

2015 SUSTAINABLE CHICAGO

ACTION AGENDA

**YEAR ONE
PROGRESS REPORT
FALL 2013**





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

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www.cityofchicago.org • @chicagosmayor

Dear Friends,

Last September, I unveiled the *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda* and, a year later, we have reaffirmed that a successful Chicago is a sustainable Chicago. This *Year One Progress Report* explains the concrete actions that the City and its partners have taken to achieve the 24 goals in the *Action Agenda*. As you will see, we are currently on track across every one of our seven strategic themes, making important advances to save taxpayer dollars, reduce pollution, and protect homes and communities from the effects of flooding and climate change.

The year was marked by several key events and accomplishments. I am pleased with the closure of the last two coal-fired power plants in the City just as we were going to press last year, the establishment of the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research at Argonne, the Divvy bike share system launch, and the City Council's passage of an energy benchmarking ordinance. Other highlights include reaching an additional 338,000 households with blue cart recycling, replacing 75 miles of water mains, reducing the permitting time for residential solar projects to one day, and the announcement of Method opening their first-ever manufacturing facility in Chicago's Pullman neighborhood.

Still, the last twelve months were not without some challenges. While the City has made great strides to mitigate its carbon footprint and become more resilient, Chicago and other cities cannot do it alone. As I outlined in a *Huffington Post* op-ed this June, climate change is a global issue and requires national and international cooperation.

Looking ahead, Chicagoans can expect economic growth through sustainability research and innovation, sizeable investment in green infrastructure, more access to parks and healthy food, increasingly robust transit options, and significant reductions in energy consumption. I thank you for your commitment to make Chicago the most sustainable city in the country.

Sincerely,



Rahm Emanuel

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor

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10,000
DIVVY
MEMBERSHIPS

2,807
TWITTER
FOLLOWERS

21,321
ACTIVE
NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

35,298
UNIQUE VISITORS
TO SUSTAINABILITY
WEB PAGES

2,951
GREEN OFFICE
ACTIVITIES
COMPLETED

300
EARTH DAY
PARTICIPANTS

SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL

The Sustainability Council is a group of department leaders, chaired by Mayor Emanuel, committed to achieving the goals of the *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda* and delivering a more sustainable Chicago.

Chairman

Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

Chief Sustainability Officer

Karen Weigert

Chicago Department of Aviation

Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

Department of Buildings

Michael Merchant, Commissioner (former)

Department of Fleet and Facility Management

David Reynolds, Commissioner

Department of Housing and Economic Development

Andrew J. Mooney, Commissioner

Department of Procurement Services

Jamie Rhee, Chief Procurement Officer

Department of Streets and Sanitation

Charles L. Williams, Commissioner

Department of Transportation

Gabe Klein, Commissioner

Department of Water Management

Thomas H. Powers, P.E., Commissioner

Office of Budget and Management

Alexandra Holt, Budget Director

INTRODUCTION

Building on Chicago's legacy of planning, action, and leadership on climate and environmental issues, the *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda* offers a concrete roadmap for the City and its residents to make Chicago an even more prosperous, healthy, and vibrant place to live and work.

Released by Mayor Emanuel in fall 2012, the *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda* underscores seven categories and 24 goals that are critical to our city's strength today and in years to come. At the one year anniversary of *Sustainable Chicago 2015's* release, this progress report provides substantive updates across each of the seven categories and highlights success stories, partnerships, and opportunities for residents to get involved.

During the first year of the Action Agenda's implementation, we are proud to report that Chicago has made at least initial progress across all the plan's goals and actions (see key for goals and actions progress on page 5). In the second and third years of *Sustainable Chicago 2015*, we expect to report further progress as we work toward these goals. Additionally, the *Year One Progress Report* calls out specific areas where residents can drive impact, often leveraging the results of City work (see key for resident engagement opportunity on page 5).

Sustainable Chicago 2015's seven categories are the result of a stakeholder engagement process which began with Mayor Emanuel's inaugural transition team. Chicago's sustainability goals represent input from city leaders and community members from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. In total, Mayor's Office staff convened over one hundred organizations in a series of conversations, discussing community needs, materiality, and strategy over the short, medium, and longer term. The following seven sustainability categories are rooted in that input:

- 1. Economic Development and Job Creation**
- 2. Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy**
- 3. Transportation Options**
- 4. Water and Wastewater**
- 5. Parks, Open Space, and Healthy Food**
- 6. Waste and Recycling**
- 7. Climate Change**

The Economic Development and Job Creation and Climate Change categories bookend the plan. These categories serve to reinforce all the actions throughout the plan and, conversely, each of the actions in the middle drive economic development and climate action.

GOVERNING FOR POSITIVE SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

This sustainability framework reflects and empowers Chicago's cross-sector approach to environmental governance, which includes shared responsibility and accountability for common goals. Mayor Emanuel's Sustainability Council is comprised of City Department commissioners that are directly responsible for program development, ensuring efficiency and long-term viability of City operations. The Sustainability Council provides oversight for this strategy, with crucial input from Chicago's Green Ribbon Committee, which offers private sector counsel on our environmental path.

Across a vital network of engaged residents, public interest groups, and environmental partners, Chicagoans are working together to act upon our most promising sustainability opportunities, strengthening our city while mitigating our impact and preparing for climate-related risks to our economy and well-being. The City's dialogue with stakeholders continues through events, conferences, newsletters, and social media. Resident engagement is absolutely essential if Chicago is to achieve its ambitious sustainability aspirations. In addition to City government and organizational goals, *Sustainable Chicago 2015* outlines specific topics that offer particular engagement for individual residents, families, and neighborhood communities to make a difference.

To learn more about the City, its services, and its structure, please visit <http://www.cityofchicago.org>. The City welcomes your questions, feedback, and success stories related to *Sustainable Chicago 2015*. Please contact us at sustainability@cityofchicago.org, subscribe to our newsletter at <http://conta.cc/QIRgxr>, and follow us on Twitter at @SustainChicago.

REFER TO THIS KEY FOR GOALS AND ACTIONS PROGRESS

GOAL PROGRESS: EARLY  MODERATE  ADVANCED 

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY: 



1 | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION

A sustainable Chicago is a competitive Chicago and a livable Chicago. With a heritage built on hard work and innovation, Chicago continues this tradition striving to reduce its resource intensity, create new jobs, and bring forward innovation.

The Chicago approach works; in recognizing Chicago as one of the most globally competitive cities in Hot Spots 2025, The Economist and Citi called out Chicago as the best in the nation on environmental governance. Through the efforts of Building a New Chicago, Mayor Emanuel's infrastructure program for the City and Sister Agencies, over \$2.5 billion was invested in the 2012 calendar year, with over ten thousand jobs created.

Building a New Chicago has continued its progress through the current year and is on track to invest over \$3 billion by year end 2013. By serving as the home to growing clean tech companies, hosting sustainability conferences like Windpower, being named a "green destination" with certification under the APEX ASTM sustainability rating standard, and creating a sustainability competition through year three of the Green Office Challenge, Chicago has worked to accelerate economic development and job creation.



INVESTING SPOTLIGHT ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Argonne National Laboratory led a multi-partner team that, in December 2012, won an award of up to \$120 million over five years to establish a new Batteries and Energy Storage Hub. The Hub, to be known as the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research (JCESR), will combine the R&D firepower of five DOE national laboratories, five universities, and four private firms in an effort aimed at achieving revolutionary advances in battery performance, advancing next generation battery and energy storage technologies for electric and hybrid cars and the electricity grid.



