People-Friendly Design

Connected Communities includes new guidelines and requirements to promote safe public space for pedestrians and people in wheelchairs, bikes, scooters, or other mobility devices.

In addition, developments in B and C districts must follow the Pedestrian Street requirements of 17-3-0504 if they are within ½ mile of CTA or Metra rail stations. These requirements include elements such as facades that are within five feet of the sidewalk; significant coverage of transparent windows on the ground floor; primary entrances facing the street; and parking facilities, if any, that face the rear of the principal building. Note: Non-commercial ground floor uses are exempt from transparent window requirements.

Uses prohibited by Section H of the Pedestrian Street guidelines, however, such as gas stations, are not prohibited by Connected Communities.

Developments must also comply with Transportation Demand Study and Management Plan rules when they are issued by the Chicago Department of Transportation in 2023.