

WESTERN AVENUE CORRIDOR STUDY

Public Event #2 South Sub Area | 07.22.2021

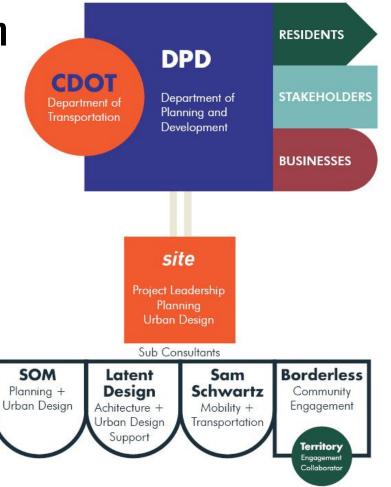
Meeting Goals

Inform and Listen

- Confirm corridor planning principles based on analysis findings and prior community feedback
- Discuss potential strategies and desired long-term vision for the corridor
- Share resources for additional feedback opportunities



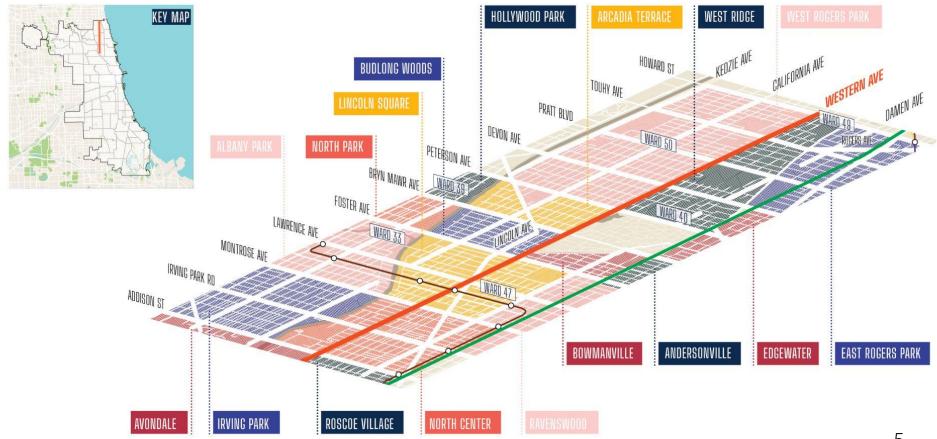
The Planning Team



Aldermanic Partners



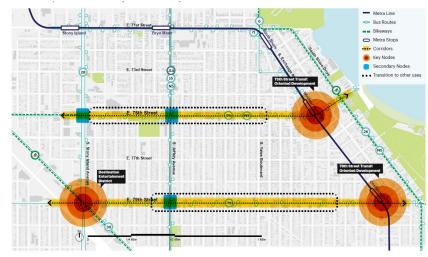
Corridor Study Area



Expected Study Deliverables

The final document will be a report that presents:

- Long-term vision for the corridor that will include future land use, zoning, development, and infrastructure recommendations
 - + Opportunity sites for future development
 - + Public realm improvements
 - + Mobility improvements
- + Design guidelines along the corridor
- + **Resource Reference Guide** for stakeholders



SOUTH SHORE CORRIDOR PLAN 33



Building Momentum in South Shore

South Shore is an established residential community with a strong basis to mo forward, but diso has some challenges that must be addressed. This chapter provides 10 ideas for Action that aim to address these challenges and build on community strengths.

Positive charge can be activeved on South Show's conidon by leveraging local strengths, growing the capacity of local expansions, applying temporary public evails and tectabul technism approaches in the next term and then solvecting total longer term capital and devolution regional provides and then solvecting total longer term capital and solvections solvect contrast recognition this process.

ng Local Partnerships

The Ideas for Action are also organized as a sequence of steps that can be implemented over time. In early stages there is a key role for the South Shore Chamber of Commerce as a leader, implementer and coordinator of others.

Raising Visibility

The opportunity and potential of South Shore can be porchold beyond the neighborhood itself. This plan can be used to communicate the market potential or South Shore to government, non-profit fundera, foundations and the private secto right away.

Building City-Wide Partnerships

SOUTH SHORE

MAY 2020

CORRIDOR STUD

Adopted by Chicago Plan Commission

CITY OF CHICAGO

*

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

May 21, 2020

Partnerships with city-wide technical assistance providers and non-profit housing and mixed use development funders can be extablished and capacity building for existing or new South Shore organizations be put in place. This will provide the foundation for later interventions in building renovation and infit development.

monstrating Change on the Ground perallel, small scale and temporary public realm and tactical urbanism site inventions will engage the community, signal physical change and mise fire ality of place for residents.

SOUTH SHORE CORRIDOR STUDY

Siteer investment and Development Atract investment to the places it has best chance of sumeet community needs. Other City Resources

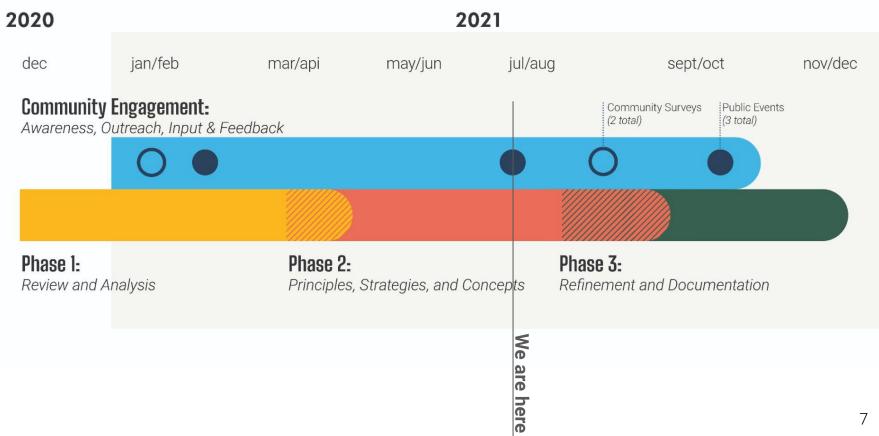
towledge, skills and resources among non-profit pa

edium term investments, to build up the scale

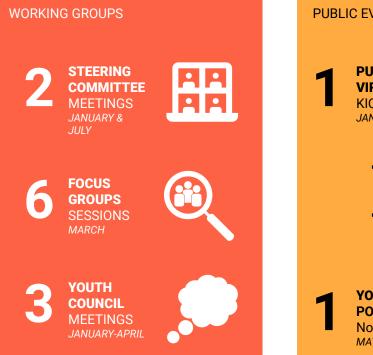
and non-profit housing and non-profit housing mit capacity building for This will provide the In addition to resource Intil development.

