Pilsen and Little Village Land Use Strategy
The City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is leading the project.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is providing planning support through its Local Technical Assistance Program (LTA) program.

CMAP has contracted with Pilsen Neighbors Community Council (PNCC) and Enlace Chicago to provide community outreach and engagement assistance.
Project Partners

Department of Planning and Development

Bureau of Planning, Design, & Historic Preservation
  Eleanor Gorski
  Gerardo Garcia
  Matt Crawford

Bureau of Sustainability/Open Space
  Kathy Dickhut
  Michael Berkshire

Bureau of Zoning and Land Use
  Irma Morales

Homeownership Center
  Irma Morales

Planning, Design, & Historic Preservation
  Eleanor Gorski
  Gerardo Garcia
  Matt Crawford
• CMAP is the regional planning organization for northeastern Illinois, and was created in 2005 by Illinois General Assembly in order to integrate planning for transportation and land use

• CMAP developed **GO TO 2040**, a comprehensive, long-range plan for the Chicago Metropolitan area, which was adopted in 2010

• The LTA program implements **GO TO 2040** through direct assistance to communities
Other Partners and Related Projects

- DPD’s Industrial Corridor Modernization initiative
- DPD’s Chicago Neighborhoods Now initiative
- CDOT’s Little Village Paseo Feasibility Study
- Adler School of Professional Psychology’s Health Impact Assessment project
- Delta Institute and LVEJO’s Little Village Brownfield Revitalization project
• Describes where you live, work, play, shop and learn

• Identifies future places to live, work, play, shop and learn

• Confirms the places and the community character to preserve and improve

• Guide for a 10-20 year period
Building on Quality of Life Plans

Vision
As we plan our future in Little Village, we value our family, culture and community. Our vision is a community that is educated, peaceful, united, clean, and prosperous.

Quality-of-Life Plan Summary
The community engagement process created a plan with eight topic areas, each with specific goals.

A. Arts & Culture
   A.1 Support and encourage collaboration among local artists
   A.2 Strengthen community events and programs focused on arts and culture
   A.3 Create and expand temporary and long-term spaces for arts and culture

B. Economic Development
   B.1 Increase resources for entrepreneurs
   B.2 Support branding and beautification efforts
   B.3 Increase workforce development programs and job opportunities

C. Education
   C.1 Strengthen and expand early childhood opportunities
   C.2 Support children in elementary and middle school
   C.3 Support youth in high school, in college and in their career goals
   C.4 Enhance Adult Education

D. Green Space & Recreation
   D.1 Maintain, support, and enhance existing green and recreational spaces
   D.2 Develop new recreational spaces
   D.3 Increase community impact through improved programming

E. Health
   E.1 Improve access to quality healthcare for the entire community
   E.2 Strengthen preventive health measures for residents
   E.3 Reduce chronic illnesses

F. Housing
   F.1 Increase sustainable home ownership and reduce foreclosures
   F.2 Increase the affordability and quality of rental housing
   F.3 Develop new housing options for a diverse range of incomes

G. Immigration
   G.1 Promote leadership development around immigration issues
   G.2 Strengthen the capacity of existing service providers and encourage partnerships to attract additional resources
   G.3 Provide accurate and timely immigration information to the community

H. Safety
   H.1 Continue to develop violence prevention programs for youth and families
   H.2 Enhance and broaden educational opportunities for youth
   H.3 Increase community engagement and leadership around safety issues
   H.4 Strengthen the community and police relationship
   H.5 Create a safer and cleaner physical environment
As part of the planning process, the project team has published a comprehensive Existing Conditions Report, and conducted significant public outreach, including stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and community workshops. So far, the team has met with over 200 residents and stakeholders.
Key Community Priorities

Housing
  • Preserve housing affordability for owners and renters
  • Obtain assistance and guidance on housing maintenance and rehabilitation, particularly given the older housing stock of the neighborhood

Retail
  • Preserve neighborhood character, including corner store retail in residential areas, and mixed-use developments along commercial corridors
  • Protect and improve walkability and accessibility of commercial corridors
Key Community Priorities

**Built Environment**
- Preserve neighborhood character, including architectural style and scale of buildings
- Protect murals and public art

**Open Space**
- Create better connections to and between existing open spaces
- Improve access to the river
- Create additional open space, including non-traditional open spaces, such as rails-to-trails projects, community gardens, pocket parks, etc.
- Create a “campus environment” that safely connects institutions on Western Ave.
Draft Plan Goals

**Housing**
Preserve affordability and character of housing

**Retail**
Preserve the unique retail environment

**Built environment**
Preserve neighborhood character

**Open space**
Expand the number and variety of recreational opportunities

**Transition Areas**
Pursue targeted planning in areas that may attract interest for new land uses
Next Steps

- Revise draft goals and recommendations per Open House feedback
- Complete Draft Plan and post on project website for public comment
- Finalize plan
- Submit plan to Chicago’s Plan Commission for adoption