

## WPB Master Plan Update Drafting, well on its way!

Thanks to the extensive feedback received from the outreach process, the drafting of the Wicker Park Bucktown (WPB) Master Plan Update is well on its way. The initial set list of projects that we started with back in April of 2016 have matured over the past 8 months. These projects reflect the refinements received via WPB focus groups and stakeholder interviews, meetings with the community, Chamber, Special Service Area (SSA) Board, and the Advisory Committee, as well as online engagement via the website – from idea sharing and quick polls to photo voting on varying ideals for the Cortland-Ashland Underpass.

### Online Outreach Spotlight (Stats as of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016)

- 4,000 people participated in online polls
- 5,600 website page views
- 2,600 website visitors
- 20 news posts

***“Local insights, grand visions, and expert reality checks – the WPB Master Plan Update is a direct reflection of these three very important elements being merged.”***

Feedback from the public, paired with that of the Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from the community (Wicker Park, Bucktown, Aldermen, Presence Health, local business owners, and SSA Board Members) as well as the City at large (CDOT, CPD, DPZ) have provided local insights, grand visions, and expert reality checks. The Draft Master Plan Update is a direct reflection of these three very important elements being merged.



Figure 1 Advisory Committee Meeting

As we move forward with drafting the final plan, the solidified list of projects (the last draft of which was presented at the August 9<sup>th</sup> Think-Tank Event) are being elevated and paired with specific actions to help lead implementation – i.e. to further support the visibility and appreciation of arts within WPB, what needs to happen?

*“Eclectic, affordable, urban utopia, diverse, multi-generational, stable, ruled by bikes...”*

Eclectic, affordable, urban utopia, diverse, multi-generational, stable, ruled by bikes – these were just some of the “We want WPB to be \_\_\_\_\_ in 2026” keywords noted by Advisory Committee members at the very first Master Plan meeting back on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016. More public art, support local businesses, more street trees and landscaping, stronger connection to local culture, shared street at the Polish Triangle – these were some of the “wants” and ideas noted at the first community workshop on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The layered aspect of outreach paired with the structured Master Planning process have provided an organized yet organic system through which projects have emerged and been solidified.



### Next Up

The Advisory Committee will meet on October 19<sup>th</sup> to review the draft plan recommendations. Following input and discussion by the committee the final draft plan will be presented to the public at an open house in November.