

Building a People's Budget

**Draft Research and Evaluation Report on the
2013-2014 Participatory Budgeting Process in Chicago**

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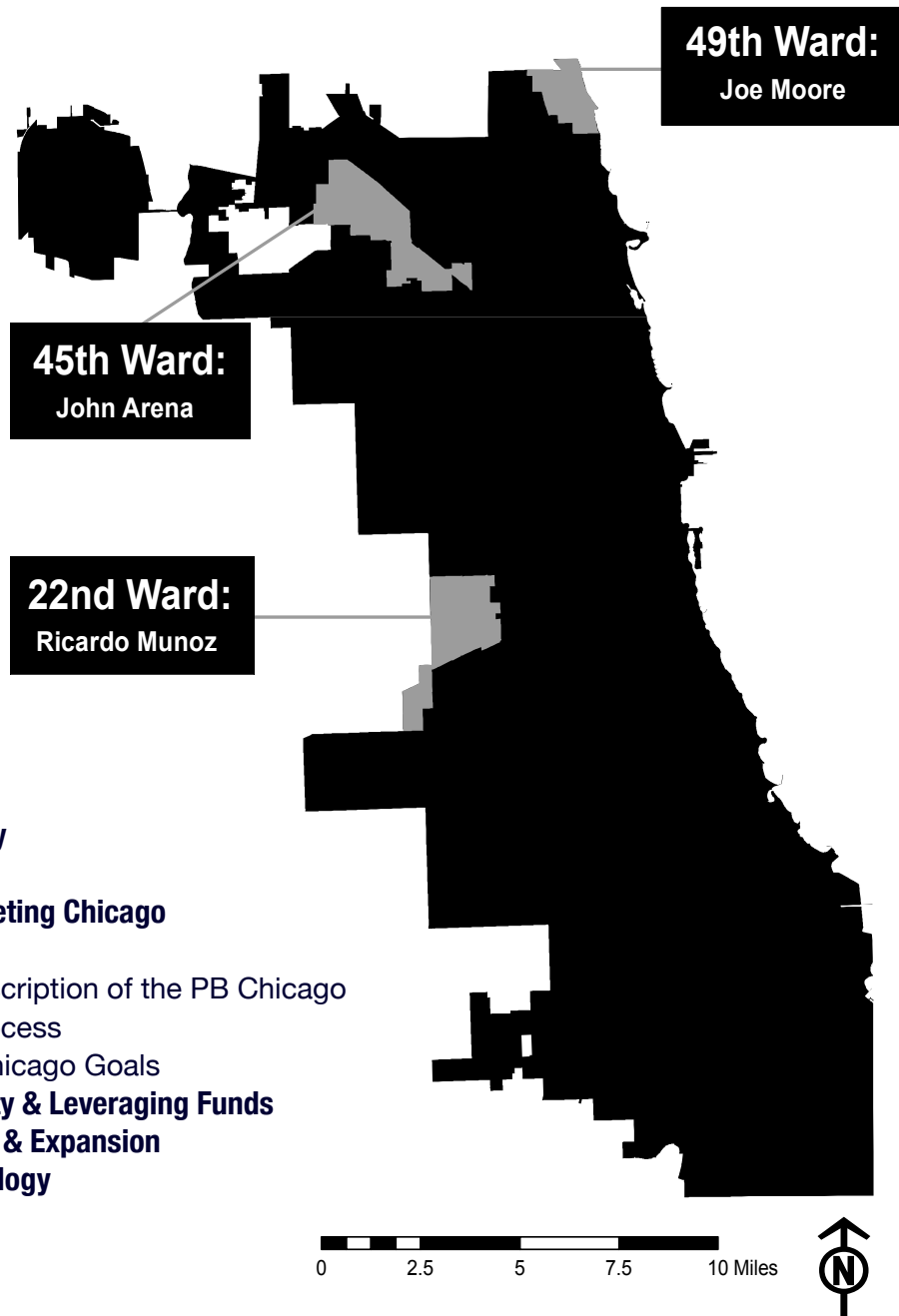


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Executive Summary

Chicago has a long history of machine-style politics; for over a century, local party bosses would command the support of a corps of campaign workers who got out the vote for the boss, and in exchange for their loyalty, these workers would receive patronage jobs, building permits, and public investment in their neighborhoods. Although the machine was largely disassembled, even in the 21st century, power remains highly centralized in the Mayor's Office and important budget decisions are typically made behind closed doors by politicians and planners.

