

DEPARTMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN

CITY OF CHICAGO'S GOAL: *Take a whole-government approach to improve and protect the environment, health, and quality of life in environmental justice (EJ) communities through changes to internal policies, processes, practices and/or budgets.*

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN
Department Name – Action Item: DPD – Information Transparency
Department Scope and Authorities (Related to Strategy Identified Below): As the principal planning agency for the City of Chicago, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) promotes the comprehensive growth and sustainability of the City and its neighborhoods. The department also oversees the City's zoning and land use policies and employs a variety of resources to encourage business and real estate development, historic preservation, accessible waterfronts, walkable neighborhoods, and related community improvements.
Environmental Justice Strategy: DPD will continue to maintain dedicated webpages for the Industrial Corridor Modernization, the City's Sustainable Development Policy, Chicago Plan Commission, and other land use planning initiatives.
Supporting Department(s): DPD will need to work with the Department of Assets Information and Systems (AIS) and potentially others to accomplish this strategy.
Impact Measures:
Related Department Investments & Prior Commitments: DPD's strategy is strongly aligned with the goals of We Will Chicago. DPD holds the following WWC pillar goals and objectives as being most relevant to environmental justice: CIVIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Goal 3: Improve government transparency and Chicagoans' access to data. Objective 3.1 Improve and modernize City data collection, aggregation, and distribution systems to develop a best-in-class practice of affirmative and automated release of data and records. Objective 3.2 Ensure equitable access to data for all Chicagoans. Objective 3.3 Make it easier for Chicagoans to understand and participate in City Council, Committee, and other public body processes.

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ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE & ENERGY

Goal 1: Prioritize climate resiliency efforts in Black and Latino community areas and for low-income individuals through both public and private sector efforts.

Objective 1.3 Require decision makers to be transparent and provide community members access to environmental and scientific data used for decision-making.

Action Steps	Timeline	Status
Continue to update and maintain websites described in the strategy.		On-going

Community Input & Response

Community Input:
 Many comments from the public input summary dealt with providing additional information on projects, plans and process and making that information more accessible to stakeholders and communities. Including this comment from the written survey:

- Data sharing from all departments. People need to know what’s happening in their community.

Response to Community Input:
DPD will continue to refine its online presence to help support Departmental efforts and make key details and information available to the public and community stakeholders. Improving the online experience and availability of data, reports and other documents and how these can be used for better community engagement was discussed during the development of the Citywide Plan and is reflected in many goals and objectives in the final plan. These improvements are related to many of the other EJ action plan items such as the Development Engagement Standards and Process Improvements project.