



STREETS FOR CYCLING PLAN 2020



Creating safer and healthier neighborhood streets

"If we're going to talk about transport, I would say that the great city is not the one that has highways, but one where a child on a tricycle or bicycle can go safely everywhere."

Enrique Peñalosa, former Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia

While bicycling provides a healthy, affordable and green way to get around, the reality is that most Chicagoans don't currently feel safe riding a bike on Chicago's streets. Particularly in communities where residents need more options for healthy physical activity and basic mobility, this represents a lost opportunity. A study in Portland found that 60% of its population is *interested* in cycling, but *concerned* about safety. Chicago faces the same challenge. Chicago needs streets that allow children and families to ride bikes without fearing for their safety.

What is the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020?

The Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 will guide the development of a citywide network of 150-250 miles of innovative bikeways that will make bicycling a safe and easy option for all Chicagoans, from 8 years old to 80. Once built, the bikeways network will safely connect residents to their daily needs with a healthy, affordable and green form of transportation.

How will the plan be created?

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) will develop the plan over the next few months with an anticipated completion date of June 2012. The first step will be to review the existing bicycling conditions in each neighborhood and gather input from our communities. Public input will include identifying the gaps and barriers in the current bike network. Community input will also identify places people might want to bike to in each neighborhood, such as parks, transit, jobs and shopping. From there, a new network of family-friendly bicycle facilities will be developed.

What is your role?

If you don't ride a bike because you're concerned about safety, tell CDOT why! If you ride a bike every day, share your experience! CDOT wants your input to help develop the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 and there will be a number of opportunities to get involved.

1. Attend the Open House at 23 E. Madison Street on 12/10/11 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The Open House will include mapping activities, information about these new bicycle facilities, and an opportunity to discuss biking in your neighborhood with CDOT staff.
2. Interact online at www.facebook.com/StreetsForCycling2020. The site will be updated with project news as well as provide opportunities for you to share your ideas.
3. Attend a public meeting. Three meetings will be held in January and February 2012.
4. Join your Community Advisory Group. The Community Advisory Groups will allow you to discuss your ideas with others who care about safer streets in your community, and to share your knowledge of bicycling in your neighborhood to give CDOT more in-depth feedback. If you're interested in joining your Community Advisory Group, please email streetsforcycling2020@gmail.com.

We want Chicago to be the most bicycle friendly city in the United States. But we can't do it without your help.