🗚 WE WILL CHICAGO

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 8

March 15, 2022, 09:00AM | 2 hours

Documented by: Sonal Soni

ATTENDEES

- Skyler Larrimore
- Courtney Kashima
- Mary Kenney
- Juan Sebastian Arias
 - Maureen Burns
- Rafel Leon
- Christopher Chwedyk
- Michelle Roseborough
- Bridget Hayman
- Christina Harris

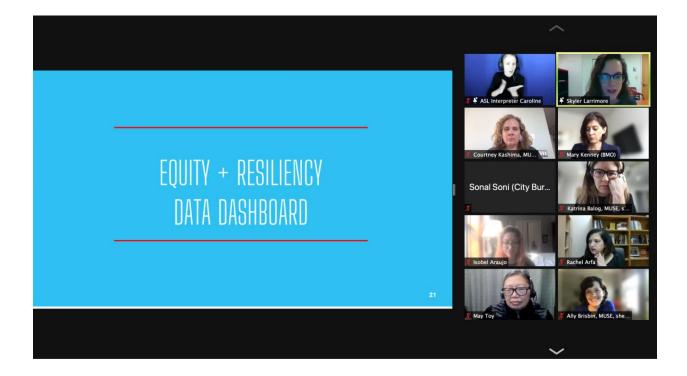
- Katrina Balog
- Isobel Araujo
- Rachel Arfa
- Todd Vanadilok
- Marcela Rodriguez
- Libia
 Bianibi
- Roberto Requejo
- Cliff Heim
- Lauren Burdette
- Todd
 Wyatt

- May Toy
- Ally Brisbin

Documenters

- Rosa
 Ortiz
- Ranadip Bose
- Kathleen Dickhut
- Amanda Carlson
- Kate McMahon
- Kelly Greer (ASL interpreter)
- Caroline (ASL interpreter)
- Cheri (captioner)







MEETING GOAL

This meeting consisted of a presentation regarding community engagement, followed by a breakout session to continue refining engagement policies and objectives. Lastly there was an overview of a proposed data dashboard.

WHERE WE ARE

Step 1 **We Are** Setting the Stage Step 2 We Have and Need Develop A Policy Toolkit Xtep 3 We Will Set Policy Framework

KEY TAKEAWAYS

2

3

The Advisory Committee implemented an eighth pillar to the We Will Chicago plan called the Civic and Community engagement pillar based on the feedback from We Will Chicago participants.

The Civic and Community engagement pillar has several goals including: expanding Chicagoans' long term capacity to organize and improve their lives and neighborhoods, increasing Chicagoans' access to participate in the democratic process, improve government transparency and access to data, and eliminate barriers to accessing city services and supports.

A proposed interactive data dashboard is expected to be made public in 2023. The dashboard would include a high level view of Chicago's data along measures related to equity and resiliency. It will also serve as an accountability tool for the We Will Chicago plan over time.



CONVERSATION HIGHLIGHTS

"We want to both share one update that builds on the conversation we started at the last Advisory Committee meeting. And that is, given all the interest, or all the related recommendations around civic and community engagement that are coming through the pillar teams, we have decided to package these together and create an eighth pillar."

Ranadip Bose | SB Friedman Development Advisors, Senior Vice President

"We think it's a very good encapsulation of one common theme that we see emerging across the pillars that we want to lift up...This (civic and community engagement) pillar can reflect some missing gaps that might not exist in individual pillars."

Skyler Larrimore | Office of the Mayor, First Deputy Director of Policy

"We took the work from our February Advisory Committee meeting. We looked at Chicago's past and concurrent planning efforts. We looked at peer cities. We elevated work from pillar research to teams and have put that into a document organized around civic and community engagement goals with supporting policies and objectives.Today, we want to follow up on our discussion from February to further refine those [policies and objectives]."

Courtney Kashima | Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association, Plan Commissioner Trainer

"How do we incentivize (marginalized communities) engaging in the process, so that they're actually impacting and influencing and allowing their voices to be heard."

Mary Kenney | BMO Financial Group, Head of U.S. Public Affairs

🗚 WE WILL CHICAGO

Notes

- Participants consent to recording the zoom meeting before beginning the presentation.
- Pillar Updates
 - o Kathy Dickhut starts off the presentation by discussing updates
 - Engagement pillar members presented an update to the Chicago Planning Commission on the pillar's progress thus far. Their last presentation to the commission was a year ago in March. Nine speakers, representing each pillar and the advisory committee, spoke to how the process was going. This presentation allowed pillar members to give an overview of how they select volunteers, community partners, and some key takeaways. The next meeting with the Chicago Planning Commission will take place in January 2023.
 - The engagement pillar will also begin presenting to Chicago City Council Committees. An informational meeting will take place on March 31 with the City Council Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy. The presentation will include an overview of the pillar's processes, as well its goals and objectives.
 - According to Dickhut, the pillar is roughly halfway through establishing their policy framework. The pillar is also currently sharing the research teams' policy suggestions to various city personnel in different sectors to gather first impressions.

