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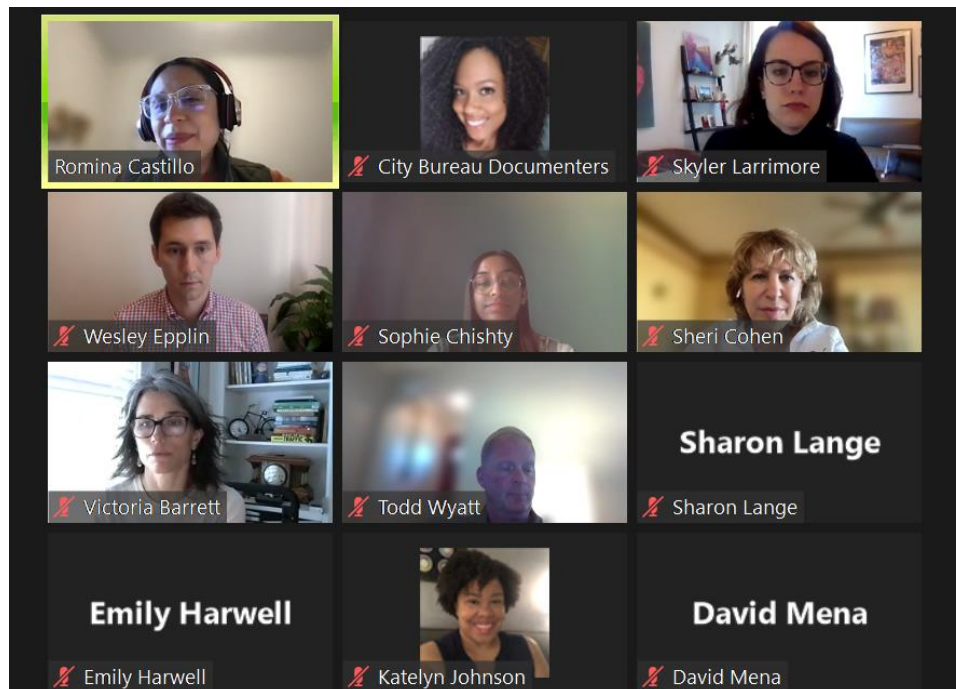
Public Health + Safety Meeting #13

June 7, 2022, 06:00PM | 2 hours

Documented by: Karmeisha Boyd

ATTENDEES

- Brianna Lawrence
- David Mena
- Emily Harwell
- Kala Patterson
- Katelyn Johnson
- Marlita White
- Romina Castillo
- Sharon Lange
- Sheri Cohen
- Skyler Larrimore
- Sophie Chishty
- Stephanie Dunn
- Todd Wyatt
- Victoria Barrett
- Wesley Epplin



MEETING GOAL

The final Public Health + Safety pillar meeting to discuss next steps, primarily summer engagement to gain community feedback

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 | Consideration of gender-based violence and human trafficking were added to the Public Health + Safety plan, as previously discussed by this group.
- 2 | The Advisory Committee and pillar members agree that there is a need for additional feedback from the community. A community engagement plan will be launched this summer.
- 3 | The final plan will be completed by the end of 2022 and submitted to the Plan Commission in January 2023 for adoption.

CONVERSATION HIGHLIGHTS

“Who holds the implementation body accountable for moving this forward?”

Sheri Cohen | Chicago Department of Public Health, Senior Health Planning Analyst

“There are organizations who’ve had really great impact that are Black-led, Black-founded, and yet they are not invited to the table. It’s traditionally white-led organizations that do work for Black and Brown people that are always a part of the conversation, leaving out those who have living examples of their life’s work.”

Brianna Lawrence | Coalition on Urban Girls – Chicago, President

NOTES

The meeting started several minutes late, at 6:08 p.m., as they waited for more participants to arrive. The host noted that the group was smaller than usual.

The opening icebreaker question asked team members to share their favorite part of the process over the past several months. Several members echoed that they enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people, get new perspectives, and work together. Victoria Barrett, a transportation planner with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, added that she will use what she learned to “do better work.”

The meeting opened with a review acknowledging what the team has accomplished so far:

- 24 hours on Zoom
- 5 overarching goals crafted
- 22 objectives defined
- 110 policies refined

Wesley Epplin presented an overview of the Draft Framework Plan. An updated Public Health + Safety plan will be emailed to team members in late June/early July. One of the major updates he noted was the addition of gender-based violence and human trafficking, as previously discussed by the group.

