

■ ★ WE WILL CHICAGO

WE WILL IN ACTION 2023



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MAYOR LORI E. LIGHTFOOT

wewillchicago.com



We Will Chicago in Action

As of 2/09/2023

During the three-year process to create We Will Chicago, City Departments and Sister Agencies have already made great strides to realize the We Will Chicago vision and challenge the racial and social inequities discussed throughout this plan.

The City is advancing many of the plan’s objectives every day through existing departmental strategic plans and initiatives together with sister agencies and cross-sector partners. This supplemental document outlines related accomplishments from recent years that further the goals and objectives articulated in the final We Will Chicago plan.

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ARTS & CULTURE

Goals
Support the resiliency of the creative sector—its workers, organizations, and businesses—for a healthy and vibrant city.
Engage artists, creative businesses, and cultural organizations to advance the quality of life in all Chicago communities.
Ensure all Chicagoans have access to robust, relevant, and joyful arts education and creative workforce opportunities at every stage of their lives.
Promote awareness and appreciation for the value of the city’s cultural sector—its current and historical contributions—to residents and those beyond the city’s borders.

Related City Initiatives: Chicago Recovery Plan; Chicago Monuments Project; INVEST South/West

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Announced \$11 million in grants in 2023 for nonprofit arts organizations, including via a new \$4.5M Chicago Arts Recovery Program.
- Saw a transformational influx of resources to help support Chicago’s creative economy in 2022. The unprecedented investment in DCASE increased direct grant support for the arts sector from \$2.7M to \$12.7M. DCASE made more than 564 grants across seven programs, a 25% increase in the total number of grants awarded in 2021.
- Increased general operating support to nonprofit arts organizations by 223% through the CityArts Program in 2022, with average awards increasing to just over \$22,000, compared to just \$6,798 in 2021.
- Increased the average grant size of support to artists through the Individual Artists Program by 60% in 2022.
- Increased the degree to which grantees reflect the demographics of the city of Chicago in 2022 – 60% of Individual Artists Program grantees are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) as compared to 38% in 2016; grants to BIPOC-led organizations and organizations on the South and West sides increased by 5%; and grants were awarded to artists and arts organizations in all 50 wards in 2022, compared to only 35 awards in 2016. In addition, 75% of DCASE grant review panelists across all programs were BIPOC.
- Announced “Arts77,” a citywide arts recovery and reopening plan for all of Chicago’s 77 community areas in 2021, representing an initial investment of over \$60 million from the Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events.
- Created a \$4 million artist relief fund in partnership with the State to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021.
- Supported the recovery of the dance sector in 2022, through the Year of Chicago Dance, by issuing 20 grants to dance and movement artists, as well as 60 grants to dance organizations and presenters, including 14 CityArts Program grants focused on addressing critical issues facing dancers and the field of dance. In 2022, direct investments to dance organizations and artists through grants, marketing, programs, and performance fees was over \$2.2M.

- Received American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding in 2022 to support the city's recovery, which DCASE used to support new grant and relief programs, provide tourism and industry support, and advance citywide marketing efforts.
- Designed the Together We Heal Creative Place grant program in partnership with the Office of Equity & Racial Justice. The program recognizes the importance of the arts in promoting health, healing, and safety for communities and awarded \$5.5M to 48 grantees whose projects will support artists in designing and implementing art projects that promote healing and transformation in Chicago's neighborhoods.
- Expanded partnerships with other City agencies in 2022 to embed the arts in initiatives and strategies across City government. In collaboration with DPD, DCASE embedded artists in the We Will Chicago citywide plan planning processes; commissioned a mural and supported an Artist-in-Residence program with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities; and created an Artist-in-Residence program at Chicago Public Library's Legler Regional Library to engage the West Side and West Garfield Park in art-based programming, among other initiatives.
- Continued to see record growth in 2022 for public art with over \$12M committed for public art in all INVEST South/West neighborhoods. In partnership with the Chicago Department of Aviation, DCASE will deliver \$3.5M for public art projects at O'Hare International Airport.
- In 2022, launched P.A.R.T.Y (Public Art Reimagining Tour with You) an artist-led public engagement process to develop a Public Art Vision Plan for each INVEST South/West neighborhood as part of the City's Five-Year Capital Plan. The first four neighborhoods were Englewood, Bronzeville, Austin, and Auburn Gresham.
- Saw the return of beloved summer festivals and events in 2022, such as Taste of Chicago, the Air & Water Show, Gospel, Blues, Jazz, House and World Music Festivals, and the return of Chicago SummerDance, the Chicago Presents program and the Chicago Band Roster. In 2022, all DCASE festivals and events incorporated neighborhood components, which resulted in over 130 events and programs providing \$2M in direct support to artists and organizations participating in cultural events in communities throughout the city.
- Following a record high of \$630M in 2021, film production revenue was projected to hit \$700M in 2022, with 48 wards hosting film productions and 1,562 permits issued.
- In 2022, continued to work in close partnership with film productions and local elected officials to mitigate negative effects and maximize positive benefits to communities impacted by filming.
- As part of Chicago's COVID-19 Task Force report, the Film Office spearheaded in 2022, "Chicago Made", a new workforce development program that seeks to reimagine the region's workforce infrastructure and create a plan to invest in displaced young workers.
- Opened five Public Outdoor Plazas in 2022 to provide more than 50,000 square feet of beautiful, safe public gathering spaces that will also catalyze further economic development along the adjacent commercial corridors.
- Celebrated disability through the arts in 2022 by unveiling a 60-piece mural, created by artist Sam Kirk, on the exterior walls of the Central West Community Center, a space shared by MOPD and the DFSS, sponsored by DCASE. This incredible collaboration led to creation of the mural, which provides a contemporary visual narrative of what it means

to be a person with a disability. The mural also features a poem by Lily Diego-Johnson, a woman with a disability who is a first-generation American, artist and social worker. The mural was created with extensive engagement with Chicago's disability community and celebrates what it means to live with a disability in the City of Chicago.

- CDPH worked with DCASE in 2022 to commission local artists to design casings for harm reduction vending machines that will be placed in five locations around the city next year.
- Worked with the Department of Assets, Information, and Services and others in 2022 to rename Chicago's oldest house in honor of the contributions of Bishop Louis Henry and Margaret Ford – now the Clarke-Ford House.

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Goals
Build deeper and more effective civic infrastructure to enable Chicagoans to improve their lives and neighborhoods
Increase public access and participation in civic and democratic processes.
Improve government transparency and Chicagoans' access to data.
Eliminate barriers to accessing City services and supports.
Ensure equity, community engagement and historical reckoning drive public decision-making

Related City Initiatives: Year of Healing

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Hosted over 20 in-person and virtual engagements in 2022 ranging from cultural celebrations to public safety, reaching over 15,000 residents.
- Hosted a Readiness Summit in 2022, with County and State partners, to prepare community organizations and vendors to access federal recovery funds.
- Launched three additional engagement councils in 2022 focused on African American, Latin Americans, and Native Americans.
- Welcomed over 3,700 asylum seekers from South and Central America arriving to Chicago in 2022.
- Hosted various discussions with international leaders in Ukraine and Poland as well as Senator Durbin, Congressman Quigley, and Consul General Koledov in 2022 to discuss humanitarian support for Ukrainians.
- Resettled hundreds of Afghans and Ukrainian refugees in 2022.
- Worked with OBM to create a language access ordinance compliance manager for 2023.
- Codified the Office of Equity and Racial Justice in 2022 and required all departments to create and maintain racial equity action plans and conduct an annual check-in on budget equity.
- Advanced the Equity and Racial Justice Learning Cohorts, an initiative where each city department builds a team that receives intensive equity training and builds a Racial Equity Action Plan. OERJ has completed Cohort 1, and Cohorts 2 and 3 are in progress. A Racial Equity Action Plan is a multi-year strategic plan for how the department will further racial equity.
- Executed the third year of Budget Equity analysis for all City departments in 2022 and, for the first time in Chicago history, required departments to publish three Budget Equity goals at Chicago.gov/BudgetEquity
- Led the Year of Healing in 2022, including the Summer Activation effort, culminating in a summit with over 100 attendees and, in partnership with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, granted over \$5M in Creative Placekeeping Grants to nearly 50 community based organizations across the city.
- Launched the Employee Diversity Dashboard in January 2021 to ensure public, consistent alignment on progress and opportunities for growth in the City of Chicago's workforce demographics (Chicago.gov/EquityDashboard). This dashboard is designed

to provide a real-time, user-friendly view the race, gender and age of city employees broken down by departments.