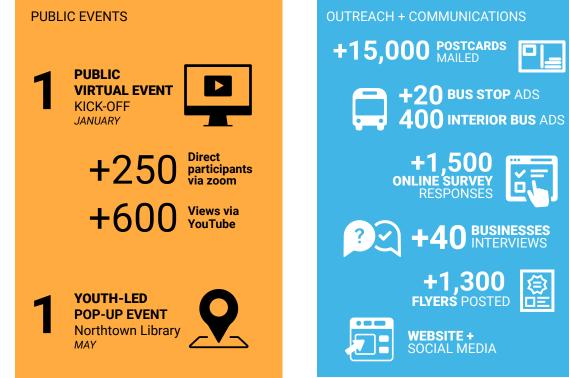
partner agencies and city departments, including BACP, CI DCASE have resources and programs that can be leverag several of the Ideas for Action outlined here.

Western Avenue Corridor Study Process



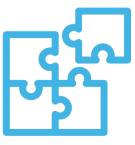
Engagement Overview





Participation Principles: The Corridor



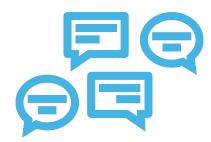




We will **envision the long-term future** grounded in data-driven and feasible strategies. We will create a **collective vision** for Western Avenue that acknowledges the **diverse conditions** of the entire five-mile corridor from Addison to Howard. We will develop a **cohesive long-term roadmap** that is the first of many steps toward change. Implementation will entail future projects with their own processes.

Participation Principles: The Conversation







We will be **transparent** by sharing relevant information, ideas, and concerns with one another. We will seek **inclusion by listening to as many voices as possible** while embracing productive tensions and respectful disagreements. We will **communicate in good faith**, in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect.

Planning Themes

Thriving Places



- + Land Use
- + Economic Development

+ Development

(New

Construction/Renovation/Re-use of Housing/Commercial/Mixed-Use Buildings, Urban Design, etc.) Safe & Attractive Streets



- + Transportation and Mobility
- + Public Space (Streets, Sidewalks, Plazas, etc.)
- + Placemaking & Identity

3

Resilient & Sustainable Corridor



- + Climate Change Resilience
- + Long-term Sustainability (Stormwater Management, Urban Heat Island, Tree Canopy Health, Urban Wildlife, etc.)



Thriving Places

- + Land Use
- + Economic Development
- + Development

(New Construction/Renovation/Re-use of Housing/Commercial/Mixed-Use Buildings, Urban Design, etc.)



THRIVING PLACES KEY FINDINGS



Vibrant Neighborhoods

"The Lincoln, Lawrence, Western intersection would benefit from a

commercial cluster development"

ADDISON ST

"Hope the heritage, history, and architecture of Lincoln Square can continue to be preserved [...] and encourage more businesses, bars, restaurants to flourish"

BRYN MAWR AV

EQSTER AVE

LAWRENCE AVE

MONTROSE AVE

IRVING PARK RD

"Make West Ridge livable without the need for a car: better transit, bike lanes, grocery and service access, affordable housing"



PRATT BLVD

EVON AVE

"Strong communities on the southern section of the study area (e.g. Lincoln Square, Northcenter) need to be better connected with those North of Lawrence."

- WESI

CALIFORNIA AVE

ROGERS AVE



15

Diverse Destinations

"Devon & Western has great evening energy, with families out walking together after dinner"

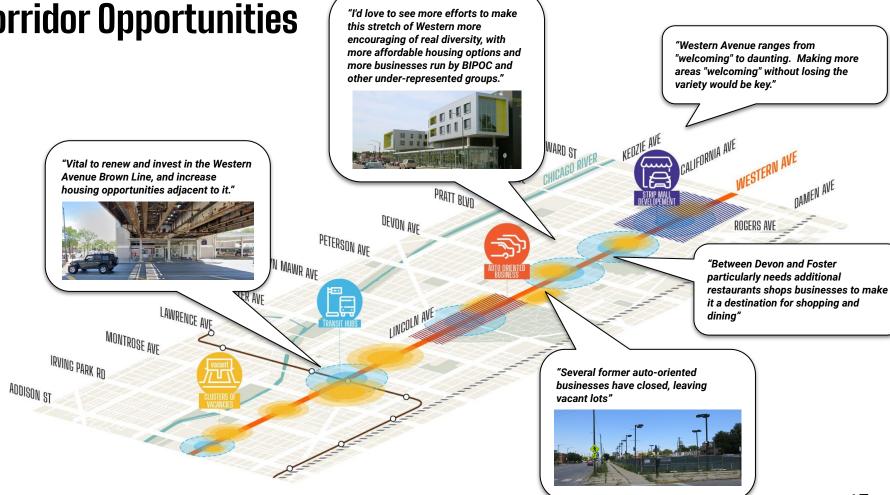
"Thoughtfully use what's already there to create a vibrant arts and culture corridor akin to what Rogers Park has historically been."



"West Ridge has such an interesting and diverse mix of backgrounds, ethnicities, lifestyles and cultural traditions that need more public way of celebrating."

"There are many points along the way VEDZIE AVE that could become destination nodes as $\widetilde{\sim}$ well as commercial centers to help CALIFOR create 15 minute cities within the City." PRATT BLVD DEVON AVE **ROGERS AVE** PETERSON AVE **CIII TURÉ** BRYN MAWR AVE FOSTER AVE LAWRENCE AVF INCOLN AVE MONTROSE AVE IRVING PARK RD PARKS "The West Ridge Nature Preserve is amazing. I used to visit a lot and ADDISON ST would like to visit more"

Corridor Opportunities



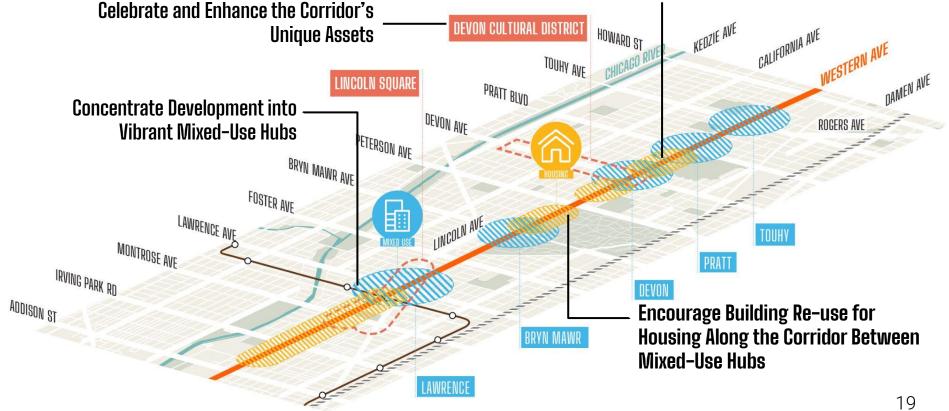
THRIVING PLACES PRINCIPLES





Thriving Places Principles

Encourage New Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs





Celebrate and Enhance the Corridor's Unique Assets

- Use art and branding similar to other successful places as Lincoln Square, Devon, and Ainslie Arts Plaza
- Support a localized and diverse economy
- Emphasize Cultural Heritage Districts













Concentrate Development into Vibrant Mixed-Use Hubs

- Steer mixed-use development to transit-rich, locations with strong local residential customer bases.
- Include housing, retail, business and community services and culture..