103 Sustainability data sets released by City

\$120 Million in research through Argonne

\$350k In prize money from Clean Energy Trust



GOAL PROGRESS

1 ESTABLISH CHICAGO AS A HUB FOR THE GROWING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

In July, Method, the world's largest green cleaning company and one of the nation's fastest growing private companies, announced it will build its first ever U.S. manufacturing facility in Chicago's Pullman neighborhood. This will create about 100 new manufacturing jobs. Method creates naturally derived home, fabric and personal care products, is committed to designing innovative, safe, environmentally conscious products, and is a certified B Corporation, with social and environmental change as a company objective.



2 ACCELERATE THE ECONOMY IN CHICAGO BY ASSISTING PEOPLE AND COMPANIES IN ADOPTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Greencorps Chicago Youth Program, the nation's largest city-run summer green career training program for youth, launched in summer 2013. Six hundred Chicago public school students from 15 high schools received training and delivered projects focused on two areas: horticulture, including urban agriculture, and biking related mechanical skills. Over 90 adults served as instructors and mentors. During the school year, 140 of the students continued with part-time employment and ongoing mentoring.

PARTNER SUCCESS

In spring 2012, over 20 companies in the Chicago area were profiled in a report released by the Mayor's Green Ribbon Committee, *Building a Sustainable Region: Innovative practices from Metro Chicago's global corporations*. This report showcases concrete examples of environmental excellence executed by corporations headquartered here, underscoring how Chicago is a place where green businesses can gravitate, thrive, and lead.



2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » Building a New Chicago Year 3: \$3.2 billion invested and over 23,000 jobs created
- » ComEd smart meters rollout in Chicago
- » Green Office Challenge Round 3 awards
- » Greencorps Chicago Youth Program Year 2
- » American Institute of Architects National Conference

2 | ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN ENERGY

In Chicago's homes, businesses, schools and elsewhere in the community, reducing the energy we use to heat, cool, and operate buildings is a daily opportunity to ease negative environmental impact and gain economic and livability benefits.

Voluntary energy efficiency action is expanding through Retrofit Chicago, Mayor Emanuel's cross-sector program encompassing municipal, commercial, and residential leadership efforts. The energy code in Chicago is now updated to IECC 2012, bringing a significant increase in efficiency for all new construction and significant renovations. And new policies have brought energy information to the forefront by making energy data available in MLS listings for all residential transactions and supporting transparency for large buildings.

In addition to the focus on using less energy, there has been work to encourage the use of green energy. The City streamlined the process for installing rooftop solar on homes and businesses and doubled the amount of wind energy supplying electricity to Chicago through the municipal aggregation program.

SPOTLIGHT

SAVING

RETROFIT CHICAGO

Retrofit Chicago's private sector efficiency outreach efforts – the Residential Partnership and the Commercial Buildings Initiative – expanded dramatically in the last 12 months. From 2012-2013, the Residential Partnership retrofitted 5,096 housing units across the city, with a 65% annual increase in retrofit activity in specifically-targeted efficiency zones. In March 2013, 18 buildings joined the 14 founding Commercial Buildings Initiative participants in committing to a 20% building-level energy use reduction within 5 years. This creates one of the largest voluntary efficiency programs in the US, totaling 28 million square feet as of September 30, 2013. Through CMAP and the US Department of Energy, commercial participants were offered fully-funded engineering support to identify cost-effective steps to meet and exceed their 20% goal.

Make your home comfortable 365 days a year.

Sign up today. Call 855-9-IMPACT or visit retrofit.cityofchicago.org

RETROFIT CHICAGO SAVING GREEN BY GOING GREEN

SPONSOR PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY:

1 Day permit for residential rooftop solar installation

65% Annual increase in retrofit activity in specifically targeted efficiency zones

28 Million square feet committed to Retrofit Chicago's Commercial Buildings Initiative



GOAL PROGRESS

3 IMPROVE CITYWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY BY 5%

New policies are increasing transparency on energy data. Mayor Emanuel introduced and City Council passed an ordinance that requires energy benchmarking and disclosure for commercial, municipal and residential buildings over 50,000 square feet. These approximately 3,500 buildings are less than 1% of the total buildings in the city but use approximately 20% of the energy used by buildings. City Council also passed an amendment to an existing ordinance on disclosure of energy use in residential transactions; Chicago is the first city to require energy use information be made available to real estate agents through MLS listings.

4 IMPROVE OVERALL ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS BY 10%

The City of Chicago has undertaken preliminary feasibility analysis of over 240 buildings, leading to detailed energy audits of 75 buildings. This multi-stage process involving City buildings was conducted by outside experts and involved both engineering and financial reviews. This comprehensive analysis creates the detailed investment case for energy efficiency projects. These projects will be brought before the Chicago Infrastructure Trust for private financing as part of Retrofit Chicago.

5 CREATE AN ADDITIONAL 20 MW OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, CONSISTENT WITH THE ILLINOIS RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD

Chicago launched Chicago Solar Express, a one stop shop that reduces soft costs for all types of solar installations, including a one-day permit turnaround time for small solar projects. New permitting guidelines, access to reduced permit fees for small installations, a zoning policy and improved utility interconnection are all available on the City's new solar portal solar.cityofchicago.org. Small installations, such as those on a typical single family home, will save property owners an estimated \$2,000 to \$4,000 and larger installations will save even more.

PARTNER SUCCESS

In February 2013, the Shedd Aquarium joined Retrofit Chicago's Commercial Buildings Initiative as the first cultural institution to participate, formally launching a Master Energy Roadmap to reduce energy consumption by 50% by 2020. The Shedd Aquarium's roadmap will pilot new technologies and management strategies, including new electricity submeters that will capture energy use in real time, replacement of 75% of lights with high efficiency LEDs, investment in variable speed drives, building envelope enhancements, automation and control, energy storage, and on-site renewable energy generation. Work on this project started early in 2013, with additional project phases being implemented over the next six years. By project completion in 2020, reductions in energy will save an estimated \$550,000 annually.



2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » First buildings report energy use based on energy benchmarking ordinance
- » Chicago Neighborhood Energy Challenge, a first of its kind residential behavior change energy competition in Humboldt Park and Logan Square
- » Retrofit of City buildings
- » Expansion of the Commercial Buildings Initiative of Retrofit Chicago

3 | TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Chicago is a transportation hub by nature and design. The city has historically been an innovator, building an elevated train line looping the central business district and hosting the first electric vehicle road rally back in 1895.

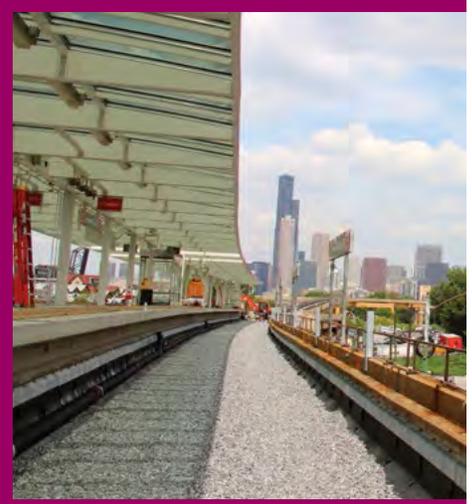
It continues to lead and innovate today, remaking our public ways to accommodate safer, healthier, and more sustainable transportation options, encouraging development patterns that leverage Chicago's infrastructure, while continuing to invest in and expand upon our heritage as a global distribution hub. All modes of transportation are important for living and doing business in Chicago. Whether walking, biking, taking public transit, or driving, the City strives to provide the infrastructure that makes all modes of transportation easy and safe.