- Saw the highest number of votes cast in CPS Local School Council elections in 2022 in over a decade.
- Was honored by five City Colleges being named among the “Best Colleges for Student Voting” by Washington Monthly magazine and being named to ALL IN’s inaugural list of the “Most Engaged Campuses for College Student Voting” in 2022.
- Launched the Interagency Reentry Council to advance wide-ranging recommendations made by the 2021 Returning Residents Working Group in “A Roadmap for a Second Chance City” report.
- Organized, through World Business Chicago initiative Chicago Sister Cities International, over 30 events and exchanges around business, education, and culture in 2022. This included the annual Global Youth Ambassadors Leadership Summit, bringing together teenage girls from Chicago and around the world. The Kyiv Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International helped lead the City’s response to the war on Ukraine, sending funds, supplies, and volunteer and logistical support to Ukraine and Poland, as well as supporting Ukrainians arriving in Chicago.
- Adopted Historic Land Acknowledgement language through City Council in 2021, in honor of Native American Heritage Month.
- Implemented a new, more inclusive and participatory budget engagement process in 2021 that helped lead to the passage of the most progressive budget in the City’s history.
- Launched a City-wide Access Officer structure in 2021, naming a point person on disability access in every City of Chicago department and sister agency. Access Officers serve as departments’ point of contact on any accessibility needs for members of the public and work with their department to increase accessibility.
- Created the first-ever Mayor’s Youth Commission in 2020 to bring youth voice and leadership to the Lightfoot Administration’s policies and initiatives.
- Revived the Veterans, Women, New Americans, LGBTQ, and Equity advisory councils in 2020 to create a direct line of communication between the Mayor’s Office, City departments and residents.
- Launched “On the Block,” a 7-week pilot in summer 2020 to bring fun, recreational activities and valuable City services to show up for residents where they are during COVID through pop-up events on South and West side. The pilot reached 21 residential blocks in 18 communities and over 700 residents, with participation from 17 City departments and sister agencies.
- Made City of Chicago communications and services more accessible by standardizing use of ASL interpreters at press conferences, invested in the first-ever Technology Accessibility Compliance Officer, and mandated Access Officers in every City of Chicago Department.
- Removed all carve-outs from Chicago’s Welcoming City Ordinance in 2021, eliminating local police collaboration with ICE and ensuring undocumented crime victims can interact with City departments, including CPD, without fear of deportation.

- Created the first Immigrants and Refugee Rights Committee in City Council. The Committee takes on legislation and resolutions that impact Chicago's immigrant and refugee communities.
- Increased funding by nearly 40% for the Legal Protection Fund, a \$2.5M fund that provides free legal immigration services and Know Your Rights education to Chicago residents.
- Issued an executive order to fight against COVID-19, mandating that all City services and resource be accessible to all residents, regardless of immigration status.
- Issued an executive order to terminate ICE access to citywide databases and ban police cooperation with ICE on immigration enforcement.
- Outperformed most large cities in U.S. Census Bureau population count, including Los Angeles, Houston and Philadelphia.
- Increased language access plans within City Departments.
- Welcomed the inaugural Artist-in-Residence at the Legler Regional Library in 2022 to promote greater connectivity between the library, its services, and the needs and aspirations of the West Garfield Park community, and launched the Artist-in-Residence program with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at the Central West Center to develop and lead cultural programs for and by persons with disabilities.
- Released the Chicago Monuments Project final report in 2022, communicating the public's desire for the creation of new monuments that memorialize Chicago's true and complete history.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Goals
Build and sustain generational wealth and shared prosperity for Black and Latino communities.
Support business growth throughout Chicago, especially businesses owned by Black and Latino people.
Invest in equitable and inclusive workforce development to build resilient economic clusters.
Promote equitable public, private, and philanthropic investment in Black and Latino community areas without displacement.
Promote Chicago's assets nationally and amplify positive narratives about South and West side neighborhoods.

Related City Initiatives: Chicago Business Centers and Neighborhood Business Development Centers; Chicago Recovery Plan; Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD); Community Wealth Building; INVEST South/West

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Launched ChiBizStrong, a plan to deliver the financial relief and regulatory reform needed for Chicago’s small businesses to recover, in 2021. The City dispersed more than \$20 million to small businesses and nonprofits and slashed bureaucratic red tape by expediting the issuance of sign permits and restaurant licenses.
- Created the \$25 million Vendor Impact Fund to provide priority access for City vendors certified as Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE), Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBE), Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (VBE), and Business Enterprises Owned or Operated by People with Disabilities (BEPD) to loans from the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and 7(a) loan program.
- Launched eight regional business centers, called Chicago Business Centers (CBC), to fill the current gap in local business resources and minimize barriers for entrepreneurs and business owners of disadvantaged communities to properly launch, sustain, and/or expand their small businesses.
- Gave \$10.5 million in Neighborhood Opportunity Fund grants to around 60 projects and improved the system to provide small businesses and local organizations with enhanced access to capital, business training opportunities and other benefits, resulting in more applicants receiving funding and launching their businesses.
- Established the \$100 million Chicago Small Business Resiliency Loan Fund, the largest city-run small business loan fund in the country, to provide a lifeline to over 1,700 small businesses and save 9,000 jobs, in particular those that would not be served by federal programs including cash businesses, businesses owned by immigrants or those that are less well banked (over 63% of recipients were in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods).

- Established the \$10 million Hospitality Relief Fund to bring \$10,000 grants to restaurants and bars, resulting in nearly 1,000 grant recipients with south and west side businesses receiving 59% of the funding.
- Created a \$5 million Microbusiness Recovery Grant to help businesses with four or fewer employees resulting in nearly 1,000 loans made to 36 low- to moderate-income neighborhoods primarily on the city's south and west sides.
- Created nearly \$10 million Together Now grant program to provide relief to small businesses working to recover from COVID-19 impacts and damage sustained during nationwide protests and unrest, resulting in over 2,300 grants made with south and west side businesses making up 61% of recipients.
- Launched the Corridor Ambassador program in 2022 to encourage economic activity in 12 retail districts across the city by creating a visible, welcoming presence in those neighborhoods through more than 100 local ambassadors.
- Opened five Public Outdoor Plazas in 2022 to provide more than 50,000 square feet of beautiful, safe public gathering spaces that will also catalyze further economic development along the adjacent commercial corridors.
- Supported 159 pro-Chicago decisions in 2022 — 114 corporate expansions, 45 relocations or new market entrants, and 27 investments in the S/W sides — all supporting over 20,000 new jobs.
- Launched ChiBlockBuilder, a new program to encourage the purchase and redevelopment of City-owned vacant land in partnership with community stakeholders, in 2022. ChiBlockBuilder streamlines the purchase of City-owned properties across the South and West Sides and increases transparency about the land sales process.
- Awarded \$126M in 2022 to 168 neighborhood development projects located in 55 community areas throughout Chicago. These projects were announced through the Department of Planning and Development's Community Development Grant program and are funded through the Chicago Recovery Plan, Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and Neighborhood Opportunity Fund (NOF).
- Experienced a successful rebound of tourism following the COVID-19 pandemic, with summer hotel room nights in 2022 reaching 89% of 2019 levels.
- Launched the Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot in 2022, one of the largest monthly cash assistance programs in the nation, supporting 5,000 low-income households with \$500 a month for 12 months to provide greater financial stability and support an equitable economic recovery.
- Saw 20,544 youth earn over \$25M in wages through One Summer Chicago in 2022.
- Launched an [online portal](#) in 2022 to simplify collaboration for workforce development agencies. More than 450 residents have used the platform to access workforce training, resources, and job opportunities.
- Launched the Clear Path Relief Pilot Program on April 1, 2022, providing low income motorists the opportunity to reduce or eliminate vehicle-related debt, such as parking, compliance, red light, and speed camera violations. Six months into the program, more than 30,000 applications had been approved and \$23.2M of ticket debt waived.
- Continued to help motorists experiencing hardship through enhanced payment plans, implemented in 2021, allowing them to put less money down and giving additional time

