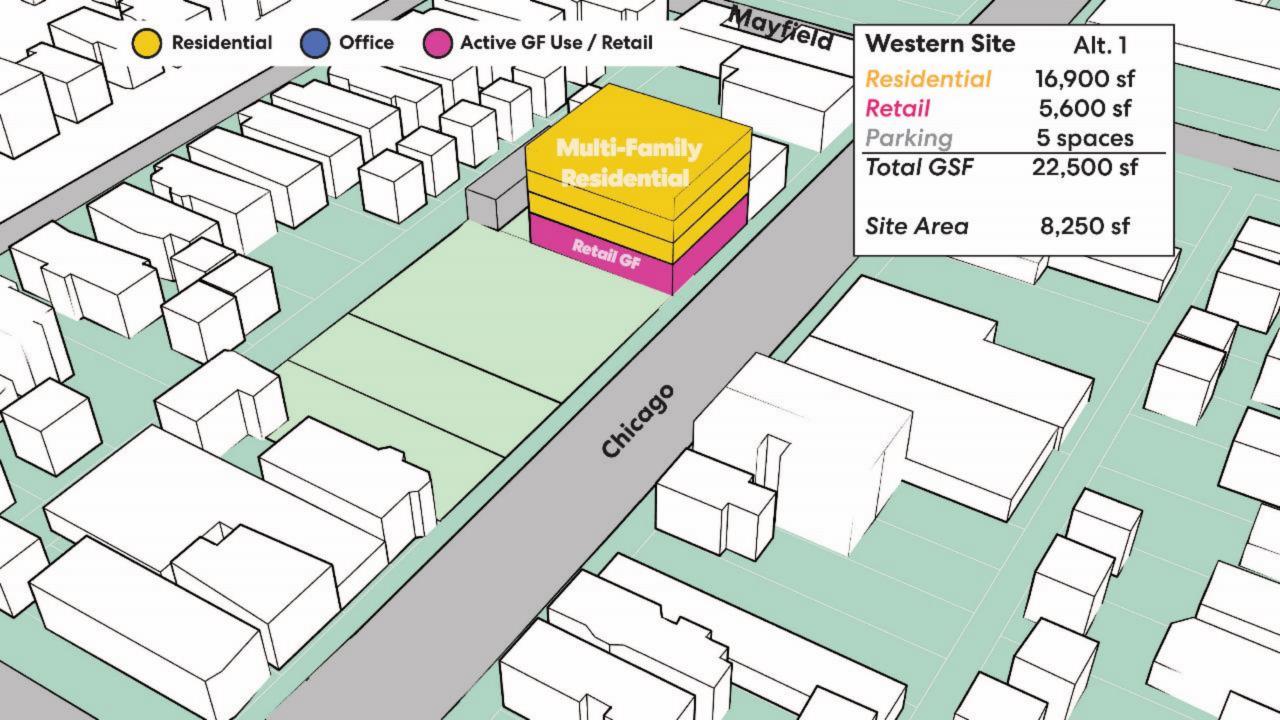
## Western Site



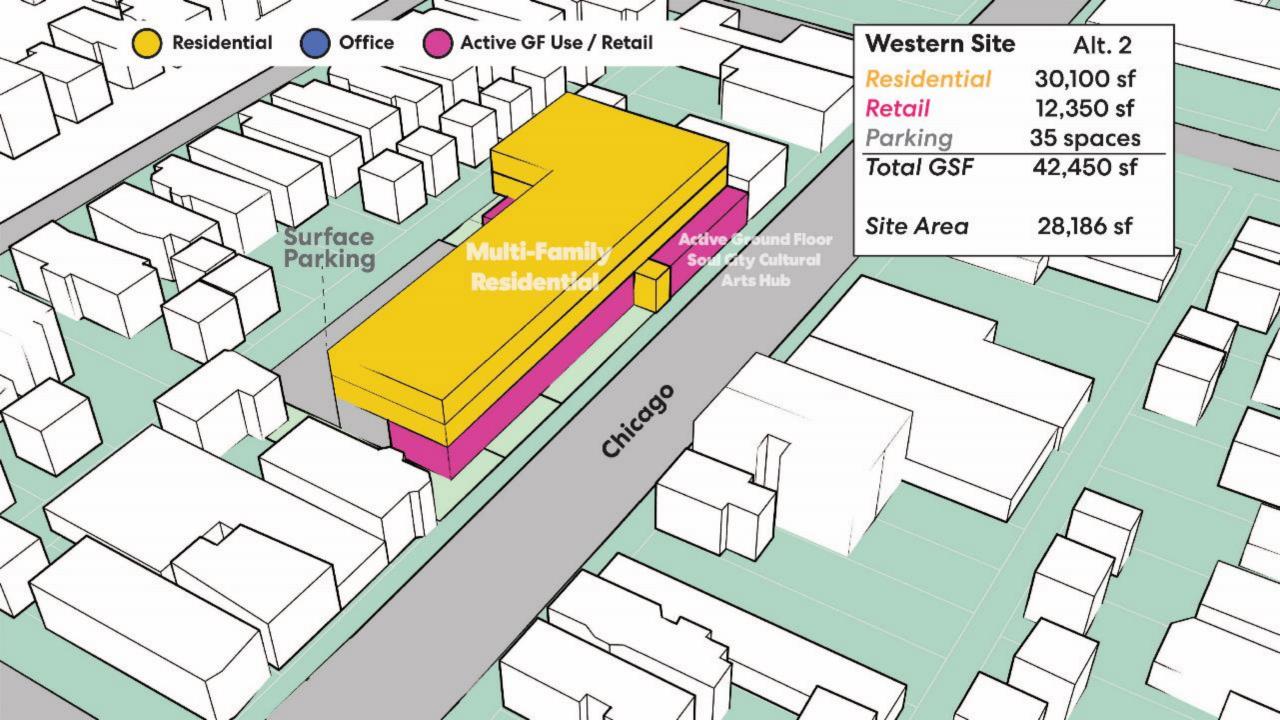




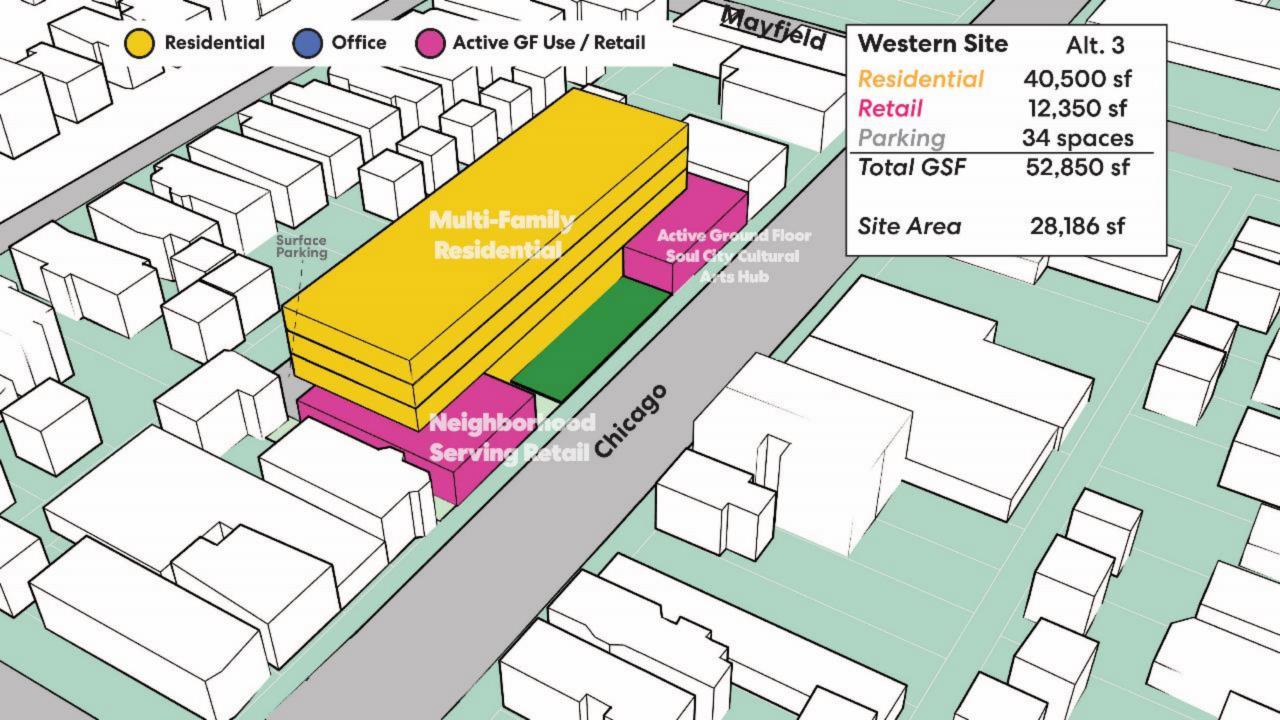


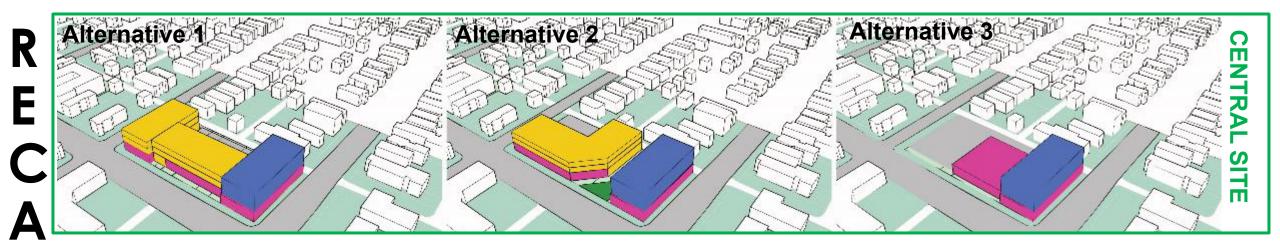




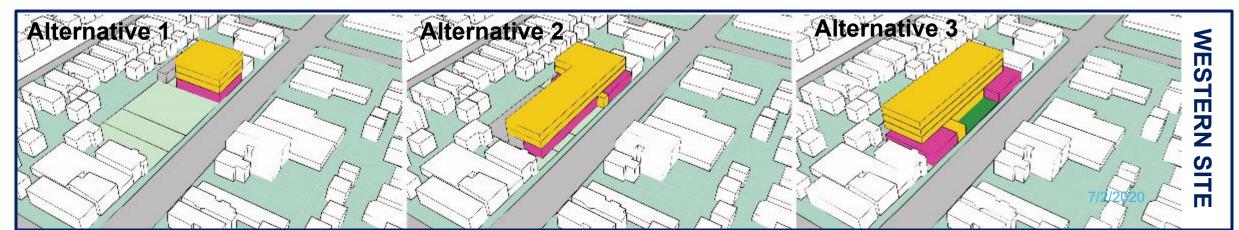












# **Report Out & Full Group Discussion**

- What site opportunities generated positive feedback? Challenges?
- What surprised you the most?
- What are your main takeaways about the scenarios presented?



#### **Additional Comments:**

## DPD@cityofchicago.org





## Timeline

On-Going	Community Stakeholder & Property Owner Interviews
Monthly	Austin ISW Community Roundtable (July, August, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec)
August 12	First Developer RFP released
Fall	Community Review of RFP Bids

