

This meeting summary was produced by City Bureau Documenters, in accordance with our editorial independence policy, with financial support from the city of Chicago. If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email City Bureau at documenters@citybureau.org with "Correction Request" in the subject line.

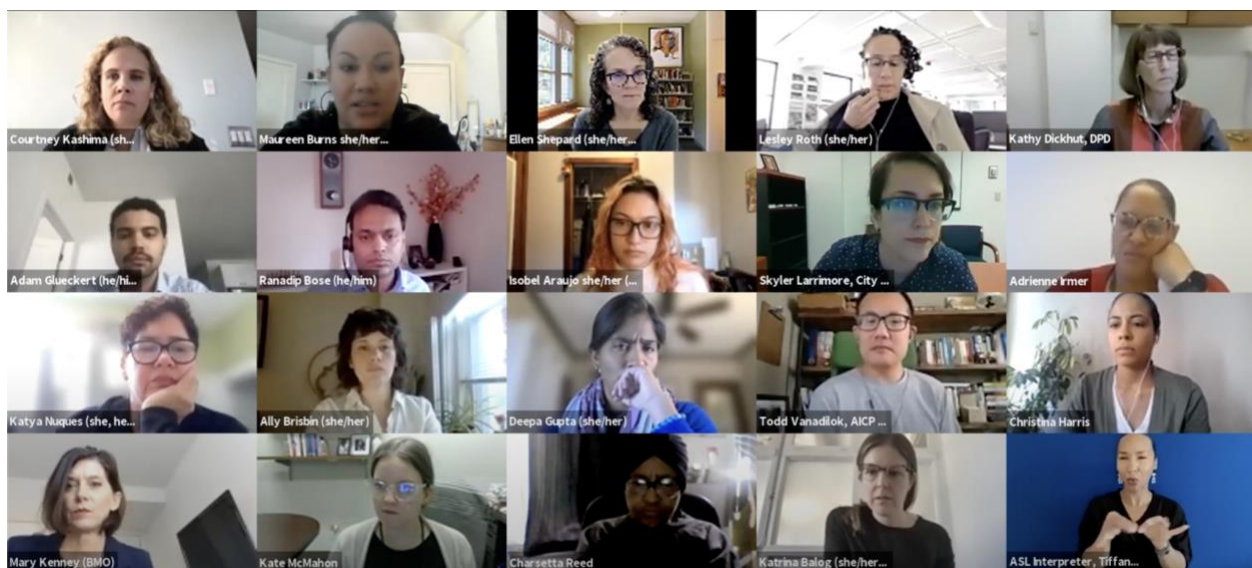
Advisory Committee Meeting #3

October 19, 2021, 10:00AM | 2 hours

Documented by: Monica Mosching Staton

ATTENDEES

- Deepa Gupta
- Candace Moore
- Bridget Hayman
- Katrina Balog
- Ranadip Bose
- Ally Brisbin
- Isobel Araujo
- Charsetta Reed
- Lesley Roth
- Ellen Shepard
- Risa Rifkind
- Christina Harris
- Courtney Kashima
- Kathy Dickhut
- Adam Glueckert
- Kate McMahon
- Katya Nuques
- Maureen Burns
- May Toy
- Skyler Larrimore
- Todd Vanadilok
- Mary Kenney
- Adrienne Irmer



MEETING GOAL

To get on the same page regarding baseline data on race and segregation in Chicago, explain the role of a Health and Racial Equity Assessment and discuss next steps using the historical reckoning framework.

WHERE WE ARE

Step 1

We Are*Setting the Stage*

Step 2

We Have and Need*Develop A Policy Toolkit*

Step 3

We Will*Set Policy Framework***KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- 1** | Participants spent time in breakout groups to further discuss and define what historical reckoning means for this project.
- 2** | The We Will Chicago team is considering extending the pillar process from the initially planned 9 meetings to 14 meetings, in order to have adequate time to discuss historical reckoning and cross-pillar themes, incorporate community input and assess performance.
- 3** | The Office of Equity and Racial Justice is creating a video series in collaboration with local historian Sherman “Dilla” Thomas as a part of the year of healing. The video series will document the history of Chicago’s five prominent racial groups and how that history has shaped the city, both in terms of the built environment and the policies. The videos will be released this winter.