Retail mixed use, Wicker Park, Chicago



Encourage New Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs

- Encourage residential development at opportunity sites between Mixed-Use hubs..
- Encourage residential use on all floors, including the ground floor.
- Provide housing that meets a range of community needs.







Residential Development, Western Ave





Encourage Building Re-use for Housing along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs

• Encourage residential re-use of vacant retail and commercial buildings.



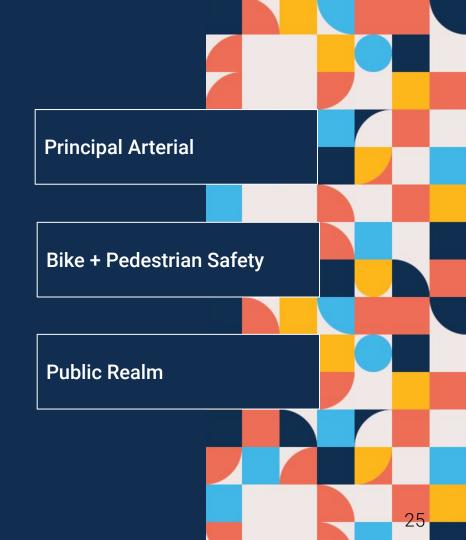


Safe & Attractive Streets

- + Transportation and Mobility
- + Public Space (Streets, Sidewalks, Plazas, etc.)
- + Placemaking & Identity



SAFE & ATTRACTIVE STREETS KEY FINDINGS





"In general, Western is too wide and cars have too much space on the road so they drive too fast. As someone who lives east of Western, the road is often a barrier - mentally and physically."

> PETERSON AVE BRYN MAWR AVE

FOSTER AVE

LAWRENCE AVF

MONTROSE AVE

IRVING PARK RD

ADDISON ST

⇔₩₽

TRANSIT FREICHT PRATT BLVD

DEVON AVE

LINCOLN AVE

"Western is an iron curtain. Businesses and residents face a daily barrier."

Seinfeld

"The lack of dedicated transit

lanes/infrastructure is a major impediment to better mobility along

Western Ave."



"Maintain connecting function and traffic movements as a major road while improving its pedestrian experience"

DZIE AVE

16/216ALIFORNIA AVE

ROGERS AVE

"Would like to see Western become friendlier to non-car transportation, while retaining its unique character and the economic, cultural and racial diversity of its businesses."



Bike + Pedestrian Safety

LAWRENCE AVF

"I am cyclist but realize that Western Ave is NOT a safe street. Would like to see adjacent side streets be more cyclist friendly."



MONTROSE AVE

IRVING PARK RD

ADDISON ST

"We need to de-prioritize auto throughput and speeds and prioritize transit, walking, and biking."



MEN AVE

"Western Avenue is a very unsafe street for pedestrians and inaccessible to people on bikes, making it unfriendly to small businesses located on the street as people in cars hurtle by without pausing."

PRATT BLVD

ALC

BIKE ROUT

PETERSON AVE

BRYN MAWR AVE

FOSTER AVE

DEVON AVE

LINCOLN AVE

"The noise and lack of safety/unpleasant walking experience drives a lot of other challenges with empty storefronts etc."

CALIFORNIA AVE

ROGERS AVE

KEDZIE AVE



Public Realm

"Sidewalks could be widened to allow for more outdoor dining & create a street design to be comfortable to walk along." "More green spaces, more trees, more commuter friendly [...] Help more restaurants and local businesses come into storefronts."

PETERSON AVE

BRYN MAWR AVE

FOSTER AVE

LAWRENCE AVF

MONTROSE AVE

IRVING PARK RD

ADDISON ST

"We have world class parks on either side of Western, but very little accommodation for crossing Western"

PRATT BLVD

DEVON AVE

LINCOLN AVE



"Western itself has very little character, but there are so many great places just off Western, i.e. the old Germantown on Lincoln, Devon Avenue, and green spaces like Welles Park and Rosehill Cemetery/Nature Preserve."

CALIFORNIA AVE

ROGERS AV

KEDZIE AVE

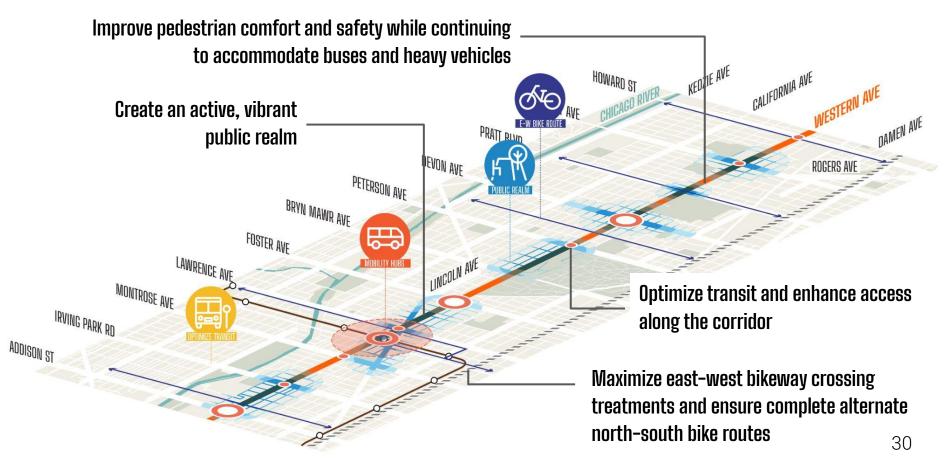


SAFE & ATTRACTIVE STREETS PRINCIPLES





Safe and Attractive Streets : Principles





Improve Pedestrian Comfort and Safety While Continuing to Accommodate Buses and Heavy Vehicles

- Target key intersections pedestrian safety enhancements.
- Adjust roadway geometry in strategic locations to prioritize pedestrians and transit.
- Design streetscape for flexibility and adaptability, allowing for the interchange of parking, transit, and traffic uses where necessary.
- Invest in streetscape improvements











Create an Active, Vibrant Public Realm

- Create signature public spaces at primary intersections on East/West streets
- Increase sidewalk / public realm at key mixed-use intersections
- Create a greener, more welcoming people-space streetscape
- Include more active programming throughout the corridor.
- Identify short term (tactical urbanism) and long term (permanent strategies)
- Encourage strategic and minimal building setbacks
- Incentivize the renovation of aging ground-floor storefronts.