to pay off debt. Our online payment plans saved motorists \$35.7M in collection fees in 2021, and \$21.6M through the first half of 2022.

- Provided low-income City of Chicago residents with a 50% reduced rate on water, sewer, and water-sewer tax charges in 2022, as well as debt relief for those who demonstrate they can manage the reduced rate bills for one year, through the Utility Billing Relief Program (UBR). To date, the program has approved over 30,000 enrollments with 92% of enrollees successfully completing the program. Approximately 48% of our enrollees are Black and 32% are Latino. The UBR program has allowed low-income homeowners to save over \$14.1 million in rate reductions and to have over \$16.8M forgiven after successfully completing a year in the program.
- Implemented new procedures, in connection with the City's Equitable Social Services Contracting Initiative, to address cash flow issues that impact many providers and discourage new providers from participating in the City's delegate agency contracting process.
- Established the \$100M Chicago Small Business Resiliency Fund, which provided small businesses with emergency cash flow during the COVID-19 Pandemic. These 5-year low-interest loans saved 348 small businesses and even more jobs
- Secured a casino operator in the City of Chicago in 2022, after three decades of pursuit, that will generate \$4B of financial value to the State, \$2.7B of which will accrue to the City's policy and fire pension funds.
- Raised the minimum wage to \$15.40 an hour by 2022 for most Chicagoans.
- Passed Fair Work Week legislation in 2020 to give lower-wage workers and their families predictability in scheduling and fairer working conditions.
- Eliminated sub-minimum wage for workers with disabilities.
- Reformed fines and fees by creating affordable payment plans and instituting a city sticker ticket amnesty and suspended booting, towing and debt collection during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Raised the minimum wage at Chicago's airports to \$17 an hour in 2022, with the path paved to go to \$18 an hour in July of 2023.
- Implemented the Wage Theft Protection ordinance, Chicago's first wage theft ordinance. This went into effect July 31, 2021.
- Passed a written contract requirement for employers of Domestic Workers and raised the minimum wage for all domestic workers in August 2021. The minimum wage for all domestic workers must match the annual (July 1st) minimum wage increases per the Minimum Wage Ordinance. The minimum wage is currently \$15.40.
- Created *Your Home is Someone's Workplace* campaign in 2020 to elevate care workers and provide a space where employers and care workers can find information, resources, and guidelines on creating safe workplaces.
- Invested an additional \$242M with the passage of the FY '23 budget to all four of the City's pension funds. Investment decisions like this are the responsible choice and how we will shore up the retirements for the City's essential workers.
- Launched \$5M Community Wealth Ecosystem Building grants in 2022, which is Phase 1 of the \$15M Community Wealth Building effort, an economic development initiative that promotes the local, democratic, and shared ownership and control of community assets.

- Led 77 international community touchpoints for the City of Chicago in 2022, including 26 local international events and 51 incoming international delegations from 23 countries.
- Saw 14,953 Chicagoans connected to job opportunities and career advancement resources in 2022 through coordinated efforts to improve and expand workforce development services under the City's Recovery Task Force (RTF) initiative, surpassing the 10,000-person goal.
- Saw Chicago startups raise \$5.5 billion in VC funding through the first three quarters of 2021, according to data recently released by Pitchbook. This is double what was raised in all of 2020, which was already a record high for Chicago tech companies.
- Saw the highest percentage (over 15%) of early-stage funding going to Black- and Latino-founded start-ups of any city in the country in 2021, according to TechRise and Crunchbase data.
- Saw O'Hare Airport climb, in October 2021, to become the number-one port in the nation, the most internationally connected airport in the U.S., and the third-most internationally connected in the world.
- Developed a process in partnership with Choose Chicago in 2020 to more prominently feature neighborhood cultural assets as part of the city's tourism promotion.
- Became the first U.S. city to publish an economic recovery plan and assembled over 100 leaders from the business, government, and nonprofit sectors to form a recovery task force focused expanding economic opportunity in 2020. The recovery task force work has led to several corporate relocations to Chicago in key growth sectors, the launch of large mental health related support initiatives, and regional efforts to promote tourism.
- Saw Site Selection Magazine rank Chicago the #1 large city in America for corporate expansions and relocations for the 8th year in a row. Over 50 new companies opened up their offices or headquarters in Chicago.
- Awarded Choose Chicago \$5.5M in American Rescue Plan funds in 2023 to support expanded neighborhood tourism initiatives in 12 Community Areas, including Auburn Gresham, Austin, Back of the Yards, Englewood, New City, North Lawndale, Roseland, South Chicago and Hyde Park, among others.
- Removed barriers for small contractors to perform demolition work in 2021.



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE & ENERGY

Goals
Prioritize climate resiliency efforts in overburdened communities and for low-income individuals through both public and private sector efforts.
Use environmental justice principles to establish criteria and policies for neighborhoods harmed by environmental degradation.
Foster public and private partnerships to reduce waste and encourage the reuse of materials, locally produced goods, services, and energy.
Maintain and expand green space, natural resources, and conservation efforts for the benefit of all Chicagoans.
Mitigate then eliminate sources of carbon emissions in alignment with national and global climate goals.

Related City Initiatives: Climate Action Plan; Chicago Recovery Plan; Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD); Our Roots Chicago

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Trained and worked with community ambassadors, alongside Parks, the Chicago Department of Transportation and the Department of Streets and Sanitation, to collectively plant 18,000 new trees in 2022 as part of Our Roots Chicago, the City's strategy to plant 75,000 trees over the next five years.
- Convened with community partners most affected by industrial development to lay the groundwork for a proactive city-wide cumulative impact assessment, which will provide data on where pollution is coming from, how burdens may vary in communities across Chicago, and community-level vulnerability to pollution. We are on track to share results of that assessment in spring 2023.
- Worked with the City and partners, as well as Microsoft, to deploy over 100 low-cost air pollution sensors across Chicago in 2022 for Microsoft's Project Eclipse, a community-driven air monitoring network designed to show where sharper monitoring is needed to protect communities, in partnership with CDPH, JCDecaux, Environmental Law and Policy Center, and the Array of Things.
- Published the 2022 Chicago Climate Action Plan. Chicago's new climate goals set a course to reduce the city's carbon emissions 62% by 2040. Anchored in values of economic inclusion and savings, pollution burden reduction, and equitable access to critical infrastructure and community health and resilience, the 2022 CAP prioritizes delivering meaningful community benefits and system improvements as the City continues to lead on climate.
- Published the Chicago Building Decarbonization Working Group Report in 2022.
- Released the 2021 City of Chicago Waste Strategy, a comprehensive waste and materials management plan that overhauls the City's waste system with the goal of decreasing waste disposal and associated negative environmental impacts, reducing

costs and increasing efficiency, maximizing economic investment and workforce development opportunities, and addressing social and environmental justice inequities.