On the heels of releasing a plan for sustainability leadership, *A Sustainable Path*, Chicago's Department of Aviation demonstrated an innovative approach to improve land management at Chicago airports, with livestock being deployed to graze hard-to-reach areas. Through the nation's most aggressive airport concessions policy, airport concessionaires are making their operations greener by composting kitchen waste, purchasing locally grown food, using all-compostable containers, and donating surplus food to charities.



CONNECTING SPOTLIGHT RED LINE SOUTH RECONSTRUCTION

Completed in October 2013, the full reconstruction of the Red Line South branch provides faster, more comfortable and more reliable service. The rebuild of the tracks eliminated slow zones, cutting commute times from 95th Street to Roosevelt Road by up to 20 minutes. In addition to a faster and smoother ride, some stations also received improvements ranging from new canopies, paint and lighting upgrades, to new benches and bike racks. Completed in only five months time, the work is part of Mayor Rahm Emanuel's Building a New Chicago program, which is updating infrastructure critical to the city and includes improvements that will help ensure that the CTA continues to serve customers as effectively as possible.



2,389
Divyv bikes
and counting

281
Divyv stations
and counting

35
Miles of new
protected or
buffered bikeways

72%
Taxi fleet
is alternative-
fueled



GOAL PROGRESS

6 INCREASE AVERAGE DAILY TRANSIT RIDERSHIP

In cities around the world, Bus Rapid Transit helps move people more reliably and quickly, making the bus a preferred method of transit. Chicago's first Bus Rapid Transit line, the Jeffery Jump, launched in November 2012. The results in the first months of operation have been encouraging. Average daily ridership increased 15-17% compared to 2012, and average speeds are 16-18% higher compared to pre-construction speeds. Traffic signal prioritization and queue jumps will be implemented in late 2013, increasing speed and reliability of service further.



7 ACCELERATE TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT AROUND TRANSIT STATIONS

Mayor Emanuel introduced, and City Council passed, an amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance, reducing barriers to development that is more dense and less car-dependent. For commercial and mixed-use properties located near transit, the ordinance eliminates minimum parking requirements and offers density bonuses, allowing for smaller dwelling units and taller buildings. Studies have shown real estate sales prices in Chicago near transit outperformed the region by 30% from 2006 to 2011, demonstrating a clear demand for real estate with easy access to transit.

8 MAKE CHICAGO THE MOST BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY CITY IN THE COUNTRY

Over 34 miles of bikeways were installed in 2012, with an additional 35 miles on track to be complete by year-end 2013. This accelerated pace puts Chicago beyond the expected mark at this stage of implementation. With the successful launch of the Divvy bike share system, people have easy access to this increasing network of facilities, reinforcing demand for new bikeways. Safety is being prioritized with current redesign projects focused on high-crash corridors on Madison Street, Devon Avenue, 71st Street, South Chicago Boulevard, Milwaukee Boulevard, and Grand Avenue.



9 IMPROVE FREIGHT MOVEMENT AND ACCELERATE HIGH-SPEED PASSENGER RAIL PROJECTS

The Englewood Flyover bridge construction broke ground in late 2012. This project will improve rail efficiency and meet future demand for Metra, Amtrak, and freight service through the region. Located near 63rd and State Streets, the Flyover will elevate the tracks, eliminating an intersection point between freight and passenger rail lines for over 100 trains daily. By eliminating the conflict, a significant source of train delays will be mitigated, neighborhood air quality will improve, and noise from idling trains will be reduced.

GOAL PROGRESS

10 ADVANCE SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AT CHICAGO'S AIRPORTS

Investing in infrastructure and innovative operations, Chicago continues to lead the “Airports Going Green” movement. In spring 2013, the ribbon was cut on the Consolidated Rental Car Facility at Midway. The new facility vastly improves the logistics of connecting travelers with rental cars, reducing vehicle emissions and miles traveled for shuttle buses. The LEED certified facility features on-site generation of solar and wind power and a 17,000 square-foot green roof. The project created 200 construction jobs and employs 600 people on an ongoing basis.

11 STRENGTHEN THE INFRASTRUCTURE TO ADVANCE VEHICLE EFFICIENCY

Following the passage of a 2012 ordinance, Chicago's taxi industry has been reshaped, dramatically increasing fuel efficiency, reducing its carbon footprint, and improving its overall sustainability. The ordinance provides a longer lease length and tiered lease pricing for “green” vehicles, either gas-electric hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles. Since passage, the City has seen a 600 percent increase in green vehicles in the fleet. As of September 30, 2013, there are approximately 4,600 green taxis in Chicago, or 72% of the total fleet.

12 REDUCE MUNICIPAL FOSSIL FUEL CONSUMPTION BY 10%

In April 2013, the Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation completed the transition to grid-based garbage collection away from the inefficient ward-based system previously in place. As a result, the City will save more than \$18 million annually through the first 12 months of operation, redirecting resources to support expanded service through the Blue Cart Recycling Program. By moving to the grid system, the City will reduce its average daily refuse collection truck deployment from nearly 360 trucks to fewer than 320 trucks each day, while using fewer crews and 20-30% less fuel. The City's light duty fleet continued to become more sustainable, with growth in alternative fueled or electric powered vehicles expanding 8% over the 12 months ending September 30, 2013.

PARTNER SUCCESS

The launch of the Divvy bike share network has rolled out rapidly and proven popular with residents and visitors of all of types. Since its rollout in late June 2013, there have been over 500,000 trips taken with Divvy, totaling over 1.3 million miles traveled as of September 30, 2013, making Divvy the second largest bike share system in the U.S. The Divvy system will ramp up to 300 stations and 3,000 bikes by this fall, and by next spring, will be in 475 neighborhood locations with 4,750 bikes. Each Divvy station includes a station map and a solar-powered touchscreen kiosk and docking system. Over 10,000 Chicagoans have signed up for Divvy Annual Memberships at DivvyBikes.com. Local companies and community organizations have become partners in the program, encouraging their employees and members to join Divvy through corporate and community memberships. Over 85 companies, spanning industries from real estate, technology, and the non-profit community, signed up for Divvy corporate memberships. Corporate members include the Metropolitan Planning Council, Solomon Cordwell Buenz, Related Midwest, Classified Ventures, and US Equities, providing a fun, unique perk while promoting employee health and wellness.