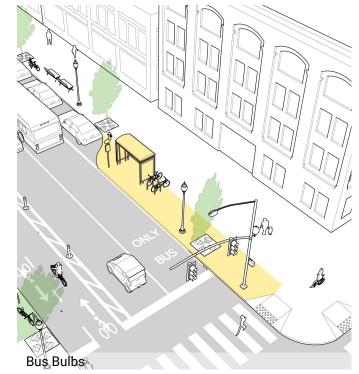






Optimize Transit and Enhance Access Along the Corridor

- Evaluate cross-section for opportunities to enhance transit
- Strategically place dedicated drop-off/pick-up and delivery loading zones.
- Peak-hour parking restrictions at select locations









Maximize East-West Bikeway Crossing Treatments and Ensure Complete Alternate North-South Bike Routes

- Emphasize east-west neighborhood bike route crossings.
- Increase connectivity between Western Ave and the riverfront.
- Ensure complete alternate North-South Bike Routes



Resilient & Sustainable Corridor

+ Climate Change Resilience

+ Long-term Sustainability

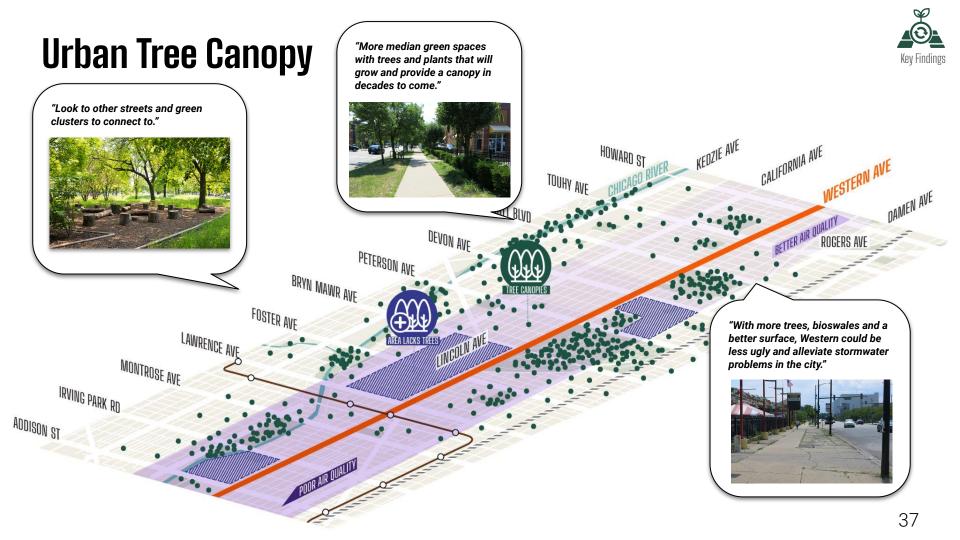
(Stormwater Management, Urban Heat Island, Tree Canopy Health, Urban Wildlife, etc.)



North Avenue, Chicago

Resilient & Sustainable Corridor KEY FINDINGS

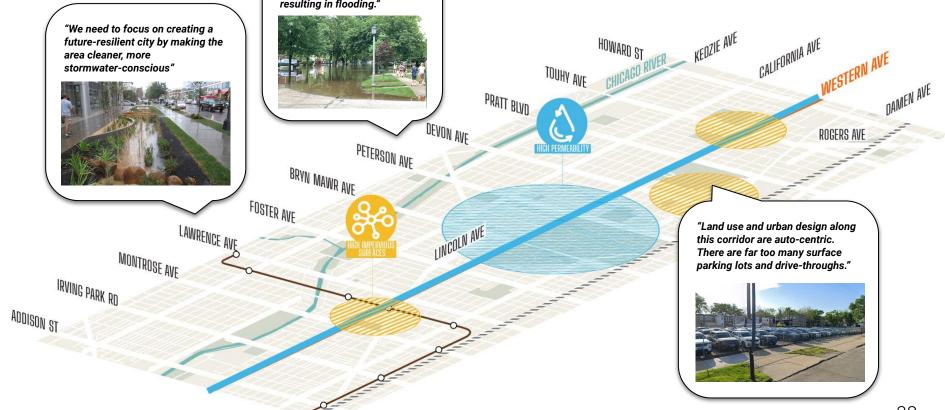


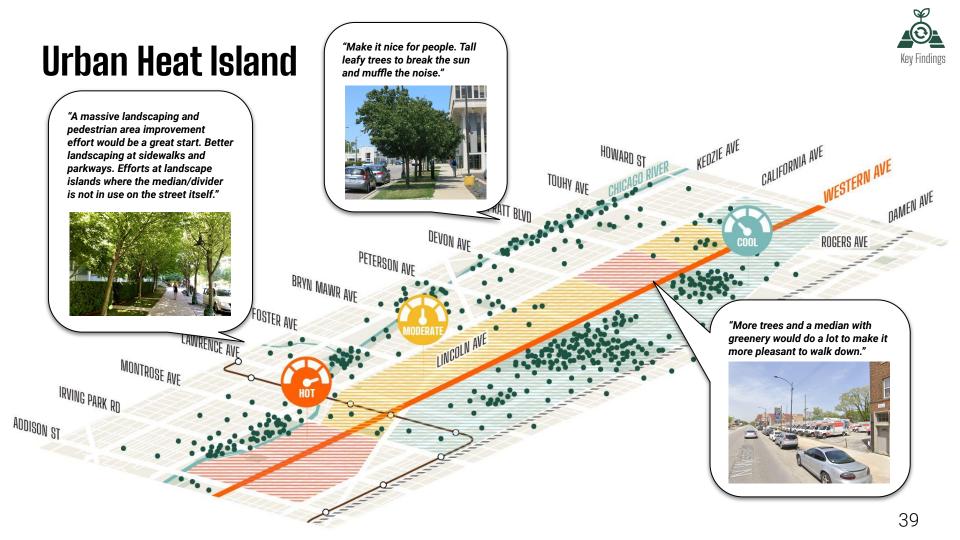




"We have bad flooding several times per year [...] whenever there is a significant amount of rain, all the garbage or leaves wash to the storm sewer in front of our building resulting in flooding."





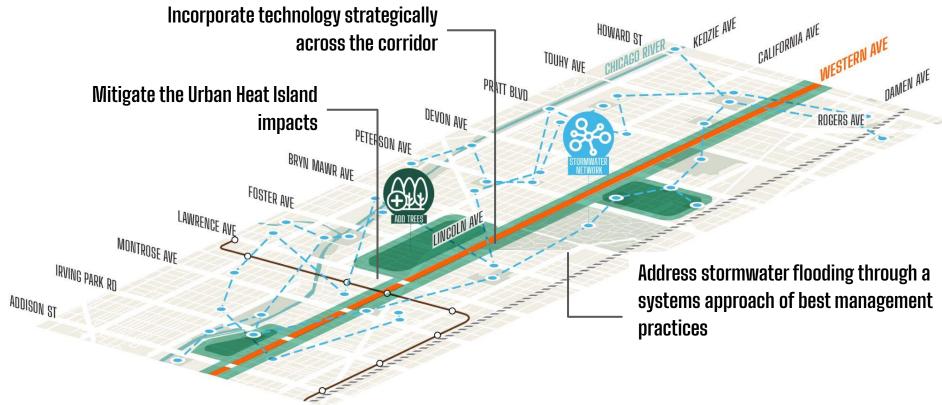


Resilient & Sustainable Corridor PRINCIPLES





Resilient & Sustainable Corridor : Principles



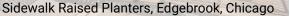


Mitigate the Urban Heat Island impacts

- Increase tree canopy cover along the corridor with large landscape islands, along the sidewalk and in the medians.
- Use streetscape plantings to define on-street parking and loading areas(e.g., curb extension planter).
- Utilize high albedo pavement materials, landscaping, and permeable pavements to reduce ambient summer temperatures.