- Executed a new electricity contract for City energy usage in 2022, which will ensure that by 2025, all City electricity usage is powered by 100% clean, renewable energy, including in part from a now under construction solar facility in Downstate Illinois.
- Adopted the 2022 Energy Transformation Code, putting Chicago at the forefront of global efforts to address climate change. This code is the first in Illinois, and Chicago is among the first major U.S. cities to adopt and exceed the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code.
- Updated the Heating and Cooling Ordinance in 2022 to address the challenges and safety concerns of extreme weather events.
- Opened applications for the Climate Infrastructure Fund in 2022 to fund climate-related capital projects for nonprofit organizations and small business in partnership with DPD, made possible with the Chicago Recovery Plan.
- Planned for the future electrification of all non-emergency light duty vehicles.
- Kicked off purchase of electric vehicles and charging stations, with emphasis of siting them in community areas with higher pollution rates under the Chicago Recovery Plan.
- Launched Bike Chicago, a new program providing free bikes, as well as maintenance and safety equipment, to income-eligible residents. CDOT distributed approximately 500 bikes in 2022 and will gradually increase distribution until 5,000 free bikes have been provided, as part of Chicago's goal to increase affordable and climate-friendly mobility options.
- Installed four green schoolyards in the Space to Grow project in partnership with DWM and external partners CPS and MWRD, made possible through the Chicago Recovery Plan in 2022.
- Enhanced laws to prevent the future privatization of Chicago's water system, prohibit shut-offs for non-payment, and implement transparency reporting requirements for annual information on water affordability measures in 2022.
- Launched the Lead Service Line Replacement Program in 2021, which provides assistance to residents who wish to replace their lead service lines, prioritizing those who are low income.
- Increased fines on air pollution as part of CDPH's ongoing effort to further protect residents from environmental hazards in 2021.
- Passed an ordinance and developed rules in 2020 to establish a new regulatory framework for implosion demolitions in Chicago to ensure extensive community engagement prior to this type of demolition activity.
- Proposed new rules in 2022 for rock crushing facilities designed to reduce dust and improve air quality in communities surrounding these facilities, implement continuous monitoring, and enhance CDPH oversight through greater reporting and record-keeping requirements.
- Expanded public engagement opportunities on permit decisions for facilities with the greatest potential community impact, including waste transfer stations, consequential large recycling facilities and rock crushing facilities.

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

Goals
Preserve and increase affordable, quality and accessible housing choices for all.
Prevent Chicagoans from being involuntarily displaced, especially those that have been historically marginalized.
Attract and retain residents and increase density to strengthen neighborhood vibrancy, especially on the South and West Sides.
Invest in Black, Latino, Native American, Asian and immigrant community areas to create safe, healthy and livable neighborhoods that provide basic needs, amenities, services and jobs.

Related City Initiatives: Blueprint for Fair Housing; Chicago Recovery Plan; Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD); Community Wealth Building; Food Equity Council; INVEST South/West

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Announced the largest investment in affordable housing in Chicago’s history in 2021, with 24 new developments set to preserve or create 2,400 rental units across the city and mobilize over \$1 billion in affordable development.
- Provided over \$175 million in direct financial assistance and legal services to impacted Chicagoans from 2021 to 2023 through the COVID emergency housing grants, including the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- Passed landmark inclusionary housing legislation by overhauling the Affordable Requirements Ordinance in 2020 to require developers to build more affordable housing in high income areas.
- Passed the Connected Communities Ordinance in 2022, the most comprehensive, equity-centered update to the City’s zoning code yet, to advance equitable transit-oriented development. The ordinance facilitates more investment near transit on the South and West sides of the City and prevents displacement and promotes affordable housing options in transit-rich communities on the North and Northwest sides, while making sidewalks and streets safer everywhere.
- Passed the Encumbrance Ordinance in 2022 to relieve City debt on vacant and abandoned properties in low- to moderate-income communities that have the opportunity for rehabilitation and reoccupation for homeownership and business development.
- Passed the HOA Condo/Co-op Preservation Ordinance in 2022, providing \$5M to support struggling condo owners with loans and grants for deferred maintenance on common area repairs.
- Used CRP funds to support limited equity cooperative homeownership in 2022, for the first time. CRP funds will allow the Pilsen Housing Cooperative to acquire their third building and deeply underwrite the share cost for new coop members, allowing for both wealth-building and permanent affordability.

- Closed 4 Single Family RDA's projects in 2022 under the City Lots for Working Families Program to create 57 units in North Lawndale and West Humboldt Park.
- Closed Reclaiming Chicago Single Family site-prep agreement and started on 1st component (14 scattered sites) in North Lawndale in 2022.
- Marked the first three years of Mayor Lightfoot's INVEST South/West initiative with more than \$2.2 billion in public and private investment commitments within 10 South and West Side community areas.
- Broke ground in 2022 on Englewood Connect, a \$13.9M, City-supported culinary food hub that is restoring Englewood's landmark Engine Co. 84 firehouse as a commercial kitchen and event space that's located along a targeted INVEST South/West corridor.
- Broke ground in 2022 on Austin United, a \$45 million, City-supported adaptive re-use of the landmark Laramie State Bank building in Austin that will include 78 mixed-income apartments, a branch bank, business incubator, coffee lounge, and blues museum located along a targeted INVEST South/West corridor.
- Broke ground in 2022 on Auburn Gresham Apartments, a \$43M City-supported redevelopment of vacant City land in Auburn Gresham with 58 affordable units and ground-floor commercial spaces that are located along a targeted INVEST South/West corridor.
- In 2022, opened the Auburn Gresham Healthy Lifestyle Hub, a \$20M conversion of a former furniture warehouse that includes a health clinic, bank branch and pharmacy located along a targeted INVEST South/West corridor.
- Selected 166 finalists for more than \$120M in Community Development Grants through the Chicago Recovery Plan in 2022. Ranging from \$12,000 to \$7.2M, the grants are helping to complete neighborhood investment projects valued at more than \$320M.
- Completed or set in construction over 200 capital projects across the city in 2022, including 15 major fieldhouse renovations, 20 playground upgrades, 15 court renovations, 10 new Chicago Splash! water spray features, 40 facility rehab projects, including new roofs, masonry, and mechanical projects, and 60 site improvements, including athletic field rehabs, new outdoor fitness stations, dog friendly areas, and more.
- Completed over 168 home modifications (HomeMod) in neighborhoods across the City in 2022 to make homes accessible for people with disabilities. The HomeMod Program provides accessibility modifications for Chicago residents with disabilities, ages 0 to 59 years old, who meet federal poverty income guidelines. Home modifications include installing lifts and adapting bathrooms and kitchens for accessibility.
- Closed funding on 1,527 affordable housing units in 2022 (nearly double the 2021 total of 863 units).
- Awarded Chicago's first City-funded housing coop \$600,000 in 2022 for a shared-ownership housing pilot to support long-term affordable homeownership opportunities.
- Passed the SRO Preservation Loan Fund in 2022, which preserves affordable single-room occupancy units.
- In 2022, awarded the City's first Right to Counsel pilot program with \$8 million over 3 years.
- Launched the Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) Acquisition Program in 2022 under the Chicago Recovery Plan and with DFSS to fund the acquisition of non-congregate shelters

for Chicagoans experiencing homelessness. RFP was published and closed, and 5 grantee finalist shelter operators were selected. DOH is currently working with these finalists to advance their shelter acquisition & rehab plans in 2023.

