COMMUNITY MEETINGS SUMMARY
March 7 & 14, 2017
April 7, 18 & 25, 2017
SUMMARY OF MEETINGS - MARCH / APRIL 2017

Under Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s direction, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) initiated a public review process in spring 2016 to evaluate and refine land use policies for continued growth and private investment in the City’s Industrial Corridor system.

The purpose of this report is to memorialize the open house meetings that occurred on March 7 & 14, and April 7, 18 & 25, 2017, by documenting the input that staff received from stakeholders during the open houses, and making this information available to all interested parties.

MEETINGS

City staff from the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD) and the City of Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) continued their community outreach efforts by holding five community open house meetings:

- March 7, 2017 - 8am to 10 am, St. John Cantius Church
- March 14, 2017 - 4pm to 7 pm, UI Labs
- April 7, 2017 - 8am to 1pm, City Hall
- April 18, 2017 - 3pm to 6pm, City Hall
- April 25, 2017 - 4pm to 6pm - St. John Cantius Church

DPD’s team of consultants were also in attendance at all open house meetings.

Over 900 stakeholders were invited to each of the open house meetings via email. The meeting notification was also posted on DPD’s website and Facebook page. There were 140 stakeholders who attended the open house meetings during March and April, 2017, including representatives from neighborhood groups, residents, students, business owners and employers, business organizations, industrial organizations, real estate professionals, and members of the media.

The goal of the informal open house meetings was to give attendees a chance to interact directly with staff and their team of consultants and ask questions and offer comments regarding the current draft framework plan.

Several stakeholders used this opportunity to carefully review the draft plan, and have productive conversations with staff regarding their detailed comments and questions.

INPUT HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to many thoughtful conversations that took place during the open houses, several attendees submitted comments. General themes include:

Land Use
- Impacts of various land uses including industrial, residential, and mixed-use, need to be carefully considered
- Support job growth
- The multi-modal transportation network should adequately accommodate current and future uses
- Housing opportunities are needed for senior citizens

Open Space
- More park space is needed within the NBIC for adjacent communities to use
- Maximize the value of the river to provide recreational opportunities

Transportation
- Create new opportunities for transit including bikes, pedestrians, possibly tramway
- The River Trail will provide an alternative transportation opportunity
- Improve safety and convenience of transit stations

Design
- Utilizing several important character elements found within the area

General
- Identify the changes that were made to the draft framework
NEXT STEPS

DPD posted the draft framework plan on the website on March 17, 2017 and received additional input from the community during the review period which ended on May 1, 2017. Emails and letters that DPD received are available to view on DPD’s website.

The draft framework plan will be considered by the Chicago Plan Commission on May 18, 2017 at 10am in the council chambers at City Hall. The public is invited and will have an opportunity to provide written comments and to speak in person.

DPD will also continue to meet with groups and individuals if they have questions or wish to discuss their views.

STAY INFORMED

DPD will continue to post upcoming meeting dates on our website.

All previous staff presentations have been posted online:

- DPD’s website: https://www.cityofchicago.org/dpd
- Medium.com: https://medium.com/@ChicagoDPD
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/chicagodpd
- Twitter: @ChicagoDPD

Please email DPD at DPD@cityofchicago.org with any questions, or if you would like to be added to our contact database.