CONVERSATION HIGHLIGHTS

“What I’ll be doing is presenting historical context and the current data, that are actually really grim, but they represent the real experiences of Black and Brown households in our city ... Our purpose for presenting this data, as Courtney mentioned, is to create a baseline of information on which to build the policy recommendations that are rooted in a commitment to anti-racism and undoing of past harms.”

Ranadip Bose | SB Friedman, Senior Vice President

“When we talk about getting to equity, we’ve talked about it as both an outcome and a process. We’re going to focus on equity as a process and we know that that requires a new way of doing business.”

Kate McMahon | Chicago Department of Public Health, Senior Director of Chronic Disease Prevention

“If we’re supposed to be a microcosm of the city, how do we make sure that we’re designing this in such a way that we’re meeting folks where they are and how they need to be engaged, how they may want to be engaged—or not—in order to be able to include them in that process without sort of judgment about how well or low they did based on whatever heuristics we have in mind?”

Deepa Gupta | Blue Lotus Advisors, Principal and Founder

“The groups have begun to talk about at a high level some of the objectives related to their pillars.”

Skyler Larrimore | City of Chicago Mayor’s Office, First Deputy Director of Policy

NOTES

- Pillar co-chairs shared updates and their reactions to pillar definitions and guiding questions.
- The pillar research teams have met to finalize pillar definitions and guiding questions, which are posted on the We Will Chicago website.
- An Advisory Committee was chosen to focus on connections between the seven pillar research teams, ensure overall alignment with the plan's principles and themes and assess overall We Will engagement activities.
- Ranadip Bose presented an overview of baseline data related to redlining, segregation and health outcomes that is being discussed by each pillar. Racism and multigenerational barriers to economic and social capital have produced an 8.8-year life expectancy gap between Blacks and whites in Chicago. If life expectancy is looked at by community area, there is almost a 20-year gap between areas like Forest Glen (83.2 years) and Fuller Park (66 years).
- Attendees discussed how to incorporate a Health and Racial Equity Impact Assessment (HREIA) into We Will Chicago. An HREIA is a community engaged process that uses a set of guiding questions to assess positive and negative health impacts that could result from a proposed plan, policy or project and to develop recommendations that would make it more equitable.
- Skyler Larrimore shared that they've been thinking about how to ensure that the Advisory Committee is engaged throughout the process and can inform pillar-related objectives. The Advisory Committee will be able to think more deeply at the same time as they're starting public engagement on the We Will website to collect feedback on the guiding questions.
- Courtney Kashima explained that the seven pillars have refined their guiding questions, with about five per pillar. They have had their preliminary brainstorm about objectives and will continue to refine those objectives over meetings #6 and #7 until they arrive at a policy framework. At the end of Phase #2, the pillars will be ready to begin thinking about broader engagement and implementation.
- Maureen Burns shared that in her breakout group they discussed how historical reckoning is a multi-step process: the acknowledgement of past wrongs, being creative and intentional in creating radical policy change and having the funds to implement that successfully.
- Participants discussed the challenge of community engagement, especially when so much of life is virtual right now. Artist-organizers who have held We Will events have also shared that they have to do so much context-setting because city planning feels so divorced from everyday life and traumas.
- Kathy Dickhut shared information about the possible extension of the We Will pillar process from 9 meetings to 14 meetings.

RESOURCES

WE WILL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEYS

[Surveys are organized according to pillar.](#)

WE WILL CHICAGO PROMOTIONAL TOOLKIT

[Images and copy to promote the artist-organizer events.](#)

COUNCIL OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY

[Example racial equity assessments conducted in Washington, D.C.](#)

WE WILL CHICAGO ARTIST-ORGANIZER EVENTS

[As the lead community engagement artists for We Will Chicago, artist/organizer teams from Honey Pot Performance\(External link\) are holding events organized around the seven pillars of We Will.](#)

NEXT STEPS

- 25 community partners will host a total of 50 upcoming events.
- The hope is that with the second meeting of community partners they'll elect to use the Metropolitan Planning Council's Meeting in a Box, which they've been hard at work developing.
- We Will Chicago will continue to expand the circle of engagement.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16th from 9-11 a.m.
- Report outs from pillar co-chairs