2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » Central Loop Bus Rapid Transit starts construction
- » East Roosevelt Road will be redesigned to enhance safety and sustainable options, including widened sidewalks and an elevated two-way cycletrack
- » Electric vehicle truck voucher program
- » 1,750 more Divvy bikes and 175 more stations

GOAL PROGRESS: EARLY  MODERATE  ADVANCED  RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY: 



SIX-WAY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT STATE AND JACKSON



URBAN CHARGING OASIS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES



CONNECTING NEIGHBORHOODS VIA MILWAUKEE AVENUE "SPOKE" BIKE LANE



PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES SHARING THE ROAD



TRAVEL PLANNING MADE EASY WITH CTA TRAIN TRACKER



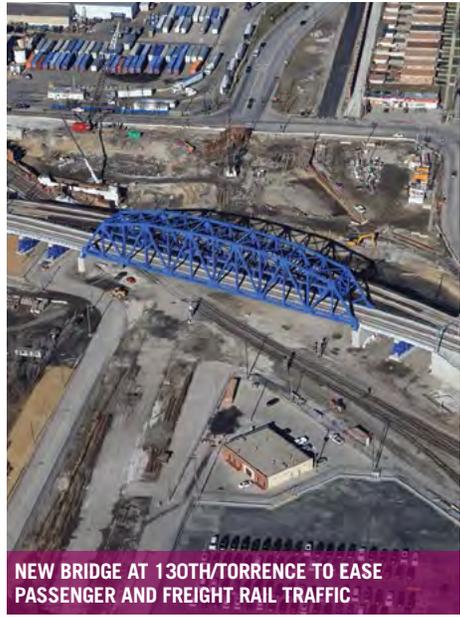
EXPANDING SERVICE THROUGH JEFFERY JUMP BUS RAPID TRANSIT



SAVING FUEL AND REDUCING EMISSIONS THROUGH CHICAGO'S ELECTRIC FLEET



THE O'HARE AIRPORT GRAZING CREW PROVIDES LOW-IMPACT LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE



NEW BRIDGE AT 130TH/TORRENCE TO EASE PASSENGER AND FREIGHT RAIL TRAFFIC

4 | WATER AND WASTEWATER

Chicago is a city shaped by water. Lake Michigan and the Chicago River are defining features and well-known assets. The Great Lakes region is home to over 25% of the world's fresh water.

By investing in infrastructure under Chicago streets to repair leaks, the City is helping conserve our water. With one of the largest voluntary investments in green stormwater infrastructure in the country, Chicago is working to protect water quality and reduce basement flooding.

Chicago is activating its waterfront and connecting people to new ways to experience the city, by building new boathouses and investing in the riverfront development. Technology, improved training and education, and partnerships within the community, continue to protect the water quality of the city's beaches, lake, and rivers.



RECREATING SPOTLIGHT

CHICAGO RIVER BOATHOUSES

In Ping Tom Park and Clark Park, ribbons were cut on two new boathouses in summer and fall 2013. Providing an access point for kayaks and other small watercraft, these boathouses are key strategic features in transforming the River into our next recreational frontier. The Ping Tom boathouse opening marked the launch of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's month-long RIVERS Festival, a celebration of the river.

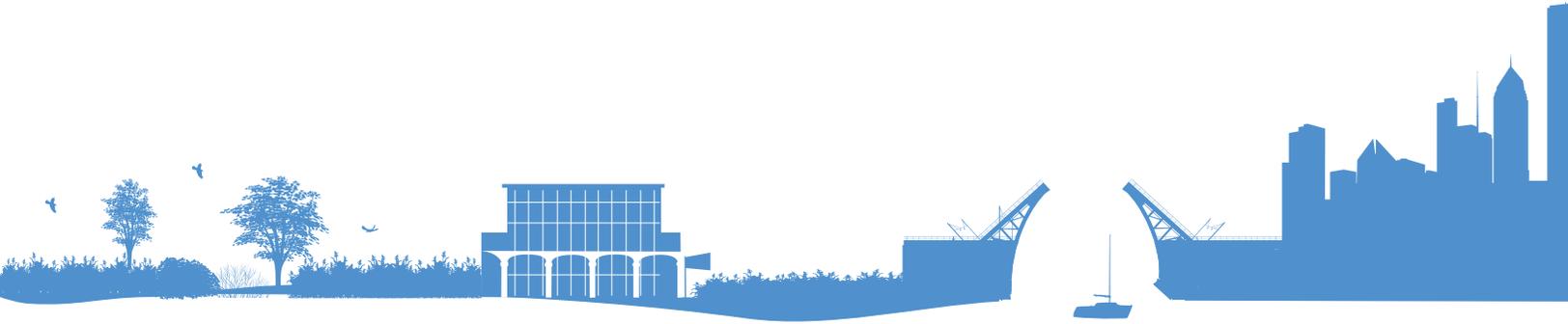
This festival is part of the Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks initiative, which featured more than 750 citywide cultural and arts activities this summer, making parks a safe haven and a hub of activity. The Chicago Park District is partnering with the Chicago Rowing Foundation for youth rowing opportunities at Clark Park boat house. The group will serve as instructors to Chicago Park District campers each summer, host community learn-to-row events, and facilitate rowing programming for students at 29 high schools and 36 middle schools.



75 Miles of water mains replaced

2 Boathouses delivered

\$50 Million investment fund for green stormwater infrastructure



GOAL PROGRESS

13 DECREASE WATER USE BY 2% (14 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY) ANNUALLY

As part of a ten-year plan to replace 900 miles of water mains, the Chicago Department of Water Management is on track to replace 75 miles by the end of 2013. This investment will replace old, leaky pipes and drive a 2% annual reduction in citywide water consumption. Pumped from Lake Michigan by the City, water use in Chicago from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013 averaged 478 million gallons per day, down over 4% from the previous 12-month period.

14 ENHANCE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT TO REDUCE SEWER OVERFLOWS AND BASEMENT FLOODING

In October 2013, Mayor Emanuel announced the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Strategy, dedicating \$50 million over the next five years to investments in green infrastructure. These projects will ultimately create an additional 10 million gallons of natural stormwater storage, which could reduce runoff by 250 million gallons annually. This is one of the largest voluntary investments in this type of infrastructure in the country, and expands Chicago's push to embed sustainability citywide.

15 TRANSFORM THE CHICAGO RIVER INTO OUR SECOND WATERFRONT

In addition to the construction of the new riverfront boathouses, the City is rebuilding and expanding Chicago's Riverwalk. In spring 2013, the City secured nearly \$100 million in federal funds to finance completion of the Chicago Downtown Riverwalk. Incorporating natural areas, swimming features, fishing holes, retail space, and public plazas, the Downtown Riverwalk will showcase the Chicago River. Next year, the City will partner with Redmoon on the inaugural Great Chicago Fire Festival, a celebration featuring a public art performance along the river.

16 PROTECT WATER QUALITY AND ENHANCE ACCESS TO LAKE MICHIGAN

Chicago continues to enhance and protect our lakefront. The Chicago Park District used predictive computer modeling for all beaches in 2013, identifying water quality issues earlier and with greater accuracy. Animal waste from birds and pets is a significant threat to beach water quality. The Park District has engaged residents on ways they can help to reduce the impact, like not feeding seagulls, while using border collies to chase flocks of birds. In an effort to reduce the amount of salt dispersed on Chicago's streets for snow removal, the City has begun to use cameras and road sensor technology, and has enhanced training for snow plow drivers. These actions resulted in an average reduction of 634 tons of salt per snowfall event.

PARTNER SUCCESS



Developers of large real estate projects along the Chicago River are required by the City to provide public riverfront access. When the projects approved through September 2013 by Chicago's Plan Commission are complete, Chicago will have nearly a mile of new public riverwalk in neighborhoods across the city.