Center planted median - Ashland Ave, Chicago





Address stormwater flooding through a systems approach of best management practices

- Implement a network of stormwater best management practices and design interventions.
- Utilize permeable materials within parking areas.
- Implement green alleys in key areas
- Utilize redevelopment sites for storage, biofiltration, and stormwater management strategies..











Incorporate technology strategically across the corridor

- Maximize use of solar power and LED lighting in renovation, re-use, and new development.
- Implement pedestrian counters at key mixed-use hubs.
- Incorporate "Smart" furnishings and fixtures in public spaces.







Relay trash receptacle, Victor Stanley

BREAK OUT SESSIONS



BREAK OUT SESSIONS



How to join a break out room?

If there is a topic you would like to discuss in more depth durin the meeting, please select one below.			
	Choose One		
*	Choose One		
	Land use & development		vith the a
	Mobility & public spaces		
	Sustainability & resilience		



If you selected a preferred topic through your **zoom registration**, you will be assigned to that break out group. **Click the "Breakout Rooms" button** at the bottom of the zoom screen to choose a breakout room.

Click the pop-up button "Join the Breakout Room" - it takes a few seconds to join.

BREAK OUT SESSION 1: Thriving Places



How to participate during break outs?

Online Polling



Follow instructions on top of screen (online / text)

Submit Questions or Comments



Use the chat to submit questions or comments

Facilitator will include in the discussion as possible

Raise Your Hand for Speaking Turn

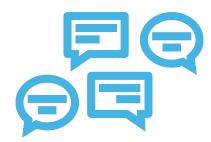


Click the Raise Your Hand button

Facilitator will call your name

Participation Principles: The Conversation







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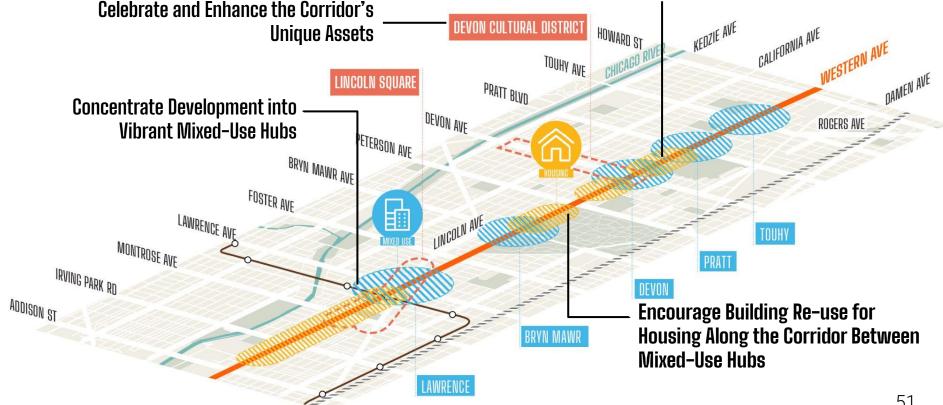
Which part of the corridor are you most familiar with? Click on the map.





Thriving Places Principles

Encourage New Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs





Celebrate and Enhance the Corridor's Unique Assets

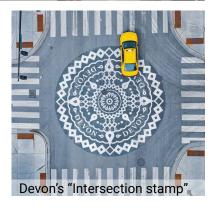
- Use art and branding similar to other successful places as Lincoln Square, Devon, and Ainslie Arts Plaza
- Support a localized and diverse economy
- Emphasize Cultural Heritage Districts



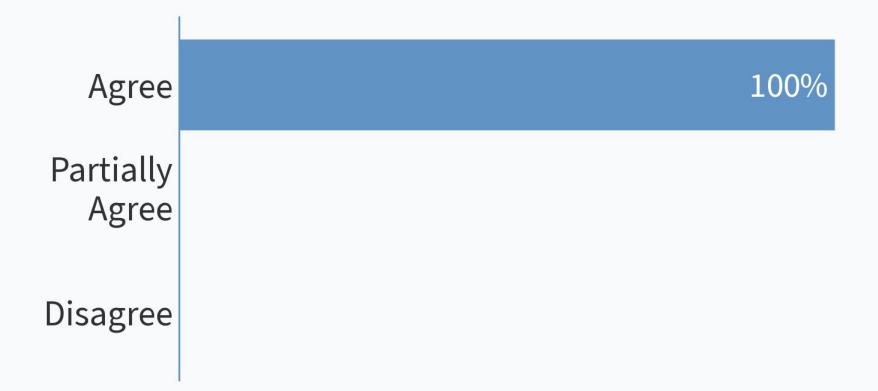








Do you agree with the draft planning principle: "Celebrate and Enhance the Corridor's Unique Assets"?





Concentrate Development into Vibrant Mixed-Use Hubs

- Steer mixed-use development to transit-rich, locations with strong local residential customer bases.
- Include housing, retail, business and community services and culture..



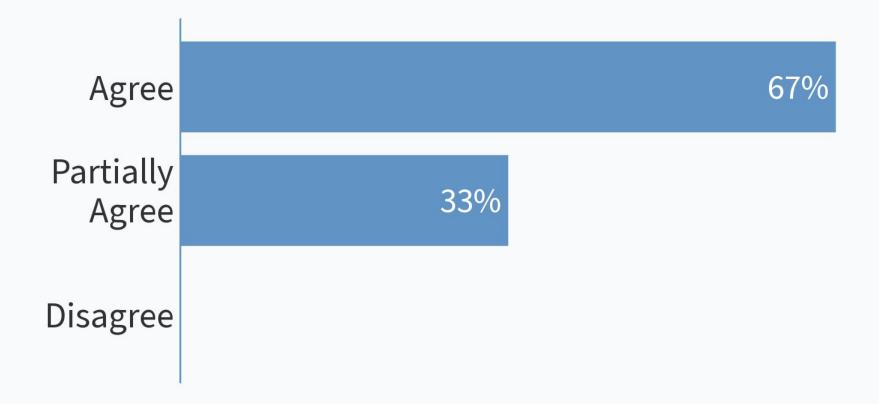






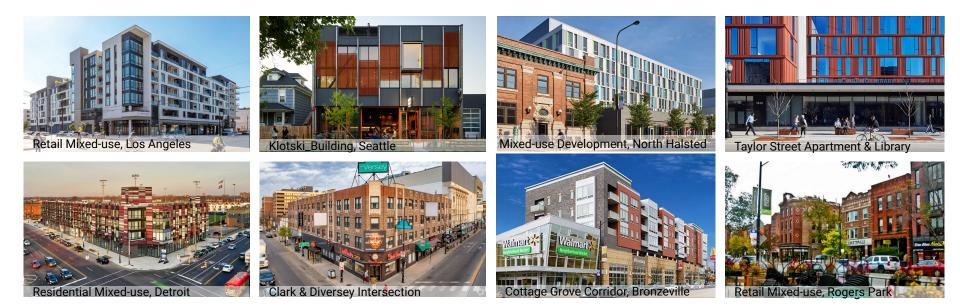
Retail mixed use, Wicker Park, Chicago

Do you agree with the draft planning principle, "Concentrate Development into Vibrant Mixed-use Hubs"?