This closed budget process began to change in 2009 when Alderman Joe Moore launched the first participatory budgeting process in the U.S. In 2012-2013, participatory budgeting (PB) spread to additional wards in Chicago and in 2013-2014, PB Chicago continued to engage residents in decisions about their neighborhood infrastructure needs. It also took a step towards institutionalizing these changes within city government.

Between June 2013 and May 2014, a broad coalition of aldermen, city-wide institutions, and community-based organizations joined together for a second year to implement PB, a process through which community members directly decide how to spend public dollars. Aldermen in three Chicago wards committed \$1 million each in discretionary infrastructure funds to Participatory Budgeting Chicago (PB Chicago). Residents in the 49th Ward (Ald. Joe Moore), 45th Ward (Ald. John Arena), and 22nd Ward (Ald. Ricardo Muñoz) determined how to allocate the ward's discretionary capital funds (i.e. "menu money"). They brainstormed ideas at neighborhood assemblies, turned them into full proposals in community representative meetings, shared their proposals at project expos, and held a public vote to decide which projects to fund. Anyone who lived in the ward and was 16 years or older (14 years or older in 22nd and 45th Wards) could vote.

In May 2014, over 2,800 Chicago residents took to the polls. Voters chose fifteen community projects including street resurfacing, sidewalk repairs, tree planting, bus stop benches, pedestrian safety and traffic calming projects, improved street lighting, park improvements, viaduct remediation, new carpeting for a public library, and enhanced recreational activities for children with disabilities. These projects were funded as part of the 2013-2014 City of Chicago budget cycle.

The Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago coordinated the research and evaluation of the PB Chicago process. The research effort sought to determine who participated in the initiative and why they chose to participate, to assess what new knowledge or skills participants gained as a result of their participation, and to evaluate which outreach techniques were most effective in encouraging participation. Researchers administered 2,520 surveys to participants and systematically observed the PB process over the 2013-2014 cycle.

**"After many years,
we have a voice in
how our ward spends
its money. How can
you NOT vote?"
45th Ward resident**

Key Findings:

**“This is a very participatory process that truly reflects democracy.”
49th Ward resident**

- **More people of color, low-income individuals, and youth participated compared to the previous year’s cycle (2012-2013).** In the 49th Ward PB vote, African Americans increased their rate of participation by 7% and lower-income individuals increased their rate of participation by 9% from Year One (2012-2013).
- **Targeting youth at assemblies held in schools during school hours increased their engagement and turnout.** Approximately 30% of 22nd Ward PB voters and approximately 10% of 49th and 45th Ward PB voters were under the age of 18.
- **Over \$1.6 million in additional funding beyond the commitment of aldermanic menu money was leveraged for community projects identified through the PB process.** In the 45th Ward, for example, Independence Park will be renovated to be accessible to children with disabilities using \$100,000 in funding from the PB Vote, \$100,000 in privately raised donations, and \$560,000 in State of Illinois funding.
- **PB is becoming institutionalized into the City of Chicago government.** In November 2014, the Mayor and City Council voted to fund the hiring of a new City of Chicago Assistant Budget Director whose primary task is to support alderman as they implement PB projects.

Additional findings from the second year of PB Chicago are similar to and reinforce findings from the 2012-2013 cycle including:

**“Excellent! I can’t wait to see the participatory process take root and expand to participatory policy.”
22nd Ward resident**

- **Participation by people of color and other historically underrepresented residents was generally consistent with the participation of these groups in local elections.** For example, in the 22nd Ward vote, PB voters were slightly more representative of ward demographics than they were during local elections and included individuals that are not eligible to participate in electoral politics (9% indicated that they were not eligible to vote).
- **PB provided participants with a space for civic learning about the needs of their ward, the interests of their neighbors, and the city budgeting process.** Across the three wards, 92% of respondents indicated that they felt that had a better understanding of the infrastructure needs in their ward after attending an assembly, and 74% felt they had a better understanding after voting.