2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » The inaugural Great Chicago Fire Festival
- » Ground breaking on Navy Pier flyover
- » River Park boathouse opens
- » 85 miles of water mains, 21 miles of sewer mains, and lining 52 miles of sewers
- » Riverwalk construction begins

5 | PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND HEALTHY FOOD



In the 1830s, Chicago's nascent government adopted the motto "Urbs in horto," Latin for "City in a Garden." Today, the City and partners continue to honor this legacy, working to expand healthy food access by reducing barriers to commercial agriculture and activating City-owned vacant land.

Design excellence and community engagement is carried out with the groundbreaking of the Bloomingdale Trail, a 2.7-mile former railway being repurposed into an elevated park. Many public-private partnerships were announced to develop new urban farms, including a 1.5 acre expansion of Growing Home's operation in Englewood, a half-acre garden on the roof of McCormick Place, and several new community gardens being developed by Neighborspace and other groups across the city.

Farmers markets have expanded access to engage more residents, including the launch of two night markets in 2013, located in the Uptown and Logan Square neighborhoods. In spring 2013, work clearing invasive species and restoration planning of native habitat for migratory songbirds began in the Burnham Wildlife Corridor.



REINVENTING SPOTLIGHT BLOOMINGDALE TRAIL

In August 2013, the City and partners broke ground on the Bloomingdale Trail. Currently an abandoned rail line, the Bloomingdale Trail is a 2.7-mile long elevated trail that will be linked to five ground-level neighborhood parks, as well as an observatory, wheel-friendly event plaza, various art installations and other amenities, to form the park and trail system known as The 606. The name is an homage to the 606 zip code prefix all Chicagoans share. The first phase of the project will open to the public in fall 2014.



12 Make Way for People installations

200,000 Attendees at Night Out in the Parks, a series of 750 cultural events in parks throughout the city

25 People receive training and start-up support as part of the Farmers for Chicago urban agriculture incubator



GOAL PROGRESS

17 INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC SPACES AND PARKS ACCESSIBLE FOR CHICAGOANS

Chicago has built upon the tradition of Daniel Burnham’s “City Beautiful” ideal, providing more public parks and other spaces and also more opportunities to enjoy them. The Make Way for People initiative accomplishes these aims, supporting innovation in the public way by opening Chicago’s streets, parking spots, plazas, and alleys to new programming, market opportunities and partnerships. In addition to improving street safety and promoting walkable communities, this initiative supports economic development for Chicago’s local businesses and neighborhoods. Since launching the pilot in the summer of 2012 with four “People Spot” projects, the initiative scaled to 12 projects in 2013, and will reach over 20 public plazas in 2014.

18 INCREASE OPTIONS FOR ACCESSING LOCAL OR HEALTHY FOOD IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD

To support healthy food access, in January 2013 the City adopted the Recipe for Healthy Places, a strategic plan featuring a method to identify community areas with an elevated risk for obesity-related diseases, using grocery store access, food insecurity rates and diabetes rates as metrics. Over the last two years, the City of Chicago has worked with community based farmers and nonprofit organizations to develop over 2 acres of community gardens and urban farms on formerly vacant, city-owned property. Expanding on these efforts, announced in March 2013, the Farmers for Chicago network will give 25 emerging urban farmers access to vacant City lots to start new urban agriculture operations and facilitate mentorship with experienced urban farmers.

19 IMPROVE AND PROTECT CHICAGO’S NATURAL ASSETS AND BIODIVERSITY

Northerly Island’s close proximity to the city provides a unique opportunity to engage residents and visitors in Chicago’s biodiversity initiatives. Breaking ground in September 2012 and on schedule to deliver in 2014, the restoration of shoreline habitats and coastal wetlands in the southern 40 acres of Northerly Island will create a more diverse natural area for flora, fauna and campers. Additionally, at over 800 acres, the Calumet Reserve represents the Park District’s largest landholding and is home to an impressive array of native plants and animal life. Restoration is underway at Van Vlissingen Prairie covering 94 acres of woodland habitat and at Hegewisch Marsh developing critical habitat for aquatic-dependent birds and amphibians.



CHALLENGE

Over the last few years, tens of thousands of ash trees in the Chicago area have been stricken with the Emerald Ash Borer. In April 2013, Mayor Emanuel announced a focused plan to spend \$4 million over the next two years to treat 35,000 ash trees over the summer months of 2013 and another 35,000 in 2014.

2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » Northerly Island restoration completed
- » Bloomingdale Trail opens
- » More than 20 new People Plazas
- » Farmers for Chicago: 7 acre South Chicago Farm breaks ground

6 | WASTE AND RECYCLING

Reducing waste and recycling are some of the most practical ways for all of Chicago's residents to participate in making our city more sustainable.

In the 12-month period ending September 30, 2013, the City collected 945,805 tons of waste as part of its low density residential program and 68,090 tons of recycling. Chicago has worked to expand the Blue Cart Recycling Program citywide, from 262,000 households to 600,000 by fall 2013, which should lead to a significant increase in recycling participation and help reduce landfill use.

Public engagement and awareness are key to driving participation in recycling. Chicago Public Schools is reaching students and staff through new policies to promote recycling, including a new contract driving recycling performance, a recycling awareness campaign, a Zero Waste curriculum pilot, expansion of composting program, increased access to trainings for teachers and building staff, and improved data dissemination to the public via the web.



SPOTLIGHT

RECYCLING

CITYWIDE BLUE CART PROGRAM

Citywide expansion of Blue Cart recycling has been a priority for the City of Chicago. Mayor Emanuel's commitment to expanding recycling service citywide demonstrates Chicago's ability to rollout major sustainability programs quickly, as well as the administration's focus on embedding sustainability citywide. With the new citywide Blue Cart Recycling Program, the City expects to divert 150,000 tons of waste from landfill over the 2014 calendar year.



22

Tons composted at CPS schools

338,000

Additional households with Blue Cart recycling

91%

Construction waste diversion rate



GOAL PROGRESS

20 INCREASE ACCESS TO RECYCLING AND IMPROVE POLICIES TO PROMOTE WASTE REDUCTION AND RE-USE

Chicago Public Schools has been strengthening school recycling and waste reduction programs to decrease their environmental impact and educate students across the city about sustainability. Schools participating in a Chicago Public Schools composting pilot diverted over 22 tons of food waste from landfills during the 2012-2013 school year.



21 INCORPORATE STANDARD GREEN PRACTICES IN ALL CITY OPERATIONS

The Chicago Center for Green Technology (CCGT) received LEED Platinum Certification for Existing Building and Operation in October 2012. The procedures developed at CCGT serve as the template for a portfolio-wide sustainable buildings operations plan. Examples of this strategy are in process now. Across the portfolio, the City modified its contracts for janitorial services to incorporate the LEED standards for green cleaning, and automatic hand dryers have replaced paper towels in over 50% of City facilities, reducing waste and limiting germ transmission.



PARTNER SUCCESS

For most construction projects in Chicago, the construction and demolition debris recycling ordinance calls for general contractors to submit documentation demonstrating a 50% diversion rate. In the 12-month period ending September 30, 2013, general contractors exceeded the 50% minimum requirement and achieved a 91% diversion rate, recycling 218,024 tons of construction waste.