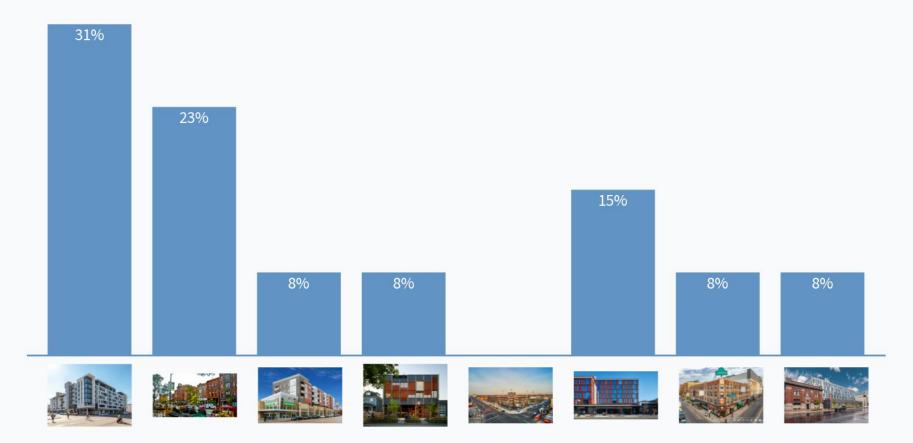




Which photos of development below best illustrate what you would like to see at mixed-use hubs along Western?



Which of the photos below best illustrate what you would like to see developed along Western Avenue. Select all that apply.





Encourage New Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs

- Encourage residential development at opportunity sites between Mixed-Use hubs..
- Encourage residential use on all floors, including the ground floor.
- Provide housing that meets a range of community needs.



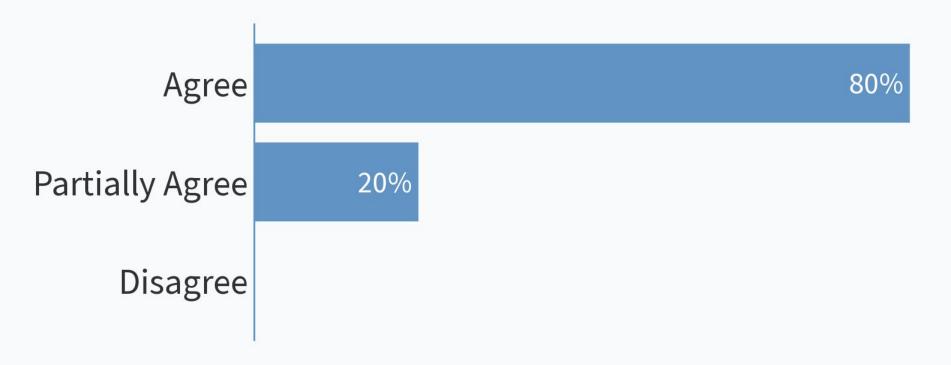




Residential Development, Western Ave



Do you agree with the draft planning principle: "Encourage New Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs"?

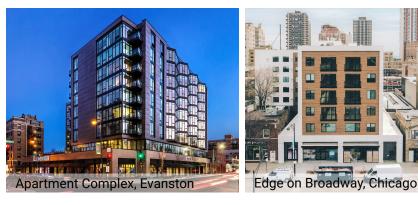




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Which of the photos below illustrate the types of housing you'd like to see along Western Avenue? *Select all that apply.*



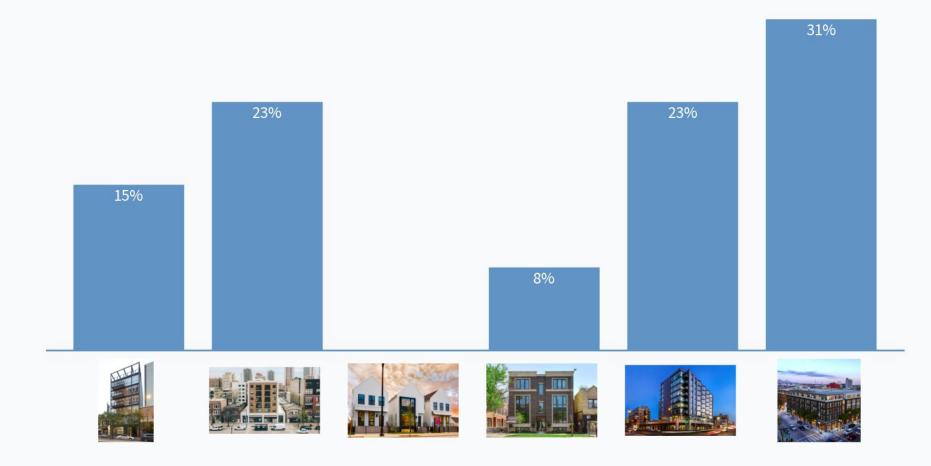








Which of the photos below illustrate the types of housing you'd like to see along Western Avenue? Select all that apply.





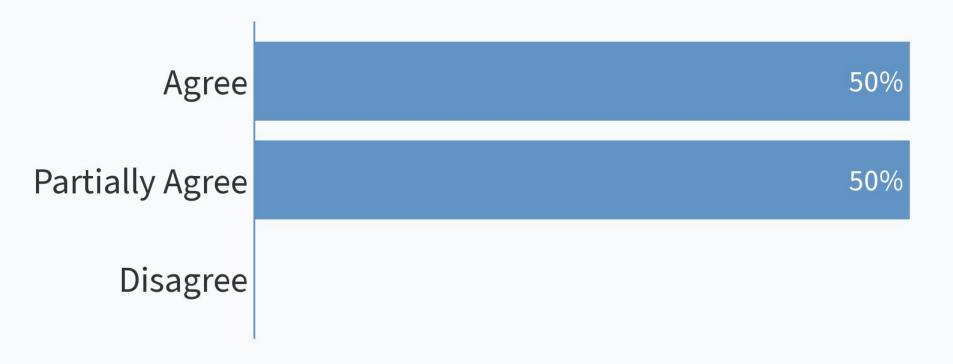
Encourage Building Re-use for Housing along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs

• Encourage residential re-use of vacant retail and commercial buildings.





