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) to provide community outreach and engagement assistance.
Project Partners

Department of Planning and Development

Bureau of Housing
- Multi-Family Financing & Housing Preservation
  - Bryan Esenberg

Bureau of Zoning and Land Use
- Sustainability/Open Space
  - Kathy Dickhut
  - Michael Berkshire
- 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

• Adler School of Professional Psychology’s Health Impact Assessment project
Goals and Purpose of a Land Use Strategy

• 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

Our strategies:

1. **Expand** housing options for Pilsen residents.
2. **Build** a stronger neighborhood economy.
3. **Make** Pilsen a self-reliant, family-oriented community.
4. **Create** a stronger image for Pilsen as a historic Mexican neighborhood.
5. **Develop** educational opportunities for residents of all ages.
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