2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » Increase recycling rate from Blue Cart Recycling Program
- » Pilot food scrap/yard waste collection
- » A Green Concessions Policy at Chicago's airports diverts 8,000 tons of solid waste from landfill per year, increases the use of compostable and recyclable packaging, and increases surplus food donations
- » Chicago Public Schools waste contract increases recycling rate and saves costs
- » First project under the Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Guidelines, which sets recycled content and recycling construction waste requirements for transportation infrastructure

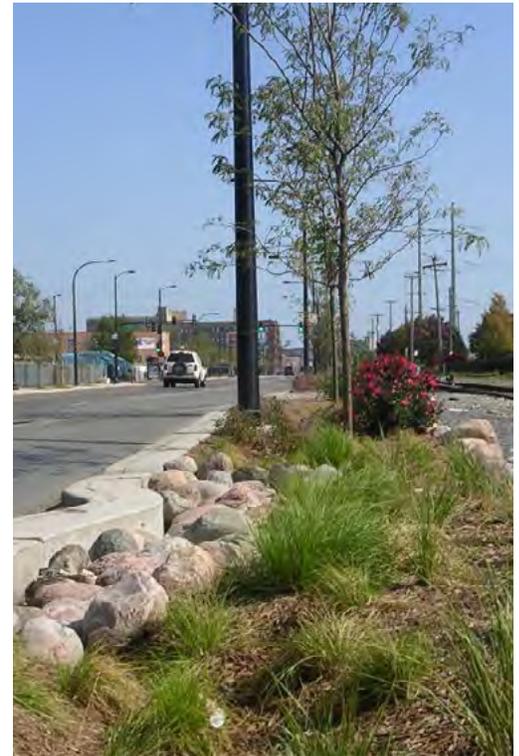
7 | CLIMATE CHANGE

Energy efficiency, clean energy installations, use of sustainable modes of transportation, and infrastructure improvements all support economic growth and livability while reducing the collective environmental impact of Chicago's 2.8 million residents.

Chicago plays a leading role among cities in planning to adapt to the impacts of climate change, recognizing that a more resilient Chicago is crucial for the future of the city's sustainability.

In shutting down the last two remaining coal plants still operating in Chicago, all residents can live in a cleaner and healthier environment. Chicago has continued to remove coal wherever possible; the City's electricity aggregation program, the largest in the nation, has reduced electricity bills for over 900,000 residents and small businesses throughout the city since January 2013 while lowering our collective carbon footprint.

Infrastructure also contributes to solutions. The Cermak/Blue Island streetscape, known as the "Greenest Street in America" due to its many sustainable features, includes high albedo pavement to reduce urban heat island effect, as well as a "smog-eating" photocatalytic surfacing that breaks down particulate matter.



TRANSFORMING SPOTLIGHT FISK AND CRAWFORD CLOSURE

When Mayor Emanuel entered office there were two coal-fired power plants operating in the Pilsen and Little Village neighborhoods of Chicago. Working closely with many individuals and organizations, the plants were closed, eliminating over 90% of local carbon emissions from industrial sources and improving local air quality. Since the closure of the Fisk and Crawford stations, the City of Chicago and partners have led a planning process for redevelopment of the sites, working with the local community to build a vision for remediating the contamination and, ultimately, creating sustainable community assets that local residents have deemed desirable.



0% Coal in aggregation

\$30k Award for being named Earth Hour Climate Leader by World Wildlife Fund

77 Community areas (100%) actively engaged in local action



GOAL PROGRESS

22 REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS FROM ALL SECTORS

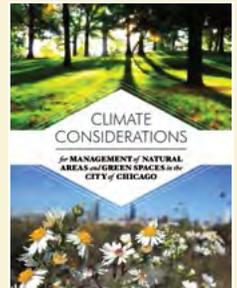
Chicago was named Earth Hour Climate Leader by the World Wildlife Fund, which awarded the City \$30,000 to engage residents on climate action. The City and partners used these funds to launch a new initiative called the Chicago Cleanweb Challenge, a series of data programming, policy, and app design contests. This initiative drives engagement on strategies that residents can take to reduce environmental impact, mitigate climate change, and adapt to the changes in climate. To evaluate the collective impact of Chicago's environmental initiatives, the City of Chicago develops a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory every five years. As of 2010, Chicago's community-wide direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions totaled 33.5 million metric tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (MMTCO_{2e}). The City of Chicago municipal government totaled 0.975 MMTCO_{2e} in greenhouse gas emissions, including 0.317 MMTCO_{2e} of direct emissions and 0.658 MMTCO_{2e} of indirect emissions.

23 IMPROVE LOCAL AIR QUALITY BY ACCELERATING PERFORMANCE TOWARD FEDERAL STANDARDS AND DECREASING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

In June 2013, the Chicago Transit Authority launched a plan to reduce emissions of City buses. It installed particulate filters on 58 buses and invested in a small number of all-electric powered buses. This work will reduce bus fleet nitrous oxide (NO_x) emissions by over 5% and particulate matter emissions by nearly 10%. By 2015, particulate matter emissions will be half of what they were in 2011 and NO_x will be reduced by 30%.

24 PROTECT THE CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS BY PREPARING FOR CHANGES IN THE CLIMATE

To help Chicago's natural resource managers incorporate the best available scientific information on Chicago's changing climate in their decision-making, the City of Chicago partnered with The Field Museum, The Nature Conservancy, and the University of Notre Dame to develop the *Climate Considerations Guidebook for Management of Natural Areas and Green Spaces* under the Chicago Wilderness organization. In summer 2013, six pilot implementation projects, using the framework and resources included in the *Guidebook*, were completed in a range of natural areas, including beaches, forest preserves, prairies, and the Loyola University and Field Museum campuses.



CHALLENGE

In June, President Obama released his Climate Action Plan, a set of executive actions focused on cutting carbon pollution, preparing for changes in the climate, and leading international mitigation and adaptation efforts. Mayor Emanuel penned an op-ed piece published in the *Huffington Post* supporting the President's Plan and highlighting ways that cities can drive improvement, pointing out Retrofit Chicago, energy benchmarking and disclosure, and no-coal electricity aggregation.

2014 LOOK AHEAD

- » Clean Diesel Construction Ordinance bans high polluting equipment
- » CTA exhaust retrofit on over 700 buses and 300 old buses replaced with new clean diesel buses
- » CTA infrastructure climate adaptation study
- » Great Lakes Integrated Sciences & Assessments winter climate impact study



CONCLUSION

Year one of the *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda* was broadly successful. Collectively, the City and the community made progress in each of the seven categories of the plan. Ensuring Chicago's sustainability, long-term livability, and competitiveness is an ongoing effort, requiring continued focus and increased transparency. Reporting in compliance with the Global Reporting Initiative framework, the City of Chicago has taken a further step toward ensuring accountability and delivering results.