Civic and Community Engagement Presentation

- Based on the conversation from the last Planning Committee meeting, the majority
 of interest and recommendations center around civic and community engagement.
 As a result, the Committee added an eighth pillar, Civic and Community Engagement.
 This decision was partly inspired by work being done in other cities like New York
 and Minneapolis. Both of those cities have separate goals or chapters that examine
 engagement.
- During the last Planning Committee meeting, participants were divided into smaller groups to discuss two questions: How can we increase transparency in decision making processes? How can we increase community involvement in these decision making processes?
- Concurrently, all of the pillar teams have been developing their policy recommendations. A number of policies related to community and civic engagement have been drafted.
- An example from the housing and neighborhoods pillar team that includes engaging historically marginalized residents and stakeholders in neighborhood decisions and processes is mentioned. This example also included creating standard community engagement definitions across all neighborhoods, as well as establishing transparent decision making procedures. These examples are still in the process of being integrated into specific policies, but they serve as a model for how civic and community engagement work shows up within the pillar teams.
- Since the creation of the eighth pillar, team members have reviewed previous input and recommendations, and have even reviewed past documents and plans that were

implemented by the Lightfoot administration, including the mayor's transition team reports. These engagement recommendations helped develop four proposed goals.

- The first goal is to expand residents' long term capacity to organize and improve their lives and neighborhoods. The second goal is to increase their access to participate in the democratic process. The third goal is to improve government transparency and access to data and the fourth is to eliminate barriers to accessing city services and supports.
- The meeting's breakout sessions reviewed the proposed objectives in more detail and refined them into a robust set of policy recommendations for the eighth pillar. In the breakout rooms, participants saw input from the last Advisory Committee meeting, combined with input from peer city reports. According to Larrimore, specific topics such as data transparency and content on elections were missing when team members first reviewed the pillars' content and must be improved.
- Larrimore also outlined a helpful formula for the research teams to utilize as they think through the policy recommendation process. At the start of the process there should be a measurable action. The next part of the process is naming the thing that you are seeking to move or to change. Next is often who the policy wants to focus on. This focus could be a geographic community, an identity-based community, or an entity such as Black and Brown owned small businesses in Chicago. Lastly, the policy recommendation should include an outcome. This formula goes beyond a general topic and instead focuses on who the policy will impact.

Breakout Activity

XWE WILL CHICAGO

- Questions to think about during the breakout session: What problem do you want to solve with this policy? Does the outcome begin to repair a past or ongoing harm or inequity? Another question to consider is how a certain policy may benefit and/or burden a group? Who will benefit (or not) from this policy? (Specific identities or communities including race, disability, gender, etc). Another important thing to consider is implementation. What might implementation look like? What needs to be in place to achieve this?
- These questions serve as inspiration during policy refinement. According to Larrimore, these conversations should center on why we do this work, what we hope to achieve, and who we seek to benefit. Considering these factors will help the team develop goals that are as specific as possible in order to create high-quality policies.
- Each objective should include both short and long term goals. Oftentimes, the short term objective may relieve an acute symptom, and the long term objective may alleviate more structural problems.
- The level of detail in the eighth pillar goals should match what is being done in the other seven pillars. Each research team within the pillars has between three to five different objectives. Each objective has between four and five policy recommendations. Objectives and policy recommendations shouldn't be too specific or broad. Today's conversation was a brainstorm. After the breakout session, participants reconvende to refine what was discussed.

WE WILL CHICAGO

- Ultimately, the Advisory Committee asked participants for their input on the objectives and policies. Participants brainstormed and identified objectives and policies that were missing, as well as areas that needed clarification or improvement.
- Team members discussed how to make data more accessible, as well as what types of data to collect and report in order to make the engagement and access readily available.
- Another topic of discussion was empowering citizens to engage. Some members thought the pillar's goals were too heavily focused on access (data and outreach), rather than how citizens actually engage in order to empower them. Members also noted it's integral to carry out objectives and policies with respect for communities that have been marginalized for years. Further discussion included incentives for communities less inclined to engage.
- The Conversation also covered how most of the goals seem to be outward looking, rather than introspective. Members voiced a need for the city to pay more attention to the permanent infrastructure that will be put in place to support this pillar. Participants agreed there should be continued thought and discussion around that point to make sure that this is a sustained effort and not just a one time engagement.
- Team members also talked about engaging with community partners that align with some of the pillar's goals and objectives.

• Preview of the Equity and Resiliency Data Dashboard

- The Equity and Resiliency data dashboard acts as an evaluative tool for the city, stakeholders and residents to analyze data over time within a set of core measures aligned with equity, resiliency and the We Will Chicago plan. The dashboard is estimated to launch in the first quarter of 2023 along with the We Will Chicago framework.
- The dashboard is also a tool for external and internal accountability and transparency on We Will plans. The dashboard serves as a bridge to other data sets and resources for residents and researchers alike.
- The dashboard will be developed over time with a focus on accessibility, transparency, and continuous improvements to the user experience. Larrimore poses the question: How do we design something that doesn't have a strong reliance on human labor? Something that is automatically updated with a steady stream of data from the census and other publicly updated sources?



Chicago Health Atlas

The Chicago Department of Public Health and Population Health Analytics Metrics Evaluation (PHAME) Center at UIC created the Chicago Health Atlas website for public access health-related data over time and across communities.

Office of Equity and Racial Justice

OERJ works to advance institutional change for equitably transforming businesses across Chicago.

Chicago Data Portal

The Chicago Data Portal gives residents access to city data across neighborhoods.

WE WILL CHICAGO

NEXT STEPS

- The Advisory Committee will do an internal debrief of all today's conversation with the purpose of reviewing the proposed objective and policy refinements. Team members have until the end of the week to submit any additional comments or suggestions.
- Co-chairs from each pillar research team will present during the next Advisory Committee meeting. They will present some of the policies currently in the works. Pillar members will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the drafted policies. The final policy draft report deadline is in June.
- The Advisory Committee will not hold a regular meeting in April; instead, various pillar research teams will present their draft policy recommendations. The next time the Advisory Committee will return to the content covered in this meeting will be in May.