- In 2022, created a comprehensive guide to DOH's programs and services for homeowners, homebuyers, and renters and translated it into ten languages.
- Passed the Woodlawn Housing Preservation Ordinance in 2020, a first-of-its-kind ordinance focused on stabilizing a low-income community adjacent to the Obama Presidential Center investment, which created requirements to use vacant city land for affordable housing, longtime homeowner repair grants, a home refinancing program, and a low- and moderate-income home buyer program.
- Passed an ordinance in 2020 allowing for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) pilot to increase the supply of affordable housing.
- Housed over 1,800 formerly homeless households from 2020 to 2022 through the Expedited Housing Initiative (EHI) with plans to house another 1,200 households in 2023 and keep 1,000 that have already found a home housed.
- Created an online portal for the Rental Assistance Program (RAP) in 2021 to allow for faster application submission, processing, and payments to landlords and property managers approving over 1,900 applications amounting to \$10.5M.
- Implemented the Rapid Rehousing Coordinator Program in 2022 to connect survivors of gender-based violence with housing and supportive services as they seek safety and stability, providing rapid re-housing and wrap-around services to support 175 households.
- Launched the Shelter Diversion Pilot (SDP) within the homeless system in 2021, a strategy that helps people experiencing a housing crisis quickly identify and access safe alternatives to shelter.
- Delivered 4.6 million meals to older adults in need through December 2022 with the Home Delivered Meal program.
- Received over 270,000 Senior visits at our 21 Senior Centers in 2022, which allowed older adults to receive hot meals, health promotion activities and engage in various social activities.
- Created a monthly fresh food box program in 2022 that delivers groceries including fresh fruits, vegetables and protein to over 600 older adults and their caregivers.
- The Case Advocacy Support Team conducted over 2,300 Senior Well-being Checks and over 1,100 Isolated Senior Crisis Referrals in 2022.
- Opened five Public Outdoor Plazas in 2022 to provide more than 50,000 square feet of beautiful, safe public gathering spaces that will also catalyze further economic development along the adjacent commercial corridors.
- Launched the Neighborhood Access Program in 2021 to support the cultural vitality of every neighborhood via grant programs and partnerships designed to be responsive to the complex needs of individual communities.
- Completed bulk environmental and historic records reviews for approximately 10,000 vacant City-owned lots in 2022 in order to facilitate sale and activation of publicly owned, under-utilized land.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Goals
Support increased awareness, interest and belonging to learning resources accessible to all Chicagoans at all stages of life regardless of race, gender, income level, age, ability, citizenship status and language proficiency.
Create new sustainable educational pathways to the workforce, especially for Black and Latino residents and those negatively affected by the criminal-legal system.
Build on existing programs to create opportunities for learning and personal growth.
Elevate existing support systems to increase formal and informal learning opportunities.
Expand the availability and access to spaces for lifelong learning in Black, immigrant, Indigenous, and Latino community areas.

Related City Initiatives: Every Child Ready Chicago; Let’s Go. Chicago Roadmap; My CHI. My Future.

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Announced extension of Sunday library hours, eliminated library late fines, cancelled outstanding patron debt, and began installation of payment kiosks at all library branches in 2019.
- Launched The 81 Club, in partnership with Chicago Public Schools (CPS), in 2022 to provide access to CPL materials for 21,000 teachers for in-classroom instruction and a simplified library card sign-up for 322,000 CPS students.
- Launched a new Voices for Justice speaker series in 2022, in partnership with the City’s Office of Equity and Racial Justice and Chicago Public Library to bring authors, artists, and thought leaders into our city and libraries to spark conversations around race and social justice. To date, the program has seen over 80,000 views with speakers including Justice Sonya Sotomayor, Candace Parker and Pulitzer Prize winning author Margo Jefferson.
- Saw the CPS Class of 2022 achieve a record-high four-year graduation rate of 82.9%, a record five-year graduation rate of 84% and a record scholarship total of more than \$1.5B. The District also achieved a second-highest ever Freshman On-Track rate, one of the most accurate indicators of high school graduation, of 88.8%.
- Saw the CPS Class of 2021 achieve the highest FAFSA completion rate at 89.46%—an increase of 6.36 percent over the Class of 2020 and one of the highest FAFSA completion rates in the country. Additionally, virtual advising and opportunities supported the Class of 2021, which was offered more than \$1B (\$1,028,475,660) in scholarships.
- Launched CPS’ High School Strategy in 2020. This \$5 million new initiative is aimed at improving the district’s high school experience including increasing the number of students taking algebra in middle school and expanding access to college-credit courses for Black and Latino students by 2024.
- Piloted Career Launch Chicago in 2019, a new public-private partnership to build a robust youth apprenticeship system to connect 1,000 high school students by 2024 to education and workforce training, and ultimately into high-demand careers.

- Recruited and hired a record number of staff/teachers in 2022 to ensure our students have the support they need, with 46% of new teachers being Black or Latinx, up from 33% of new teachers in 2017. Despite national educator shortages, overall staffing levels are the highest they've been in at least 10 years.
- Created an Emergency Fund at City Colleges in 2019, which offers students the chance to apply to receive up to \$750 per semester to cover an unforeseen circumstance that would keep them away from the classroom.
- Expanded City Colleges' Fresh Start initiative over the summer of 2022 to give even more students the opportunity to return to college with their prior CCC debt waived. Any former student who left City Colleges with debt before July 1, 2020, is now eligible to take advantage of the program. Nearly 1,500 students have re-enrolled at City Colleges with the support of Fresh Start, and the overwhelming majority are Black and/or Hispanic.
- Enabled 2,156 students, who are overwhelmingly Black and/or Hispanic, through the Future Ready initiative, to pursue career training and/or a credential in a high-demand field at no cost during fiscal year 2022.
- Saw CPS collaborate with the City Colleges of Chicago in 2021 in the development of Chicago Roadmap to support students' post-secondary education, as well as the development of Teach Chicago Tomorrow to home grow the future teaching corps.
- Created Chicago Connected, a \$50M program aimed at eliminating the digital divide for CPS students and their families by providing free access to Wi-Fi and broadband internet, in 2020. The Program connected over 63,000 CPS students to no-cost high-speed internet, became the largest and longest broadband expansion program in America, and was named by Education Week as the "gold standard" for municipally-sponsored internet programs.
- Aided 328 current and future early childhood professionals who are working toward a teaching degree at no cost in 2022 through the Chicago Early Learning Workforce Scholarship based at Truman College. Details about the successful partnership between City Colleges, the Chicago Mayor's Office, Chicago Public Schools, and the Department of Family and Support Services were shared at the U.S. Department of Education's Effective Educator Development Annual Summit.
- Launched the 'After 22' Project through Dailey College in 2022, in partnership with Anixter Center and Special Olympics Chicago, to connect adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to career training, educational opportunities, and jobs. Historically, after the age of 22, people with disabilities age out of traditional schools.
- Saw DFSS and City Colleges of Chicago partner in 2022 to provide residents from communities with high unemployment rates with workforce training and apprenticeship training through Career Grow Chicago. Participants receive assistance with tuition, books, tutoring, work-based learning opportunities, professional development, mentorship & career coaching, along with certification opportunities.
- Expanded the Chicago Youth Service Corps in 2022 from a 6-week program to a 40-week program that will serve over 2,640 over 3 years.
- Made a \$1.2M dollar investment in increasing disability employment with the launch of the MOPD Career Center in 2022. The Career Center serves people with disabilities in finding jobs and careers by providing career readiness services, including preparing a

resume, practicing interviews, setting goals, and counseling on disclosing disability in the job search process; and requesting reasonable accommodations. The Career Center also partners with employers to increase inclusive hiring practices and provides technical assistance. In the Career Center's first four months, 100 job seekers received career readiness services and twenty have been hired in jobs across a variety of industries.