- **Strategically selecting meeting or vote locations (“mobile” voting stations) in high traffic areas or in locations that target specific populations likely contributed to greater turnout by people of color and lower-income individuals.** Data from the 49th Ward demonstrated higher rates of participation by people of color, low-income individuals, and immigrants at mobile voting sites than at the ward office or at the voting assembly. For example, 62% of mobile voters were people of color while 29% of voters at the ward office and the voting assembly were people of color.
- **The outreach methods that attracted the most participants include the alderman’s newsletter, word of mouth, seeing a flyer, and a telephone call.** 31% of neighborhood assembly participants reported hearing about the assembly through a telephone call, 30% from the Alderman’s newsletter, 25% reported seeing a flyer, and 20% through word of mouth.
- **Overall, wards that had more opportunities to participate had higher numbers of participants.** The 49th Ward had more voting opportunities than the other wards and had the highest number of PB voters.

**“Office voting was limited, so glad you came to the train stop.”
45th Ward resident**

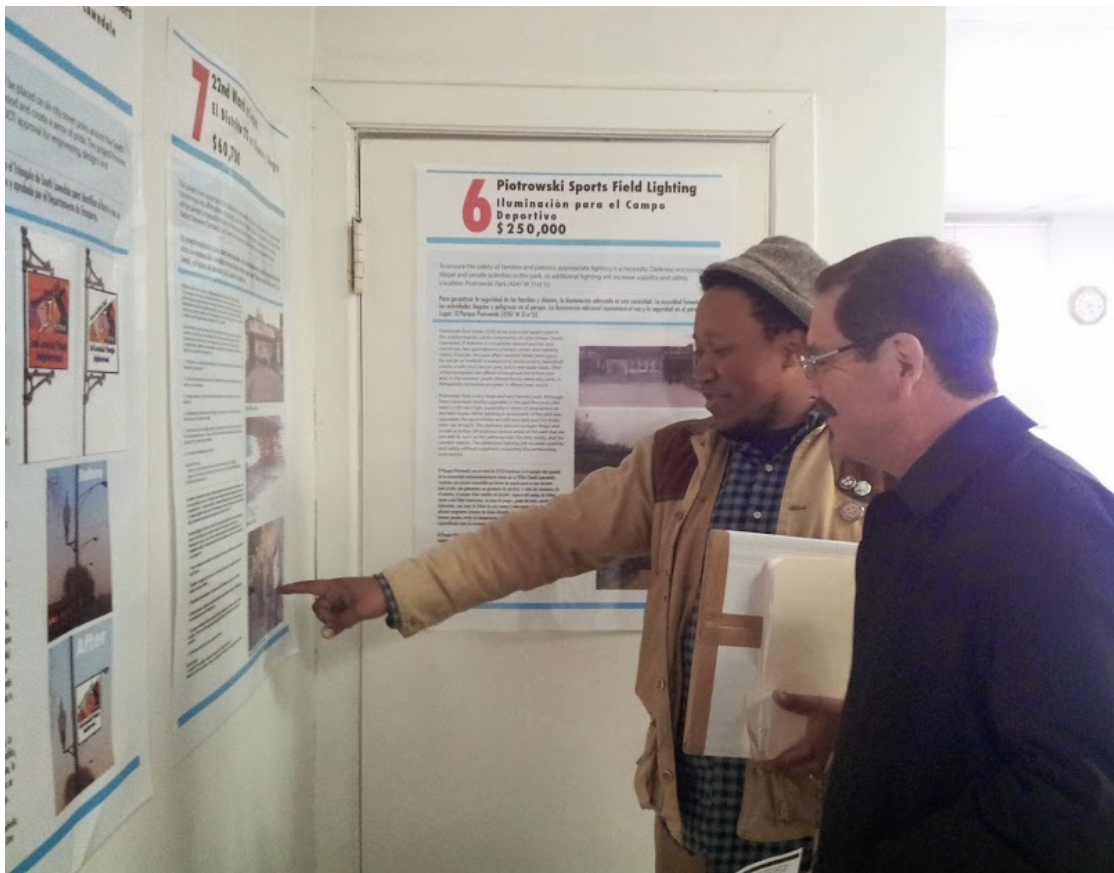
Recommendations:

The research suggests that **Chicago Aldermen and Ward Leadership Committees**, with support from the **City of Chicago**, take several steps to engage more residents - especially people of color, low-income households, and youth.

