

# Mayor's Pedestrian Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2016 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

## **1. Introductions**

### **MBAC members present:**

Co-Chairs Rebekah Scheinfeld, CDOT Commissioner and Peter Skosey, Metropolitan Planning Council  
AARP - Bob Gallo  
Access Living - Mary Rosenberg  
Active Transportation Alliance – Kyle Whitehead  
Chicago Dept. of Family and Support Services - Joyce Gallagher  
Chicago Dept. of Public Health - Margarita Reina; Jennifer Herd  
Chicago Dept. of Planning & Development – Benet Haller  
Chicago Dept. of Transportation – Katie Bowes; Lauren Crabtree; Rosanne Ferruggia; Luann Hamilton; Eric Hanss; Soledad Maristany; Angel Montalvo; Claire Roggeveen; Charlie Short; Sean Wiedel; Amanda Woodall

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) - John O'Neal  
Chicago Transit Authority – Christina Arthur  
Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children - Romona Castillo  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Illinois Division - Greg Piland  
Lurie Children's Hospital – Karen Sheehan  
Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) - Laurie Dittman  
Metro Seniors in Action – Marcia Trawinski  
Metropolitan Planning Council – Kara Riggio  
Neighborspace: Ben Helphand  
Pedestrian & Traffic Safety Comm. – Mary Loper; Stanley Daniel  
**Others present:** Craig Kaiser (SOAR), Allan Mellis, Melanie Eckner, Rianne Coale, S. Rucker, Debbie Liu, Steven Vance, Marcus de la Fleur, Kace Wakem, Kate McKenna

**2. Approval of Minutes** - The meeting minutes from the November 2015 meeting were approved

**3. Pedestrian Crash/Fatality Update** – 2 fatalities year-to-date, on pace with 5 year average. There were 46 fatalities in 2015. Chicago saw a 9% increase in pedestrian fatalities between 2010 and 2014, below the national increase of 14%. Between 2005 and 2014 Chicago saw a 46% decrease in pedestrian fatalities, while the State of Illinois saw a 24% decrease, and the nation saw no significant decrease. In 2015, a significant number of fatal pedestrian crashes involved people driving at excessively high speeds. Speeding was reported in 36% of all fatal pedestrian crashes in 2015, ranking higher than motorist intoxication.

**4. Vision Zero Focus City Announcement** – Chicago has been named as one of ten focus cities for the national Vision Zero Network, which also includes Austin, Boston, Fort Lauderdale, Los Angeles, New York City, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington DC. Participants from the focus cities will include representatives from the Mayor's Office, Transportation Department, Police Department, and Public Health Department. This Network will facilitate cooperation amongst the Focus Cities, including peer-to-peer exchange of ideas and strategies, sharing data, and regular communication to not only advance the cities' individual efforts but also advance the state of the practice of traffic safety in cities across the nation.

## **5. Safety Chapter Highlights:**

- Design Neighborhood Streets for Slow Local Traffic: Two neighborhood greenways installed, five additional installations slated for 2016 and 2017
- Improve Pedestrian Safety at Signalized Intersections: RTA Grant received for the installation of Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) at downtown intersections that provide access to transit
- Implement Safety Zones: Automated Speed Cameras installed in 63 Safety Zones across the city since 2013
- Further Integrate Pedestrian Safety into Enforcement Efforts: Since 2008, CDOT and CPD collaborate on High Visibility Crosswalk Enforcements and non-ticketing enforcement events with Bicycling Ambassadors

*Q: How are these locations chosen?*

*A: Locations are selected based on crash data*

*Q: How do we track illegal use of cell phones that cause crashes?*

*A: It's difficult post-crash for an officer to determine if someone was using a cell phone. We would need a warrant to get that information from the phone company, which is generally sought only in major crashes during the trial phase.*

## **6. 2010 – 2014 Crash Analysis and Trends**

- Compared with 2005-2009, 2010-2014 saw
  - \* A 20% reduction in pedestrians involved in traffic crashes, annual average
  - \* A 27% reduction in pedestrians seriously injured in traffic crashes, annual average
  - \* A 30% reduction in pedestrians killed in traffic crashes, annual average
- Ten-year (2005-2014) trends show a 24% reduction in crashes involving a pedestrian

*Q: Do leading walk signals help with pedestrian safety?*

*A: We've seen a substantial improvement. It's now a standard implementation; if we're able to accommodate the LPI, we add it in.*

*Q: Would Chicago consider implementing a "no turn on red" as a standard, like New York City?*

*A: That would require a high-level analysis. We need to dive deeper into the data to make a determination*

**7. Exploring New Ways of Understanding Traffic Fatalities in Chicago, 2013-** For information on this presentation, please contact Matt Smith, Director of Communications at the Chicago Department of Public Health at [Matt.Smith@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Matt.Smith@cityofchicago.org)

## **8. Safe Routes for Seniors** – a program managed and implemented by the City of Chicago’s Bicycling Ambassadors

- Two visits to collect information about what seniors need to get around better, and to bring that information back to them.
- Available at Senior Centers, Senior Housing, and Senior Service Providers
- Topics include navigating 311, reaching out to elected officials, accessible transportation services, and picking a safe travel route
- Additional resources to include a 311 instruction sheet, Senior-specific literature, and broader outreach

*Q: Can you reach more seniors without more Ambassadors? Develop a toolkit?*

*A: We have done that in the past and may bring it back*

*Q: Can you hire seniors to teach seniors?*

*A: We could*

*Q: Some seniors don’t go outside. Why?*

*A: Those are questions that we ask during our visits. We incorporate the answers in to future presentations*

*Q: Can Uber and Lyft do a senior discount?*

*A: We can find out their plans*

*Q: Will you produce literature in alternate formats, like large print?*

*A: Yes, that is part of our plan*

## **9. Public Comment**

- From Greg Piland, FHWA: New guidebook about pedestrian and bike safety measure is available. Webinar is also available. Contact Greg or Katie Bowes for a link to the webinar

*Q: Is there an update on 79<sup>th</sup> and Stony Island?*

*A: FTA put together a report and is available upon request*

*Q: Will CDOT address the recent pedestrian fatality at Broadway and Surf?*

*A: CDOT does a follow up analysis with every pedestrian fatality in Chicago and will do so at this intersection*