- Expanded the ChicagoEarlyLearning.org application portal in 2022 to provide access to early learning services for children ages 0 to 5 and pregnant moms, allowing them to find the program that best fits their needs.
- Launched, as part of the [Arts77](#) recovery and reopening plan, Culture in My Neighborhood, a unique partnership between the Chicago Park District, Chicago Public Library, and Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events to advance the vision for equitable access to the arts in all of Chicago's 77 community areas. The \$40M initiative supports cultural programming at the Chicago Cultural Center, 18 Chicago Park District neighborhood cultural centers, and the Chicago Public Library regional libraries—through grants and commission opportunities for artists and organizations.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Goals
Ensure equitable, affordable healthcare services for all Chicagoans.
Strengthen trauma-informed public health systems to respond to mental and behavioral health conditions.
Establish and maintain the necessary governmental public health and emergency management capacity, staff and infrastructure, and change community conditions to eliminate health inequities and respond to public health emergencies.
Ensure Chicago is a city where everyone can thrive without fear of violence.
Make infrastructure, physical spaces and services safe, beautiful and accessible to the aspirations and cultures of communities.

Related City Initiatives: Healthy Chicago 2025; Community Safety Coordination Center; Family Connects Chicago; Food Equity Council; Framework for Mental Health Equity; Gender-Based Violence and Human Trafficking Strategic Plan; Chicago Recovery Plan.

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Invested \$56 million in 2020 to establish a citywide COVID Contact Tracing Corps, resulting in grants to 31 CBOs in Chicago’s hardest-hit communities and the hire of 450 contact tracers and 31 supervisors.
- Distributed more than 18 million units of medical grade PPE across the healthcare system and distributed nearly 4 million free masks to community organizations.
- Opened a mass vaccination site at United Center, set up community clinics at City Colleges, hosted pop-up events, and launched an at-home vaccination program, administering nearly 500,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses in 2021.
- Formed the Racial Equity Rapid Response team in 2020 to develop hyperlocal, data-informed strategies to slow the spread of the COVID-19 and improve health outcomes among communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID infections and death.
- Launched Protect Chicago 77, a citywide campaign to get Chicagoans in all 77 community areas vaccinated, in 2021.
- Kicked off Protect Chicago Plus, focusing on encouraging vaccination in 15 highly impacted communities based on the City’s COVID-19 vulnerability index, in 2021. During the early stages of Chicago's COVID-19 vaccine rollout, many providers in these communities weren't enrolled yet or hadn't expanded to include the capacity needed to support the community. Protect Chicago Plus allowed the City to move quickly and provide access to vaccines where it was needed most.
- Worked with CPL to launch a Narcan access program that expanded in December 2022 to every library in the city. Through the program, CDPH trained hundreds of library staff on opioid overdose prevention and helped to install Narcan distribution boxes in each library. The program has distributed over 3,300 Narcan kits between January 2022 and January 2023.

- Worked with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) to launch the Medication Assisted Recovery NOW (MAR NOW) Program in May 2022 in Chicago. The success of the Chicago pilot led to a statewide expansion in September 2022. The program connects callers to the IL Helpline for Opioids to immediate access to medications to treat opioid use disorder, including telephonic prescription and induction on buprenorphine. Since May 2022, the program has connected over 190 people to medications to treat opioid use disorder, including over 100 successful and safe home inductions on buprenorphine.
- Began working with Cook County Sheriff's Office in fall 2022 to increase access to harm reduction resources for everyone departing the jail and increase linkage to treatment through new care managers in the reentry center. Since the fall of 2022, CCSO has distributed over 1,000 fentanyl test kits to returning residents and made Narcan (naloxone) available to everyone leaving the jail.
- Established an Office of Community Planning and Equity Zones and an Office of Health Equity in All Policies in the Chicago Department of Public Health to focus on catalyzing community power building and mobilizing policy and systems change to address social and structural determinants of health.
- Launched the Community Growers Program in 2022 to provide small grants and technical assistance to small urban agriculture organizations and growers with a goal of increasing local food access in communities. This \$2 million dollar commitment will support both existing growers and new urban farms and community gardens on city owned vacant lots.
- Strengthened efforts to engage the community and make residents safe from the dangers of hate crimes in 2022 by reinvigorating the CCHR Hate Crime Committee to create the Hate Crimes Reboot which brings together over twenty-five leaders representing government, community agencies, and law enforcement to discuss strategies and develop allies in the fight against hate.
- Launched the Senior Services Vaccination Navigator Program in 2021, providing direct outreach to over 13,000 older adults, informing and assisting with home-based and nearby community vaccination opportunities.
- Increased funding more than tenfold for community approaches to violence reduction by investing approximately \$20 million per year in 2022 and 2023 to build out the City's street outreach and victim services provider networks. Those services support and intervene with individuals at highest risk of violence and provide trauma-informed services to victims of violence and their families.
- Saw Chicago ranked the #3 city in 2022 by the Community Justice Action Fund's inaugural City Violence Prevention Index for achieving the broadest range of violence prevention programs, services, and policies.
- Launched the Ripple Effect in 2022. This campaign honors the lives lost to gun violence, shows the ripple effect violence has in communities across the city and highlights the path forward. It featured over 15 violence prevention experts, survivors, researchers, and community leaders, and generated over 15 million social media and radio impressions and almost 800,000 social media video views.
- Launched High Risk Intervention Teams in eight communities in 2022 to ensure a coordinated response to incidents by conducting weekly shooting reviews, addressing

hotspots, and expanding pathways to direct services and referrals for individuals most impacted and most at risk of violence.

- In coordination with the Chicago Department of Public Health in 2022, brought mental health skills trainings to over 250 street outreach workers, youth-serving staff, medical providers, faith leaders, and other leaders from ten communities most affected by violence to equip them with the skills to recognize the signs and provide immediate support to individuals experiencing trauma as a result of gun violence.
- Launched Low-Key Kickbacks: Saturday Edition in 2022 to ensure that youth have access to engaging activities and necessary resources within communities on the South and West sides, hosting a total of seven Saturday events with nearly 850 youth and family members in attendance.
- Launched the Home and Business Protection Program (HBPP) in 2022, and received more than 2,700 income-based applications and more than 6,400 rebate-based applications. Over \$1.4M reimbursement payments were approved to help make it easier to keep homes and businesses safe.
- In partnership with the Chicago Department of Health, launched a pilot Emergency Supplemental Victim's Fund in 2022, which provides up to \$3,500 in immediate financial relief for costs associated with funeral/burial services, relocation, and any general expenses related to gun violence victimizations.
- Launched Protect Chicago at Home, a free at home vaccination program bringing in-home vaccination for up to 10 people per appointment. To date, 46,877 COVID-19 vaccinations have been provided by the program.
- Awarded \$19.2 million in 2022 to the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership to delegate funding to 11 community organizations to serve as local employers for the City of Chicago's Community Health Response Corps (CHRC). Building on initial investments in the COVID-19 Contact Tracing Corps, these organizations are enlisting up to 150 community members from 17 priority neighborhoods to serve their communities as community health workers.
- Expanded the Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement Program (CARE) in 2022 and launched an alternate response team on the Southwest Side, and in Gage Park, West Elsdon, West Lawn, Chicago Lawn, and West Englewood. The alternate response team consists of a CFD Community Paramedic and CDPH Mental Health Clinician. To date, all three CARE Teams have responded to over 520 mental health 911 crisis calls and conducted over 460 follow-ups.
- Expanded the Trauma-Informed Centers of Care (TICC) network in 2022 to fund no barrier mental health services in all 77 Chicago neighborhoods. CDPH's mental health services served 73,937 Chicago residents in 2022.
- Planned to launch a Stabilization Housing program which will create up to 40 beds for high utilizers of jail, Emergency Department (ED), 911, and homeless services. This initiative will provide stabilization for more than 100 residents per year, by providing onsite shelter, behavioral care, and post program planning and recommendations.
- Vastly expanded the Fentanyl Test Strip distribution program in 2022 to one of the largest in the nation. CDPH has distributed 87,000 fentanyl test strips and trained hundreds of individuals, agencies, and organizations on overdose harm reduction and drug testing. CDPH also held seven community test kit build events where community

members helped build fentanyl test kits while learning about opioid overdose and harm reduction from CDPH.