- **Develop stronger partnerships with local community-based organizations.** Partnerships with local community-based organizations provide additional resources and outreach networks to the PB process. The partnership with Enlace Chicago in the 22nd Ward builds on existing community networks and enhances the ability to engage marginalized populations.
- **Increase engagement with schools and hold neighborhood assemblies and voting opportunities at schools during school hours to increase youth participation.**
- **Increase the number of neighborhood assembly and voting opportunities to increase the number of participants and bring PB to the people by holding more assemblies and voting opportunities in strategic, highly populated locations that increase access for historically underrepresented populations.** Those ward offices that were able to commit more staff time and resources to the process had higher numbers of PB participants and better representation by individuals who had not previously participated in community affairs.

“The budgeting allocation should be inclusive totally of community building for home repairs, buying/selling, economic development in the community, home preservation, sanitation, [and] entrepreneurship in the neighborhood businesses.”
22nd Ward resident

- **Develop stronger partnerships with City of Chicago agencies to ensure accurate project pricing, short-term implementation of projects, and access to other funding sources to implement more community projects.** PB provides a space for residents to discuss needs and quality of life improvements in their community, work together with city staff and agencies and learn about additional city funding opportunities and programs. Through this interaction, communities participating in PB this year were able to leverage over \$1.6 million in additional funds for community improvements identified through the PB process.
- **Expand PB to other sources of public funds.** Each year, community members generate project ideas that are ineligible for implementation with “menu money” such as after school programs or workforce development programs. Additional sources of funding should be identified and made available to wards committing to PB for service-oriented projects.



22nd Ward residents discuss project proposals at the vote.

Participatory Budgeting Chicago 2013-2014

Overview

Participatory budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which community members directly decide how to spend part of a public budget. Pioneered in Brazil, it is now practiced in over 1,500 municipalities around the world. Through a yearly cycle of community meetings and voting, constituents engage in needs assessment and deliberation, and make decisions about how public funds should be spent.

In 2009, Chicago Alderman Joe Moore and The Participatory Budgeting Project launched the first PB process in the United States in which residents of Moore's 49th Ward decided how to spend \$1 million of his annual discretionary capital funds, known as "menu money." In each of the three following years of PB, residents of the 49th Ward identified hundreds of project ideas, developed dozens of these into full proposals, and voted to fund street and sidewalk repairs, bike lanes, playground and park improvements, street lights, murals, and many more community projects.

In the summer and fall of 2012, a broad coalition of aldermen, city-wide institutions, and community-based organizations joined together with the goal of implementing and expanding participatory budgeting throughout Chicago. This initiative became known as "PB Chicago" and was coordinated and supported by two project leads, The Participatory Budgeting Project and the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

The first multi-ward participatory budgeting cycle in Chicago launched in September 2012 and included Aldermen John Arena (45th Ward), James Cappleman (46th Ward), Leslie Hairston (5th Ward), and Joe Moore (49th Ward). The 2012-2013 PB cycle culminated in May 2013, when 2,574 Chicago residents took to the polls in four wards to vote on how their public infrastructure dollars should be spent. 21 community projects totaling \$4 million won the vote.

