City of Chicago
Department of Transportation
Summer 2007 Pedestrian Count Summary

- The study covered the entire Loop plus areas in River North, Streeterville, the West Loop and the South Loop. Over three million pedestrians at 510 sites were counted downtown, resulting in over 5000 hours of data collection.

- As in the three previous pedestrian studies, weekday counts covered a 10-hour period from 7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Saturday counts started at 9:00 a.m. and ended at 6:00 p.m., for a 9-hour day.

- Weekday totals for Loop pedestrian traffic remains similar to that of 1999 but the pedestrian volumes in the morning and evening peak are higher, with declines in mid-day traffic.

- The highest Loop weekday count, 29,000, was on the south side of the Adams Street bridge, followed by the 27,000 pedestrians that crossed the north side of the Madison Street bridge.

- All weekday State Street blocks showed increased pedestrian counts since 1999 with the exception of the block face in front of the Palmer House Hilton. Scaffolding and a closed entrance most likely account for the decrease.

- Saturday counts on Michigan Avenue and State Street are considerably higher than in 1999. Pedestrian traffic is also higher on weekdays in River North, Streeterville and the South Loop.

- The highest weekday pedestrian volume for Michigan Avenue was at Water Tower Place with over 32,000 pedestrians. Michigan Avenue Saturday counts grew sixteen percent since 1999 counts.

- The two most noteworthy findings of this study are that (1) the geographic coverage of high pedestrian traffic volumes has grown and that (2) the Saturday counts have grown considerably. There is reason to believe that these two trends will continue.

- Visit the pedestrian page at www.cityofchicago.org/transportation for more detail or contact Susan Mea at smea@cityofchicago.org