- Led on protections for individuals seeking reproductive healthcare and/or gender-affirming care by announcing the Justice for All Pledge, investing \$500,000 in support providers that assist patients in accessing reproductive healthcare, passing the Bodily Autonomy Ordinance which prohibits City departments and agencies from participating in any investigation or proceeding led by a restrictive jurisdiction related to reproductive healthcare in 2022. CDPH launched chicago.gov/abortioncare with links to free trainings on pregnancy options counseling services and other resources.
- Continued to support the Chicago Fire Department Cares program in 2022, a community-based initiative focused on establishing neighborhood Pop-Ups where CFD employees educate the public about fire safety, recruit prospective firefighters at a grass-roots level, and provided free blood pressure testing and CPR training.
- In 2022, held the first FF/EMT test since 2014 receiving over 15,000 applications and inviting over 4500 applicants to take the test. The City also committed to increasing the testing cadence, and the next entrance exam will be held in 2024.
- In 2022, identified the top 55 police beats where more than half of the city's violence occurs and implemented strategic deployments to combat violence in these areas. Since the implementation, homicides have reduced by approximately 27% and shootings have been reduced by approximately 31% in the identified police beats.
- Increased the homicide clearance rate by double digits, with more homicides cleared in 2020 than any year since 2005.
- Launched the Mayor's Office Violence Reduction Dashboard in 2021 as a data transparency achievement and tool to enable community-based partnerships. The dashboard provides updated data on violence and victimization to City departments, violence reduction partners, and the general public while depicting the City's response to violence through City-funded programs and interventions.
- Community-based mediation pilot program launched in 2022 by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, along with Mayor Lightfoot, the Chicago Police Department, and the Center for Conflict Resolution, to resolve select misconduct complaints.
- Achieved over 78% preliminary Consent Decree compliance in 2022.
- Enhanced Chicago's anti-sexual harassment laws in 2022.
- Increased gender-based violence investments by \$4.6M in the 2023 budget on top of the \$25M increased investment through the Chicago Recovery Plan.
- Worked with CPD in 2021 to expand the Narcotics Arrest Diversion Program, to divert individuals with a substance use disorder from the criminal justice system and toward treatment and recovery services.
- A Sobering Center pilot program currently being designed by CDPH, that will provide an alternate destination, beside emergency rooms, or police transport, for intoxicated individuals to recover. This pilot is currently estimated to launch by the second half of 2023.
- Declared racism a public health crisis in the City of Chicago to address the stark racial inequities that have resulted from centuries of systemic racism in Chicago and the nation in 2021.

- Partnered with community food leaders in 2021 to co-create Chicago's Food Equity Agenda, a multi-year effort to transform the food system by removing barriers to urban farming, supporting BIPOC food entrepreneurs, and better connecting residents with nutrition programs and healthy, affordable food. With support and partnership from the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the Mayor's Office also hired the City's first ever Food Equity Policy Lead to advance this agenda and convene a new cross-sector, interdepartmental Food Equity Council to bring transparency, accountability, and collaboration to create an equitable local food system.
- Invested in programs for youth most likely to be impacted by gun violence, including Choose to Change and SCan, to connect young people with wraparound services to increase positive outcomes and promote self-efficacy.
- Won historic reforms around accountability and transparency in police supervisors' contracts including investigation of anonymous complaints, preservation of disciplinary records against destruction, safeguarding the names of complainants to guard against retaliation, among other wins.
- Developed an in-service training program, going from 0 to 40 hours of officer annual training within the first three years of CD implementation, including scenario-based use of force training (with over 95% officers completing 32 hours of training through the last reporting period).
- Launched Use of Force Dashboard and Accountability Dashboard to improve transparency by providing the public with interactive data on investigations into officer use of force and complaints of officer misconduct.
- Expanded the Neighborhood Policing Initiative, a community policing program designed to build and foster a collaborative partnership with local businesses in communities across Chicago, including a designated Business Liaison Officer for all 22 police districts.
- Created CPD's first ever recruitment team, recruiting 956 new officers in 2022. This is the highest in a decade.
- Hired CPD's first ever Director of Wellness and funded in-house clinicians for all 22 police districts.
- Created new model of juvenile diversion and deflection, to connect youth who make contact with the criminal justice system to social services.
- Expanded the City's narcotics diversion program (NADP) to all 22 police districts. This connects people arrested for narcotics offenses to valuable treatment services.
- In 2022, hired an Executive Director and appointed an Interim Commission for the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Goals
Ensure the city’s transportation networks and infrastructure systems are safe, equitable and accessible for all.
Create transportation networks that support greater connectivity by active and sustainable options such as walking, public transit biking and other methods that do not require car ownership.
Balance the economic benefits of moving goods with negative impacts on communities, eliminating, then equitably distributing burdens.
Prioritize investments in communities that have been negatively impacted in past transportation and infrastructure decision-making.
Leverage resources for transportation and infrastructure projects that promote environmental sustainability and resilience.

Related City Initiatives: Chicago Recovery Plan; Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD); Strategic Plan for Transportation

Highlighted Accomplishments:

- Supported by Mayor Lightfoot’s Chicago Works jobs and infrastructure plan in 2022, paved more than 100 miles of residential streets and 55 miles of arterial streets, installed 9,000 ADA accessibility ramps, replaced 2,000 street light poles, refreshed more than 200 miles of pavement markings, and filled more than 470,000 potholes.
- Began construction on the Damen/Lake Green Line Station in 2022, which fills an important transit gap on the Near West Side near the United Center and supports transit-oriented development.
- CTA’s 2022 operating budget maintained service, permanently reduced the price of most unlimited-ride passes and eliminated the transfer fee.
- Completed the first year of operation of the Chicago Smart Lighting Program in 2022, improving nighttime visibility and operational efficiency while reducing the city’s energy consumption and costs.
- Implemented pedestrian safety improvements in 2022 at approximately 400 intersections, including bump outs, curb extensions, and refuge islands.
- Continued to expand and improve Chicago’s bikeway network, adding nearly 40 miles in 2022 and surpassing 100 miles added since Mayor Lightfoot took office. Chicago has averaged about 40 miles of new bikeway investments per year, compared to an average of 23 miles prior to 2020. This year, CDOT began a new program to upgrade all existing plastic-protected lanes to concrete curbs to provide increased safety for all road users.
- Launched Bike Chicago in 2022, a new program providing free bikes, as well as maintenance and safety equipment, to income-eligible residents. CDOT distributed approximately 500 bikes this year and will gradually increase distribution until 5,000 free bikes have been provided, as part of Chicago’s goal to increase affordable and climate-friendly mobility options.

