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Housing and Neighborhoods Meeting #6

November 4, 2021, 10:00AM | 2 hours

Documented by: Aryssa Burton

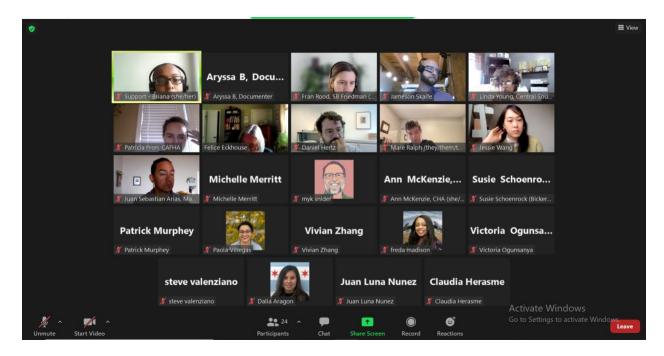
ATTENDEES

- Briana Gipson
- Fran Rood
- Jameson Skaife
- Felice Eckhouse
- Ann McKenzie
- Claudia
 Herasme
- Dalia Aragon
- Daniel Hertz

- Freda Madison
- Jessie Wang
- Juan LunaNunez
- Juan Sebastian Arias
- Linda Young
- Mare Ralph
- Michelle Merritt
- Myk Snider

- Paola Villegas
- PatriciaFron
- Patrick Murphey
- Steve Valenziano
- SusieSchoenrock
- Sendy Soto
- Victoria Moreno
- VictoriaOgunsanya
- Vivian Zhang







MEETING GOAL

Create up to 5 objectives per guiding question based on the idea categories produced in Meeting #5, and provide an opportunity for pillar research team members to get to know one another.

WHERE WE ARE



Step 1

We AreSetting the Stage



Step 2

We Have and Need Develop A Policy Toolkit



Step 3

We Will Set Policy Framework

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The Housing and Neighborhoods pillar research team needs more time in the next meeting to better refine and synthesize the guiding questions to correlate with the draft objectives developed in this meeting (#5).
- A major theme in many of the groups was to develop objectives that ensured vulnerable and underrepresented groups are able to be involved in the decision-making processes for their communities.
- Generally adopting more trauma-informed and responsive systems and policies in the city would aid in increasing equity in the planning processes.



CONVERSATION HIGHLIGHTS

"Something that I'd really like to see in my neighborhood, with the prompt in mind, is more local businesses that are really catered to the community."

Juan Luna Nunez | LATENT Design, Community Designer/Planner

"There's a lot of, 'Yes in my backyard' people, you just have to find them."

Ann McKenzie | Chicago Housing Authority, Chief Development Officer

"Having community engagement, not necessarily as a check-box, but as an evolving process, seeing who could be included at the table."

Jessie Wang | Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul University, Research and Policy Analyst

How do we address zoning and other regulatory mechanisms to make sure that we can have different types of housing by right to increase production and really allow people to be able to move into neighborhoods?"

Fran Rood | SB Friedman, Senior Vice President



Notes

Refining Objectives Approach and Engagement Update

- Fran Rood said that in the last meeting they did a brainstorming exercise to get down all of their ideas and today they're going to refine that list and try to solidify 2-5 objectives per guiding question (GQ). Moving forward, in the next meeting they will determine the policies.
- Before going into the breakout rooms they thought it would be important to describe the difference between an objective and a policy.
 - Rood said that an objective is talking about the what, what do they want to achieve and a policy is really about how, how we're achieving these objectives. The objective is really focused on what the outcome may be, an objective doesn't really change, however a policy can change, as an action-based idea. The objectives should be specific and measurable.
 - The goal is to draft objectives, synthesize the ideas, flag policy ideas for next time, and make note of overlapping ideas.
- Briana Gipson gave an update on engagement: she encouraged team members to send out
 the pillar survey for Housing and Neighborhoods, the deadline is Nov.23rd, and shared that
 they will give an update from the public survey at a later date to help refine the objectives
 and policies. She also expressed that they should approach the engagement responses in an
 trauma-informed way since they reflect the public and are raw and unfiltered.

