

## The “Reconnecting Neighborhoods” PROCESS

### A PUBLIC PROCESS

“Reconnecting Neighborhoods” is an RTA funded public process initiated at the request of the City of Chicago. “Reconnecting Neighborhoods” is being executed under the direction of the City of Chicago’s Department of Planning and Development.

The goal of “Reconnecting Neighborhoods” is to create a set of recommendations oriented around transit improvement and focused on serving the agreed upon needs and preferences of residents, community stakeholders, and the City of Chicago as a whole.

Community involvement and buy-in have been identified as preferred and increasingly necessary components to any substantive and actionable planning efforts. To that end the Metropolitan Planning Council has been subcontracted by the City of Chicago to manage the community outreach component of this planning effort.

These three areas have the potential to achieve a high quality of life within their borders and contribute to the City’s ongoing efforts to make the city more livable and affordable. It is our challenge to work collectively and inclusively to nurture this potential into fruition.

## Community Involvement and Ownership

“Reconnecting Neighborhoods” public awareness, transparency and ... **Balance the corporate interests of Chicago (public) with the individual interest of the community (private).**

Supporting Local task Forces with tangible resources and staffing hours  
Direct Outreach to Community  
Dedicated Website to chronicle project and solicit feedback

### **Coordination, Cooperation, Consensus**

Establishing a Common Language  
Working from Shared Information,  
Identifying Common Interests

# **SET YOUR OWN STANDARDS**

## **Task Force: Guiding Principles**

### **Public Process**

- Reconnecting Neighborhoods is a public process so it will have to be documented and promoted to the community at large
- Task Forces will need to keep records of:
  - Task Force attendance at all scheduled meetings
  - Record of Speakers
  - Record of Written Testimony

### **Aspire Towards Action**

- Consider all Factors:
  - People
  - Transit
  - Housing
  - Retail/Commerce
  - Planning/Land-use
- Aim for Consensus.
  - Public Support
  - Private Support
  - Government Support

### **Work for an Improved Quality of Life by Evaluating:**

- Cost of Living
- Services Available
- Travel Times to Needs and Amenities
- Quality of Services

**IGAC: Guiding Principles**

- How can the recommendations arising from these three study areas be formulated into one set of principles that can be championed by all members of the IGAC?
- How can each of the 3 recommendations be tailored into actionable policies that maximize the likelihood of tangible in-the-ground results?
- Oversight
  - Point out missing pieces
  - Alert to new considerations
  - Bring your professional expertise to bear on the evaluation of the recommendations