Do you agree with the draft planning principle: "Encourage Building Re-use for Housing Along the Corridor Between Mixed-Use Hubs"?



Which of the photos below illustrate the types of housing conversions you'd like to see along Western Avenue? Select all that apply.



BREAK OUT SESSION 2: Safe & Attractive Streets



How to participate during break outs?

Online Polling



Follow instructions on top of screen (online / text)

Submit Questions or Comments



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Raise Your Hand for Speaking Turn

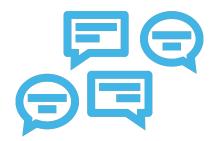


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Participation Principles: The Conversation







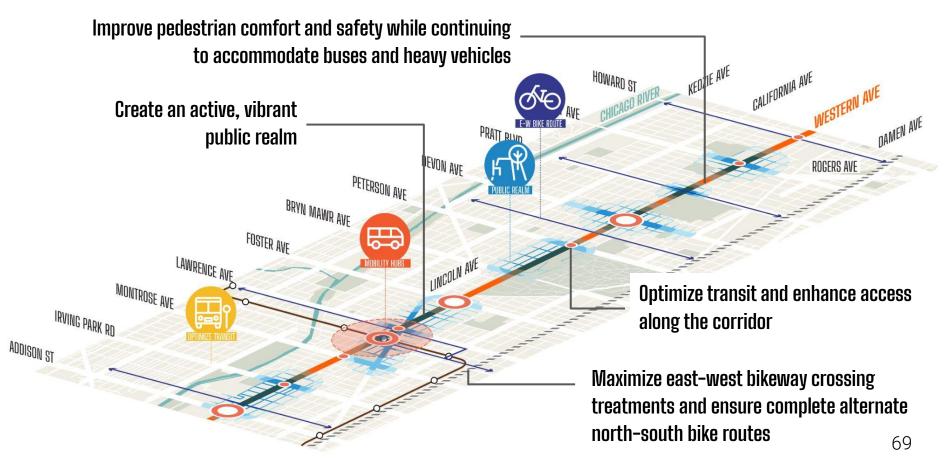
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Which part of the corridor are you most familiar with? Click on the map.

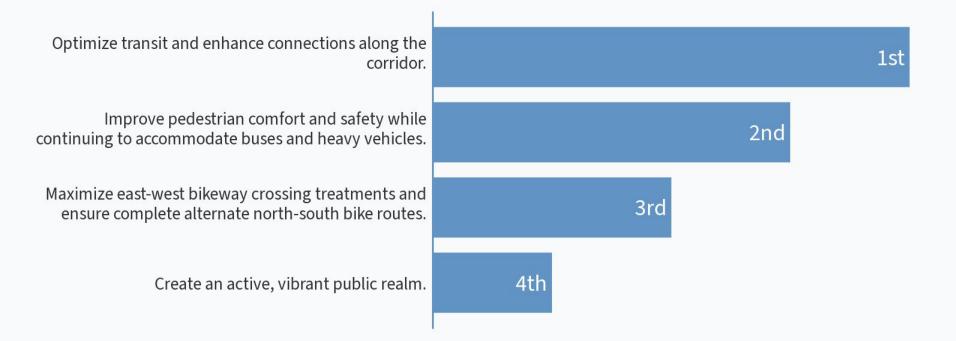




Safe and Attractive Streets : Principles



Which of the safe and attractive streets principles are most important to your community? *Rank in order of importance:*





Which of the following amenities would most increase pedestrian comfort along Western Avenue? *Select all that apply.*



Street trees in tree grates



Street trees in landscaped parkways



In-ground planters



Movable planters



Widened sidewalks

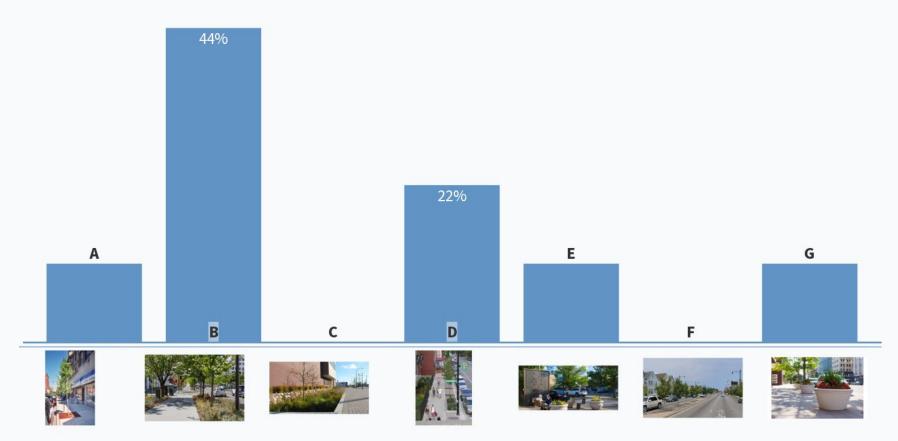


Seating (e.g. benches, tables and chairs)



Medians with trees

Which of the following amenities would most increase pedestrian comfort along Western Avenue? Select all that apply.





Which of the following types of pedestrian safety improvements would you like to see along Western Avenue? *Select all that apply.*

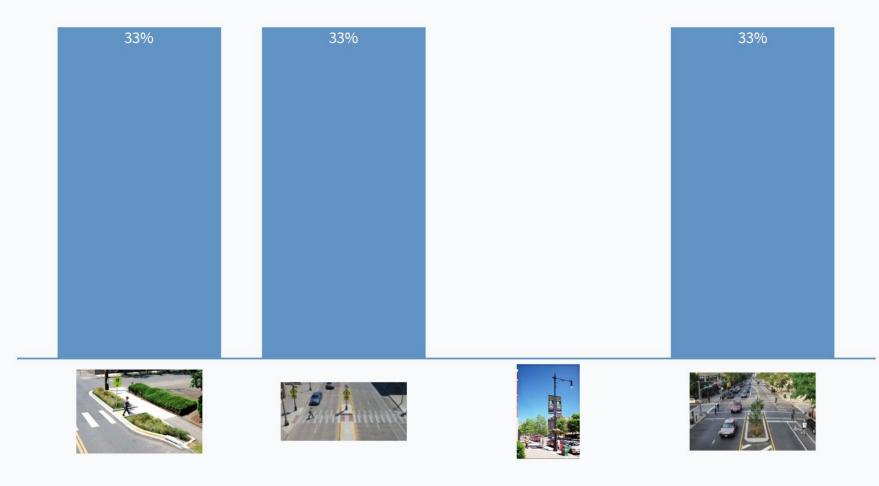


Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon, Monroe St

Upgraded lighting

Pedestrian Refuge Island, Lawrence Ave

Which of the following types of pedestrian safety improvements would you like to see along Western Avenue? Select all that apply.