Community action is a central part of creating a more sustainable Chicago. In assessing the progress toward *Sustainable Chicago 2015's 24 goals*, we have flagged 16 goals as key opportunities for resident engagement. As exemplified by the success of Retrofit Chicago and ridership on Divvy, Chicago's residents and business community are taking the lead. Looking forward, there is a role for everyone in making Chicago sustainable. We welcome your feedback: sustainability@cityofchicago.org

1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION

- 01 Establish Chicago as a hub for the growing sustainable economy
- 02 Accelerate the economy in Chicago by assisting people and companies in adopting sustainable practices



2 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN ENERGY

- 03 Improve citywide energy efficiency by 5%
- 04 Improve overall energy efficiency in municipal buildings by 10%
- 05 Create an additional 20 MW of renewable energy, consistent with the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard



3 TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

- 06 Increase average daily transit ridership
- 07 Accelerate transit-oriented development around transit stations
- 08 Make Chicago the most bike and pedestrian friendly city in the country
- 09 Improve freight movement and accelerate high-speed passenger rail projects
- 10 Advance sustainability leadership at Chicago's airports
- 11 Strengthen the infrastructure to advance vehicle efficiency
- 12 Reduce municipal fossil fuel consumption by 10%



4 WATER AND WASTEWATER

- 13 Decrease water use by 2% (14 million gallons per day) annually
- 14 Enhance stormwater management to reduce sewer overflows and basement flooding
- 15 Transform the Chicago River into our second waterfront
- 16 Protect water quality and enhance access to Lake Michigan



5 PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND HEALTHY FOOD

- 17 Increase the number of public spaces and parks accessible for Chicagoans
- 18 Increase options for accessing local or healthy food in every neighborhood
- 19 Improve and protect Chicago's natural assets and biodiversity



6 WASTE AND RECYCLING

- 20 Increase access to recycling and improve policies to promote waste reduction and re-use
- 21 Incorporate standard green practices in all City operations



7 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 22 Reduce carbon emissions from all sectors
- 23 Improve local air quality by accelerating performance toward federal standards and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions
- 24 Protect the city and its residents by preparing for changes in the climate



ACTIONS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION

1.1	Increase investment and research through activities including a Chicago clean tech summit and sharing of sustainability-related data	
1.2	Implement new technologies to advance sustainable solutions by using smart grid and clean energy applications	
1.3	Recruit the companies and individuals with the most innovative clean energy and sustainability solutions to Chicago; start by convening or hosting a major clean energy and sustainability conference in Chicago every year	
1.4	Increase demand for sustainable products and approaches by adopting a green procurement policy	
2.1	Double the number of offices and businesses making operations more sustainable through efforts like the Green Office Challenge and Chicago Sustainable Industries	
2.2	Support sustainability and green building education for the public through programming at the Chicago Center for Green Technology and other partnerships	
2.3	Determine training gaps based on planned investments, and expand educational and training opportunities in environmental programs at City Colleges, Chicago Public Schools, and Greencorps Chicago along with departments' and sister agencies' work with the community	
2.4	Identify, prioritize, and eliminate code barriers to sustainable practices	

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN ENERGY

3.1	Support homes and businesses to achieve 20% energy efficiency improvement through Retrofit Chicago, including residential energy efficiency zones and the Commercial Buildings Initiative	
3.2	Support and advance the installation of smart meters in Chicago's businesses and households	
3.3	Double the number of LEED-certified buildings	
3.4	Include energy efficient technologies in all street lighting replacements	
3.5	Enhance local policies to support greater transparency in energy use and building energy performance	
3.6	Update the energy code for new construction and significant renovations	
4.1	Target 10 million square feet of municipal buildings for energy reduction of 20%	
4.2	Achieve at least 10% improvement in energy efficiency in all CPS school operations, targeting a 50% school participation rate through a shared energy savings program	
4.3	Double the number of LEED-certified public buildings	
4.4	Track and report energy consumption at City facilities	
5.1	Install 10 MW of renewable energy on City properties	
5.2	Explore locally-produced, renewable energy opportunities as a part of new approaches to procuring power	
5.3	Cut the solar permit approval time in half, and reduce the complexity for zoning for local solar installations	
5.4	Work with ComEd, the State of Illinois, and other partners to assist in achieving the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard goals of 9% of electricity coming from renewable energy by 2015 and 25% by 2026	

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

6.1	Complete full reconstruction of Dan Ryan (southern) branch of the Red Line, complete facelifts for seven stations on the north Red Line. Take the first step toward full Red and Purple Line modernization with a complete reconstruction of Wilson (Red) structure	
6.2	Complete renewal of 100 train stations with work focusing on lighting, painting, masonry and waterproofing, ensuring they are "safe, dry, and bright"	
6.3	Replace or rebuild more than 1,500 CTA buses with new, low-emission buses and replace or rebuild nearly 1,000 CTA rail cars	
6.4	Install Bus Tracker LED signs at a total of 400 bus shelters and bus turnarounds. Install Train Tracker signage, announcement systems, and other technological amenities in all rail stations	
6.5	Launch Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with a pilot route on Jeffrey Corridor and a full route downtown. Plan for additional corridors	
6.6	Implement a travel demand management program to connect people with commuting options	
7.1	Amend the Chicago Zoning Ordinance by adding a definition for Transit Oriented Development to enable and encourage more developments near transit stations and to ensure that bulk, density, and parking ratios of the Code meets the needs of those developments	
7.2	Identify additional "pedestrian streets" (as defined in the zoning code) around CTA stations	
7.3	Coordinate transit improvements with streetscape improvements and complete street implementation	
8.1	Add 100 miles of protected bike facilities	

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS (cont'd)

8.2	Launch a bike sharing system with 4,000 bicycles and 400 stations	
8.3	Release a pedestrian master plan to improve health and safety	
8.4	Enhance, adopt and use the revised Complete Streets Guidelines to ensure enjoyable, safe, attractive, pedestrian-friendly streets. Complete Irving Park Road and Lawrence Avenue pilots	
8.5	Reduce bicycle and pedestrian fatalities by focusing improvements on the top crash locations	
9.1	Coordinate efforts with Metra as the Englewood Flyover project begins construction for completion in 2014	
9.2	Identify additional available funding sources and work with CREATE partners to apply for grants, as appropriate	
9.3	Modernize Union Station to expand its role as a transportation hub	
10.1	Pursue significant infrastructure investments to reduce airport emissions, enhance multi-modal connections, generate regional revenue, and improve travel experience for millions of Chicago visitors	
10.2	Advance strategies to reduce airport energy consumption by 15%, divert 50% of airport waste, and maintain a fleet with 20% low-emission vehicles and develop innovative approaches to airport operations such as a large-scale solar development, alternative fueling infrastructure, a green concessions program, and sustainable land management practices	
10.3	Lead in exploring innovative technologies, practices, and partnership opportunities, including biofuels development through the Midwest Aviation Sustainable Biofuels Initiative	
11.1	Improve traffic signal timing for cars and buses to reduce idling time	
11.2	Achieve a taxi fleet comprised of 75%-80% hybrid or compressed natural gas vehicles	
11.3	Install a dense network of electric vehicle charging stations	
11.4	Encourage the use of clean fuels, clean vehicle technologies and develop alternative fuel infrastructure in partnership with the Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition	
12.1	Reduce number of vehicles in the City's fleet	
12.2	Increase efficiency of garbage services with street grid-based pick-up routing	
12.3	Replace 3%-5% of on-road fleet vehicles with green fleet annually	
12.4	Reduce energy intensity of CTA rail service by 12% from 2011 levels	

