

Chicago Mobility Collaborative

June 26, 2025

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

DePaul Center – Loop Campus

Meeting Summary

Number of Attendees: 100 total attendees (including Zoom and in-person participants).

CDOT Staff Attendees: Romina Castillo; Mary Nicol; David Miller; Commissioner Carney.

CMC Partners' Fair: 18 community, civic, and regional partners participated.

Meeting Overview: This meeting was held both in-person at DePaul Center, and virtually via Zoom. Joeseeph Schwieterman, Director of the Chaddick Institute of DePaul, welcomed attendees, outlined the meeting format, expectations, and shared the event's agenda. He also introduced the panel discussion, which will be a new agenda item at each meeting. Nina Idemudia, CEO of the Center for Neighborhood Technology moderated the panel with the following panelists: Audrey Wennink, Senior Director at the Metropolitan Planning Council; Dawveed Scully, Managing Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Planning and Development; Molly Poppe, Chief Planning and Innovation Officer at the Chicago Transit Authority; Samantha Anderson, MPP graduate from the Harris School, and Thomas Carney, Commissioner at the Department of Transportation.

After the panel discussion, participants joined community table conversations. A summary of each community table is outlined below.

Community Tables Summaries:

Table 1 – Transit and Better Streets for Transit: Connectivity and Accessible Mobility Options in the Central Region and beyond

Facilitators – Jennifer Henry (CTA), Jason Meter (CTA), Audrey Wennink (Metropolitan Planning Council), Heidi Sperry (DPD)

- **Takeaway**
 - Residents emphasized the need for accessible, clean, and well-funded transit, and encouraged political and community advocacy to prioritize equitable mobility investments.
- **Highlights and Feedback**
 - Central Area Plan Updates:

- The plan (originally from 2003, with 2007/2009 updates) is being revised to reflect downtown's growth. Focus is on mixed-use development, especially repurposing office space into housing—1800 new units, 30% affordable.
- Transit & Accessibility Improvements:
 - CTA and CDOT are prioritizing ADA accessibility (e.g., State & Lake station being rebuilt; improvements at Clark and Lake).
 - "Better Streets for Buses" targets 17 focus areas with community-guided redesigns.
- Community Concerns:
 - Cleanliness and safety on CTA.
 - Lack of operations funding.
 - Poor station accessibility and outdated infrastructure, especially along the Blue Line's south branch.
- Policy & Collaboration:
 - New legislation (HB3438) may reduce farebox recovery expectations, improving flexibility.
 - Collaboration between CDOT and IDOT is improving through new MOUs.

Table 2 - Divvy Program and Expansion: Divvy Operations Update

Facilitators – Kyle Peppin, CDOT

- **Takeaway**
 - Technological and infrastructure advances are transforming Divvy, but continued attention to equitable access, especially for youth and underserved areas, is vital for the future of the network.
- **Highlights and Feedback**
 - Program Status & Growth:
 - Divvy is the largest bike-share program in the U.S.
 - Focused on expanding access via programs like *Divvy4Everyone* (\$5 annual membership for those on public assistance).
 - Improvements & Tech Rollout:
 - New densified stations will increase dock capacity.
 - E-Divvy bikes now have a "classic mode" and pause features.
 - Charging infrastructure for e-bikes is expanding—aiming for 110 stations by 2027.
 - Equity & Youth Access:
 - Strong interest in making Divvy more inclusive for youth, especially teens.
 - Legal barriers exist (age minimum), but ideas like guardian waivers are being explored.

- Community Engagement Needs:
 - Easier ways to request new stations (e.g., via 311).
 - Improve public understanding of how

Table 3 – Safe Travel for All Plan: Cook County Safety Action Plan Recommendations and Implementation

Facilitators – Joseph Seymour, Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways

- **Takeaway**
 - Residents support safety improvements but want faster implementation, more transparent data, comprehensive education, and automatic enforcement to change drivers' behavior.
- **Highlights and Feedback**
 - Safety Action Plan: Seeks to eliminate fatalities, with strategies like refuge islands and curb extensions to protect pedestrians and cyclists.
 - Data Insights:
 - Crashes at some intersections are more fatal, not just frequent.
 - Males aged 16–35 cause 50% of crashes—calls for better, more specific data.
 - Community Experience:
 - Residents in Beverly and other neighborhoods reported feeling safer with the new infrastructure.
 - More communication is needed with hospitals to improve crash data quality.
 - Policy Suggestions:
 - Education refreshers during license renewals.
 - Enforcement of stop signs, speed limits, and yellow light behavior.
 - Awareness & Transparency:
 - Communities want better communication about why certain infrastructure changes are made.

Announcements:

- Upcoming CMC meetings:
 - September 11 – South Region/Englewood – Harper High School
 - December 11 – Southwest Region – Jungman School
- Chicago Traffic Data update
 - May 2025 Traffic Fatalities Report can be found on the Complete Streets website. [Click on this link to download a copy.](#)
- Request SAFE Ambassadors to support your summer events. You can reach out to the team and submit a request [through this link.](#)