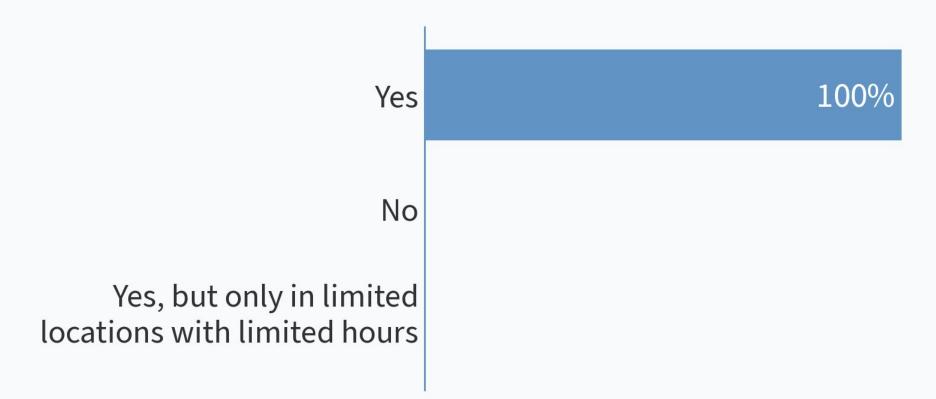
Where would you most like to see these safety improvements along the corridor?

Why is your selection a priority for your community?

What can be done to improve connections to other north-south bike alternatives?

What can be done to improve east-west bike connections across Western Avenue?

To improve transit, would you support the removal of some on-street parking on Western Avenue?



For those using public transit along Western Avenue, what would improve your experience?

Is there anything missing from the four safe and attractive streets principles outlined today?

BREAK OUT SESSION 3: Resilient & Sustainable Corridor



How to participate during break outs?

Online Polling



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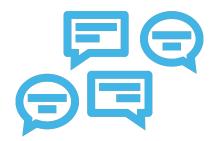


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Participation Principles: The Conversation







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Which part of the corridor are you most familiar with? Click on the map.



What is the most pressing issue regarding resilience and sustainability along the corridor?



Which of the photos below illustrate the types of urban heat island mitigation you'd like to see along Western Avenue?

Select all that apply.



Permeable Pavers - Rogers Park, Chicago



Sidewalk Raised Planters, Edgebrook, Chicago

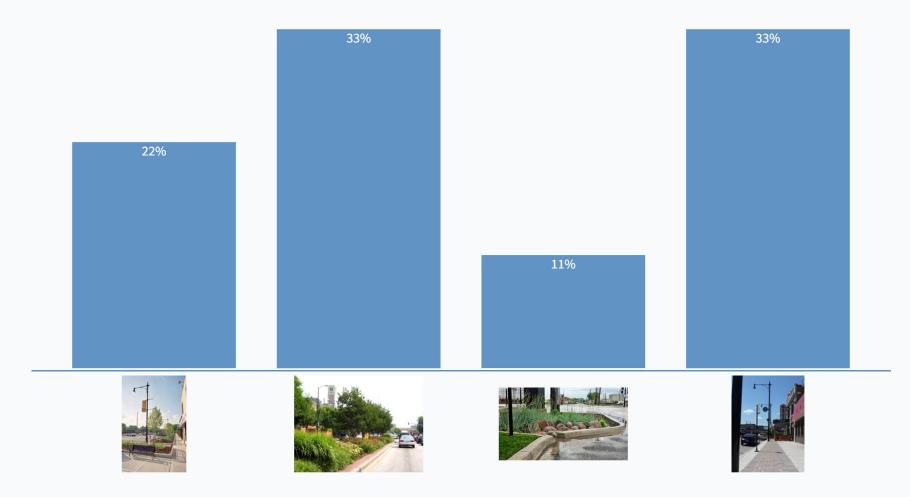


Center planted median - Ashland Ave, Chicago

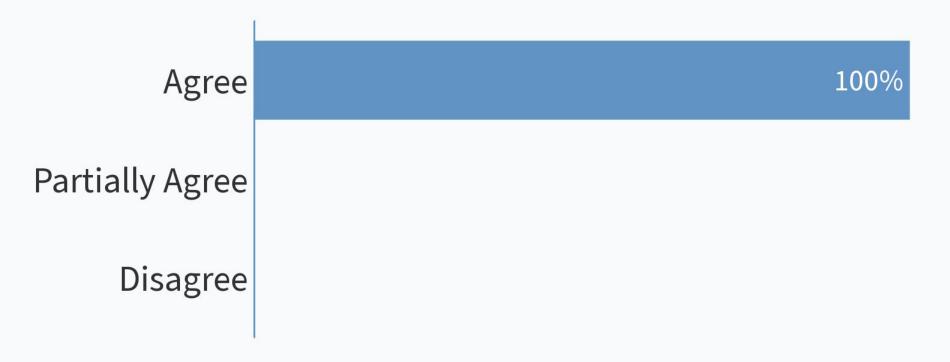


Curb Extension Planter, Chicago

Which of the photos below illustrate the types of urban heat island mitigation you'd like to see along Western Avenue? Select all that apply.



Do you agree with the draft planning principle, "Address chronic stormwater flooding through a systems approach of best management practices"?



Where do you experience flooding along the corridor?





Which of the following stormwater best management practices would you like to see along Western Avenue? *Select all that apply.*



Green Roofs



Infiltration Planters



Permeable Pavers



Planted Medians

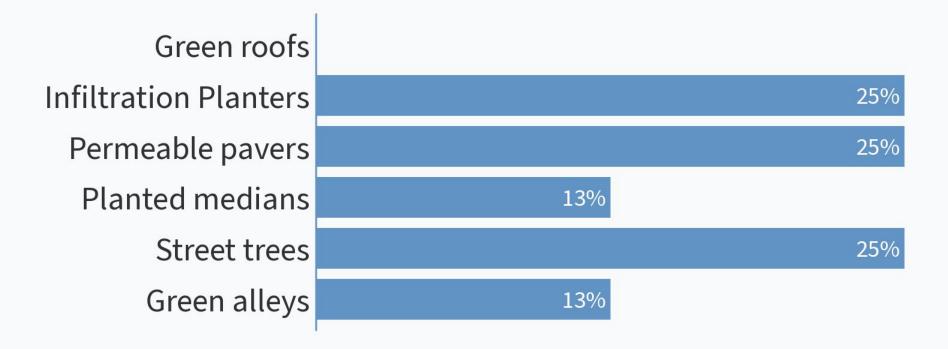


Street Trees



Green Alleys

Which of the following stormwater best management practices would you like to see along Western Avenue. *Select all that apply.*



Are we missing any principles to guide future resilient and sustainable strategies?

DISCUSSION THEMES



NEXT STEPS



Get Involved & Stay Connected

	_	_	_	_	

New survey and focus groups coming soon!

a			
e			

Sign up for email updates: https://bit.ly/3qP5crl

Visit our website: chicago.gov/western

6			

Send additional questions to WesternAve@cityofchicago.org

Stay connected!

- @chicagodpd
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Thank You!