- In 2022, unveiled the first-ever roadmap for conversion to an all-electric bus system by 2040. Following a multi-year analysis, CTA officially unveiled “Charging Forward” a detailed planning study that includes strategic recommendations and outlines an achievable transition to an all-electric bus fleet over next two decades. The study will serve as the first-ever roadmap for full-electrification of CTA’s bus fleet, facilities and supporting infrastructure by the year 2040.
- Instituted a congestion zone and a congestion tax on ride-hail companies in 2020 to mitigate traffic in the central business district and encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transportation.
- Received \$28 million from the federal Bus & Bus Facilities discretionary grant program in 2022 to make the needed infrastructure repairs at Chicago Garage to support the electric bus rollout.
- Secured \$20 million for the bus priority zones project to speed up CTA bus service along several key routes serving neighborhoods, added new Bus Priority Zones on Chicago Avenue, 79th Street and Western Avenue, as well as 7.6 miles of Pop-Up Bus Lanes.
- Launched a major expansion of Chicago’s bike share system, Divvy, bringing bike share for the first time to the far South Side of Chicago and installing 66 new bikeshare stations and 12 new e-stations for Divvy e-bikes that expanded the network by almost 60 square miles.
- In 2022, increased funding for Shared Cost Sidewalk Program by 33%, compared to the previous year.
- Launched a permanent shared e-scooter program citywide in 2022 with a requirement that 50% of e-scooters are to be located in Equity Priority Areas covering many south and west side neighborhoods.
- As part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), secured \$20M for the Englewood Nature Trail through the USDOT RAISE grant funding in 2022.
- Launched the Chicago Mobility Collaborative (CMC) in 2022, a new public forum exploring the intersection of walking, bring transit, public space, mobility justice, and accessibility. Four times a year CMC will bring residents and community organizations together with CDOT to help build a safer, equitable, and more accessible transportation system for everyone.
- Launched Chicago Al Fresco in Spring 2021. The program encourages chambers of commerce and other neighborhood community groups to think beyond emergency traffic barricades and construction cones to propose and build design-forward outdoor community spaces. Fifteen qualifying community organizations were awarded \$2.3M through Choose Chicago to participate.
- The Greencorps Chicago Youth Program (GCYP) was relaunched in summer 2021 and grew in 2022 to provide nearly 200 high school students with 20 hours weekly of paid summer employment for six weeks. GCYP is a summer youth employment program that connects young people, ages 15 to 19 from CPS high schools, to career opportunities and service projects in the sustainability and environmental fields, including bicycling, urban agriculture, and horticulture.
- Building on a successful inaugural season in 2021, three Open Boulevards events were held in fall 2022. Open Boulevards is a series of street activations that transform Chicago’s historic boulevards into open community spaces where residents can walk,

bike scooter, socialize, and enjoy food, programming, and activities from local community partners.

- Completed New Red-Purple Bypass (part of RPM Phase One). In December 2021, Mayor Lightfoot and CTA President Carter were joined by state and local elected officials in announcing the completion of the first component of the Purple Modernization (RPM) Phase One project: the Red-Purple Bypass.
- Worked on extensive repairs for nearly 30 rail stations as part of “Refresh and Renew” in 2022. As part of ongoing efforts to provide new and returning riders with a safe and comfortable transit experience, CTA outlined plans for extensive repairs and improvements for nearly 30 rail stations in 2022 as part of Refresh & Renew – CTA’s cyclical station revitalization program.
- Launched new Building Small Businesses (BSB) Program in 2022. The CTA Building Small Businesses (BSB) Program is an innovative resource model and initiative designed to increase local small business participation in large-scale, government capital improvement projects. The BSB Program provides financial guidance to small businesses and other Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) by offering direct loan placement and other supports so they can demonstrate the up-front capital needed to compete on large-scale transportation construction and capital programs.
- Installed tactile bus stop signs in 2022. As part of ongoing efforts to make public transportation easier to navigate for people with disabilities, and in support of the “Meeting the Moment” Action Plan, CTA began installing more than 1,300 tactile signs across 12 bus routes as part of a pilot to make boarding locations for bus stops easier to identify for riders who are blind or low vision. The concept for the pilot, including design of the signs, is based on industry best practices, as well as input CTA received from customers who are blind, low vision and DeafBlind.
- After nearly five decades of promises, the Red Line Extension (RLE) has finally become a reality with completion of the multi-year environmental review process and by securing the local funding commitment with passage of the Transit TIF. This project will bring an investment of \$3.6B and thousands of construction jobs. Additionally, 25,000 jobs will become accessible within a 45- minute commute from RLE Project Area.
- Funding received by CTA in 2022 from the new federal ASAP grant program [part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law] to make three stations ADA accessible. The estimated cost is approximately \$148 million, 80 percent of which will be supported with funds. The remaining funds, approximately \$29 million, will be a mix of state and/or local funds.
- Recycling program capacity expanded in 2022 by DSS, with two significant new hires who are focusing on increasing recycling education and programming, particularly in areas that have been underserved. By diverting more food and organic waste from landfills, the city will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help to mitigate climate change.
- Piloted six small community garden composting sites with community organization NeighborSpace in 2022.
- Neighborhoods cleaned citywide, with the cleanup of 5,170 vacant lots using front-end loaders and semis, 414 sites where tire loads were removed, 3,899 neighborhood improvement cleanings including parkways, embankments, and viaducts, as well as 63 garage demolitions – all to further assist with public safety.

- Cleaned 65,088 miles of main streets, 146,165 miles of residential streets, and 4,315 miles of alleys, collecting 40,488.88 cubic yards of debris via DSS Street Sweepers.
- Launched Chicago Moves, a \$12.5M transportation relief package offered to Chicago residents in the form of Gas and Transit cards, in 2022.
- Tripled MOPD Accessibility Compliance Unit (ACU) staff in 2022 with the addition of two accessibility inspectors and two project coordinators. As a result, MOPD significantly increased the City's capacity to survey physical accessibility throughout the city.
- Saw O'Hare's bond rating upgraded to "A+" by both the S&P and Fitch rating agencies in 2022, the airport's first bond upgrade since 2016. The City of Chicago issued senior lien, general airport revenue and revenue refunding bonds at that time totaling about \$1.77 billion to fund O'Hare 21 terminal work and other capital expenses. This credit upgrade and new bond offering are evidence of the Lightfoot administration's ability to deliver new airport development and the jobs and diverse contracting opportunities that come with it as a major step forward for O'Hare 21.
- Created Chicago Connected, a \$50M program aimed at eliminating the digital divide for CPS students and their families by providing free access to Wi-Fi and broadband internet. The Program connected over 63,000 CPS students to no-cost high-speed internet, became the largest and longest broadband expansion program in America and was named by Education Week as the "gold standard" for municipally-sponsored internet programs.
- Launched Digital Equity Council, a cross-sector group of community members most burdened by the digital divide, and organizations committed to eliminating digital inequities, in 2022 to close Chicago's digital divide. Engaged 386 community members across 44 Chicago zip codes through the Chicago Digital Equity Council, a comprehensive community engagement strategy to surface and tackle barriers to digital equity.
- Released the Chicago Digital Equity Plan, a multi-year set of recommendations to achieve digital equity in Chicago and close the digital divide, in 2023. The plan and additional resources can be found [here](#).
- Reopened the O'Hare Airport Transit System (ATS) in November 2021, and ramped up service in 2022 to offer fully automated connections every 3 to 5 minutes between Terminals 1, 2, 3, and 5, and the Multi-Modal Facility for economy parking and access to rental cars, Metra trains, Pace and shuttle buses, and more.
- In June 2022, the Chicago Department of Aviation announced the reopening of seven renovated pedestrian tunnels connecting travelers between Terminals 1, 2, and 3 at O'Hare Airport and the CTA Blue Line Station, O'Hare elevated parking garage, and the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport Hotel.
- Partnered with CTA in 2022 to enhance signage at O'Hare to guide passengers to the CTA Blue Line O'Hare Station and to improve the CTA Orange Line walkway at Midway International Airport with an art exhibit that highlights the nation's veterans.
- Saw O'Hare open its first publicly accessible, on-airport electric vehicle charging station hub in 2022 at the Chicago Travel Plaza at Higgins Road and Patton Drive that includes 14 Level III chargers and 2 universal Level II chargers. Additionally, there are 24 new charging stations at the Multi-Modal Facility and six at the Main Parking Garage.