Skyler Larrimore of the Mayor’s Office offered a link to the [Citywide Strategic Plan to address Gender-Based Violence and Human-Trafficking](#), which will go into greater detail than the We Will Chicago plan.

Epplin also noted that there were areas in the Public Health + Safety plan that corresponded to sections in the plans for other pillars. His examples included the following.

POLICY TOPIC: Accessing Public Benefits**Public Health + Safety**

1.4.D: Fund community health workers and navigators to be available at government and nonprofit agencies to support health insurance enrollment during open enrollment periods, follow-up to ensure enrollment in care, and, where needed, care coordination to support use of healthcare.

1.5.B: Provide funding for medical-legal partnerships such that healthcare providers can easily refer patients who are facing legal problems, such as housing, public benefit eligibility, or immigration issues, to appropriate legal services.

Economic Development

1.2.C: Increase awareness and utilization of critical safety net benefits (SNAP, CTC, EITC, Head Start/CCAP, Guaranteed Basic Income Program, etc.) through broad-based communications, innovative dual-enrollment, single application for similarly-focused programs, cross-agency referrals, community-based navigation, and more.

Skyler Larrimore presented the Equity Analysis Update. She emphasized that the We Will Chicago Advisory Committee is using an “equity lens as we refine policy.” This includes asking the following questions, which are taken from the [Racial Equity Toolkit: An Opportunity to Operationalize Equity](#):

- What are the racial equity impacts?
- Who will benefit from or be burdened?
- Are there strategies to mitigate the unintended consequences?
- How have community members most impacted by this policy been engaged or how will they be engaged?

Larrimore said they will continue equity development in the next stage of the plan process and invited team members to join the Advisory Committee in taking a deeper dive. Several members expressed interest.

Broad public engagement is planned for July through November 2022. Larrimore said they’re hoping to pop up at 100 events. Community feedback will be incorporated into the plan by the end of 2022. The plan will be presented to the Plan Commission in January 2023.

Discussion Question: Who would you like to see more deeply engaged?

- Marlita White, Chicago Department of Public Health, suggested engaging visual learners with short videos for those who may not read the entire written plan. Larrimore said she liked the idea, but was concerned about the bandwidth of the team.
- Katelyn Johnson of Blackroots Alliance (community partner), mentioned making sure to include an “accessibility focus.” Brianna Lawrence of Coalition on Urban Girls – Chicago (community partner) agreed.
- Lawrence added the suggestion to include churches and faith leaders.
- Sheri Cohen, Chicago Department of Public Health, added immigrant and refugee populations, seniors, and youth.

Discussion Question: What does accountability and transparency look like to you as we move into the next phases of public engagement and implementation?

- Cohen asked whether Chicago’s Department of Planning and Development would be accountable to the Plan Commission and what would happen if they did not comply.
 - Larrimore didn’t have an answer to the questions, but said that she welcomed ideas from the team.
 - Larrimore also reminded the team that the city cannot “do everything” and asked them to think of ways to inspire others, such as community organizations, to get more involved.
- There wasn’t a lot of feedback or input from most of the team. Most comments were made by the same three people (Brianna Lawrence, Marlita White and Sheri Cohen). Larrimore told the team that additional questions or comments could be sent by email.
- Host Romina Castillo, closed the meeting by telling the team that an all-pillar celebration was being planned for July 14, 6 to 8 p.m. (rescheduled from June 28 due to this being Election Day).

The meeting ended at 7:42 p.m.

WE WILL CHICAGO PUBLIC HEALTH + SAFETY PILLAR WEBPAGE

[The pillar covers a wide range of subject matters, such as wellness education, healthcare, social services, drug abuse, mental health, nutrition, law enforcement and fire protection, along with the multiple institutions that help individuals and communities to address their own unique health and safety needs.](#)

WE WILL CHICAGO CALENDAR

[Events and opportunities to engage with We Will Chicago.](#)

CITYWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HUMAN-TRAFFICKING

[The city's two-year strategic plan to address gender inequity gender-based violence and human trafficking by acknowledging root causes and building capacity for trauma-informed solutions and services.](#)

RACIAL EQUITY TOOLKIT: AN OPPORTUNITY TO OPERATIONALIZE EQUITY

[A guide from the Local and Regional Government Alliance on Racial Equity \(GARE\) that the city of Chicago has used to assess the racial equity implications of policies, programs and budgets.](#)

NEXT STEPS

- The We Will Chicago Public Health + Safety draft plan will be emailed to pillar members by late June/early July.
- Volunteer and paid opportunities will be available this summer to support additional engagement and community feedback.