Breakout Session → **Thriving Neighborhoods**

- The Breakout Group I was assigned to discussed Guiding Question Guiding Question #4 and #5. Jameson Skaife was the facilitator and Juan Sebastian Arias the scribe.
- For GQ 4: How can we address historical inequities by creating safe, healthy and livable neighborhoods that go beyond provision of basic needs and provide amenities, services and jobs?
 - Freda Madison talked about reducing crime and aiming to make neighborhoods safer. Daila Aragon noted the perceptions versus realities of safety and how to incorporate that. Paolo Villegas said an important cross-cutting feature is increasing funding and investments for all the "idea" categories; she said that increasing coordination over CBOs and mutual aid groups would be a good objective.

Report-back

- Guiding questions were grouped based on central themes and team members self-selected which Breakout Group to join based on interest in order to develop the objectives. The draft objectives and key discussion topics follow the guiding question.
- Breakout Group 1 focused on Trust Building & Power Shifting Guiding Questions(GQ#1 and GQ#5 in support of Group 3):
 - Guiding Question#1: How can we develop uniform community centered decision making and deeper and more inclusive engagement to address neighborhood issues, and also ensure transparency and accountability to communities?
 - Guiding Question #5: How do we foster connected, resilient, and sustainable neighborhoods that address disparities across the City?



- Standardizing community definitions when it comes to community engagement, increasing transparency for community members (especially residents of all forms of developments and business owners)
- Balancing power and decision making ensuring that underrepresented groups are accounted for (renters, service providers)
- Holding alderpeople accountable to identifying whose voice is not but should be included at the table, fragmented decision makers
- Breakout Group 2 focused on Equitable Investment (GQ#2 and GQ#3)

Guiding Question#2: How can we invest in historically marginalized communities while avoiding displacement of existing residents?

o The group didn't discuss this question and will get to objectives at the next meeting

Guiding Question#3: How do we preserve and increase the number and types of affordable, quality and accessible housing choices available for all?

- Fran Rood said they talked most about GQ#3 and housing in general, though they spent more time at the policy level and how they'll ultimately get to the outcome.
- Increase housing broadly, especially affordable housing
- Preserving naturally occurring affordable housing (resident focused rather than housing unit focused)
 - Protections for owners of different types of housing
- Changes broadly in regulatory framework to develop more varied housing
- Breakout Group 3 focused on Thriving Neighborhoods (GQ#4 and GQ#5)

Guiding Question#4: How can we address historical inequities by creating safe, healthy and livable neighborhoods that go beyond provision of basic needs and provide amenities, services and jobs?

Guiding Question #5: How do we foster connected, resilient, and sustainable neighborhoods that address disparities across the City?

- Jameson Skaife said after discussing for a while the group felt there a lot of overlap between GQ#4 and GQ#5. He thinks there will be a lot of work to refine the guiding questions and separate idea categories based on objectives.
- They broadly discussed: reducing pollution, increasing access to medical and mental care, access to healthy foods and groceries, reducing crime and police interaction (focus on increasing trauma awareness)
- Increasing community spaces, increasing locally owned business and supporting those business, increasing landscaping to beautify neighborhoods
- Increasing access to multimodal forms of transportation



RESOURCES

We Will Chicago - Housing and Neighborhoods Survey Survey for the pillar discussed in this meeting.

Local Voices Network

Explanation of Cortico's LVN platform

We Will Teams

Selection process explained, and lists of all the We Will Chicago Team Members

NEXT STEPS

- Plan to further draft objectives and develop policies at the next meeting
- Email went out declaring the extension for the We Will Chicago pillar research team to a 14 meeting schedule until June of 2022
- Saturday Nov. 6th, 4-6pm The Public Health & Safety artist organizers will hold an Engagement activity at Experimental Station for WWC, residents will share photos they took to describe all the pillars from We Will Chicago, also a peace circle will be held
- Tuesday, Nov. 16th is the WWC Advisory Committee Meeting