WATER AND WASTEWATER

13.1	Meter 50% of all water accounts	
13.2	Replace 320 miles of water main by 2015 to achieve replacement of 900 miles within the next decade	
13.3	Collaborate on grey water policy, including codes, to allow for expanded uses	
13.4	Pilot water reduction programs and technologies at City-owned facilities	
13.5	Track and report water use in city facilities	
13.6	Launch a water conservation strategic plan that lays out Chicago's plans to meet water conservation goals	
14.1	Create a comprehensive green infrastructure plan that is embedded in the capital budgeting process	
14.2	Explore partnerships with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to implement neighborhood-level green infrastructure pilots focused on reducing basement flooding	
14.3	Convert 1.5 million square feet of impermeable surface into pervious surfaces every year	
14.4	Replace or reline 275 miles of sewer main and line 56,000 structures (to achieve a total replacement or relining of 700 miles of sewer main, and total relining of 160,000 catch basins within the next decade)	
14.5	Support the completion of the first stage of the Tunnel and Reservoir Plan	
14.6	Increase opportunities to return rainwater to Lake Michigan	
15.1	Add to riverfront trail where gaps exist and continue to identify additional opportunities to create connections	
15.2	Create new recreational opportunities along the river, including the construction of four new boathouses	
15.3	Support disinfection of sewage discharged into the Chicago River	
15.4	Collaborate with key stakeholders to advance Chicago River revitalization efforts	

WATER AND WASTEWATER (cont'd)

16.1	Create better lakefront access with infrastructure improvements such as the Navy Pier bicycle and pedestrian flyover	
16.2	Decrease bacteria sources into the Lake to reduce the swim advisory days	
16.3	Use the latest technology to provide faster, more accurate information about beach water quality to the public, including real-time weather and water data	
16.4	Reduce salt usage in all snow removal programs	

PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND HEALTHY FOOD

17.1	Invest in innovative new public spaces, including the Make Way For People initiative, to create open, active streets	
17.2	Increase number and varieties of programs for residents through the Chicago Park District, community groups and other partnerships	
17.3	Increase Chicago Park District acreage by more than 180 acres	
17.4	Open Bloomingdale Trail, open North Grant Park (a 16-acre innovative and environmentally sustainable park) and open new LEED-certified field houses in at least two parks	
17.5	Support the access to, integration and promotion of cultural elements in public spaces	
18.1	Double the number of acres of urban agriculture	
18.2	Provide LINK card assistance at all farmers markets	
18.3	Create partnership opportunities for regional businesses and farms that deliver healthy food into the city	
18.4	Encourage more individual production of healthy food on public and private spaces	
19.1	Drive habitat restoration and public engagement in Calumet region	
19.2	Increase and protect habitat that is friendly to birds and other species. Restore at least 40 acres of land on Northerly Island in support of this effort	
19.3	Protect the tree canopy in the public right-of-way; support tree canopy work on other land	
19.4	Continue to enforce terrestrial and aquatic invasive species ordinance and work with state and federal partners on regional coordination on prevention	

WASTE AND RECYCLING

20.1	Expand the Blue Cart Recycling Program to all 600,000 City-collected households	
20.2	Improve policies to promote recycling, composting, and building material re-use	
20.3	Pilot and scale best practices for waste reduction at a major festival	
20.4	Divert 75% of eligible municipal construction waste	
20.5	Meet or exceed recycling goals at 75% of public schools	
21.1	Use recycled content materials in every construction project	
21.2	Make as many city processes as paperless as possible	
21.3	Implement a sustainable operations plan for city facilities	

CLIMATE CHANGE

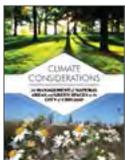
22.1	Report updates on carbon emissions	
22.2	Partner with universities to use Chicago as a laboratory for climate research and data gathering	
22.3	Increase community engagement to make Chicago more sustainable	
23.1	Close Fisk and Crawford generating stations earlier than planned, benefiting the city with reduced air pollution	
23.2	Reduce Chicago Transit Authority bus particulate matter emissions by 50 percent and nitrous oxide emissions by 30 percent while maintaining bus service levels	
23.3	Implement the Chicago Clean Diesel Construction Ordinance's Clean Fleet Score and ban high polluting equipment and vehicles on City projects starting in 2014	
24.1	Prepare for the human impacts of climate change by supporting people with information and services, such as cooling centers	
24.2	Prepare the natural environment for climate impacts and maintain biodiversity	
24.3	Prepare the infrastructure for climate change by reducing the urban heat island effect, managing flooding from high-intensity storm events, and strengthening resiliency to extreme weather	

GRI INDEX

The City prepared this *Sustainable Chicago 2015 Year One Progress Report* in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting Guidelines G3.1 and self declares its first GRI report to be “Level C.” The City’s last report was released on September 25, 2012, with a six-month update released on April 22, 2013. The reporting period for this Progress Report is from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013 and stakeholders can expect future reports to be released annually.

The scope of the report was determined after evaluating the areas that the City of Chicago can directly impact or influence. Most notably, this includes the services that it provides for residents and visitors, as well as its own municipal operations. The City applied GRI’s “Guidance on Defining Report Content” by ensuring that it prioritized areas of biggest risks and opportunities, conducting a robust stakeholder engagement process, and explaining how a sustainable Chicago equals a successful Chicago.

GRI INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
PROFILE		
1.1	Strategy and Analysis	2
2.1-2.10	Organizational Profile	4-6, 21
3.1-3.8, 3.10-3.12	Report Parameters	4-5, 26
4.1-4.4, 4.14, 4.15	Governance, Commitments and Engagement	3-5, 27
ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE		
EC2	Financial implications and other risks and opportunities for the organization’s activities due to climate change.	20-21
EC8	Development and impact of infrastructure investments and services provided primarily for public benefit through commercial, in-kind, or pro bono engagement.	6, 10-15
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE		
EN6	Initiatives to provide energy-efficient or renewable energy based products and services, and reductions in energy requirements as a result of these initiatives.	9-10
EN8	Total water withdrawal by source.	15
EN11	Location and size of land owned, leased, managed in, or adjacent to, protected areas and areas of high biodiversity value outside protected areas.	17
EN16	Total direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions by weight.	21
EN20	NOx, SOx, and other significant air emissions by type and weight.	21
EN22	Total weight of waste by type and disposal method.	18
EN29	Significant environmental impacts of transporting products and other goods and materials used for the organization’s operations, and transporting members of the workforce.	6, 10-13
EN30	Total environmental protection expenditures and investments by type.	17
SOCIAL PERFORMANCE		
SO5	Public policy positions and participation in public policy development and lobbying.	2



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

EC2: https://adapt.nd.edu/resources/1107/download/Climate_Considerations_Chicago_FINAL.pdf

EC8: http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/lmo2-2011.html

EN6: www.retrofit.cityofchicago.org

EN8: http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/lmo2-2011.html

EN11: <http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/assets/1/23/StratPlan-FINAL%5B1%5D2.pdf>

EN16: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/20583/5cdecf97-efbe-4b93-ad3d-899fd5b2447bbe-4b93-ad3d-899fd5b2447b>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all of the people that have partnered with us in our commitment to make Chicago the most sustainable city in the country. The goals of the Action Agenda have been embraced across the city and progress continues with each day. Although it is impossible to list every person individually, we acknowledge everyone that has contributed their time, expertise, and ideas, and are grateful for the dedication of the many thousands of Chicagoans that strive for an environmentally and economically sustainable Chicago.

Yours,

Karen Weigert
Chief Sustainability Officer
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November 2013

This Year One Progress Report was created with support from:



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