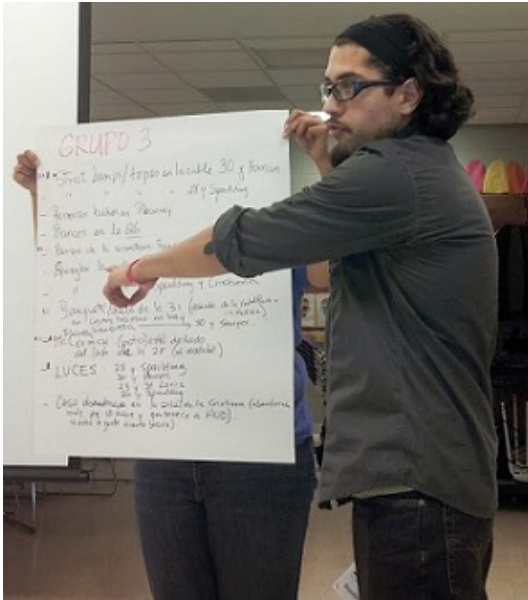
In the summer of 2013, Aldermen John Arena (45th Ward), Joe Moore (49th Ward), and Ricardo Muñoz (22nd Ward) committed to the second multi-ward cycle of PB in Chicago. The Steering Committee (SC) convened to revise the rulebook for the second cycle. The final PB Chicago rulebook included: renewed goals for the process; responsibilities of the main actors; a revised timeline and guidance for the key phases of the process; and voting and decision-making rules. The SC decided that:

- The goals of the multi-ward process would be renewed and include **Equity, Inclusion, and Community Building**.

**Goals of
PB Chicago:
Equity, Inclusion, &
Community Building**



Participant signs in at a neighborhood assembly.



Neighborhood assembly participants report out on project ideas.

698 residents identified over 775 capital needs in their communities

- Residents who live in the ward and are at least 16 years of age (two wards lowered the voting age to 14) could vote for projects, regardless of citizenship status or eligibility to vote in local elections.
- At the time of voting, voters would have to present proof to satisfy the eligibility requirements. Acceptable IDs are listed in the Appendix.
- To facilitate broad participation, voting opportunities would take place on multiple days and in multiple locations in each ward.
- Residents could cast one vote per project proposal on their ward's PB ballot. Casting multiple votes for a single project was not allowed.

PB Chicago's projected operating budget for the 2013-2014 cycle was over \$300,000, including in-kind donations. The project leads raised a total of \$91,915 from local foundations and from UIC. Over \$200,000 of in-kind contributions (in the form of both volunteer time and resources such as printing and food) was also raised from SC member organizations, aldermanic offices, UIC centers and research institutions, community based organizations, businesses, and residents.

The Great Cities Institute coordinated the research and evaluation of the PB Chicago process. The following report is based on the evaluation data collected throughout the 2013-2014 cycle. Later sections of the report disaggregate the data by each of the three participating wards and by phase of the PB Chicago process.

Timeline and Description of PB Chicago 2013-2014 Cycle

Neighborhood Assemblies (October - November 2013)

At the neighborhood assemblies, residents in each ward learned about menu money, brainstormed initial spending ideas, and volunteered to become community representatives. A total of 19 Neighborhood Assemblies with 698 participants were held in October and November of 2013. Each alderman held between five to nine assemblies that each attracted between 10 and 50 participants per assembly. The assemblies were held in the evenings and on weekends in locations dispersed throughout the wards. Typical locations included religious institutions, elementary schools, high schools, park district field houses, and community centers. The locations and times of the assemblies were selected to encourage the participation of as many community members as possible. In addition to general interest assemblies, the 49th Ward also held two youth assemblies in collaboration with Mikva Challenge, and one Spanish language assembly. At the assemblies, participants discussed community needs and brainstormed over 775 capital project spending ideas.

Community Representative Meetings (November 2013 – April 2014)

At the neighborhood assemblies, over 260 community residents including 48 youth volunteered to serve as community representatives for the next five months in order to narrow down the list of project ideas and turn them into full proposals for the ballot. The community representative phase began with orientation workshops conducted in each ward by the project leads, Enlace Chicago, and the aldermen and their staff. The workshops covered topics such as budgeting, project development, how to conduct fair decision-making processes in groups, and key spending areas. Each community representative signed up to participate on an issue committee (e.g. Parks, Public Safety, Public Art, Transportation) or demographic committee (e.g. youth, Spanish-language).

The community representative committees met from December 2013 through April 2014. They began by working with the aldermen and their staff to narrow down the list of project ideas based on eligibility and then conducted research on the feasibility of the projects and estimated costs. City of Chicago agencies and Steering Committee members conducted workshops and provided technical assistance with issue experts for community representatives including:

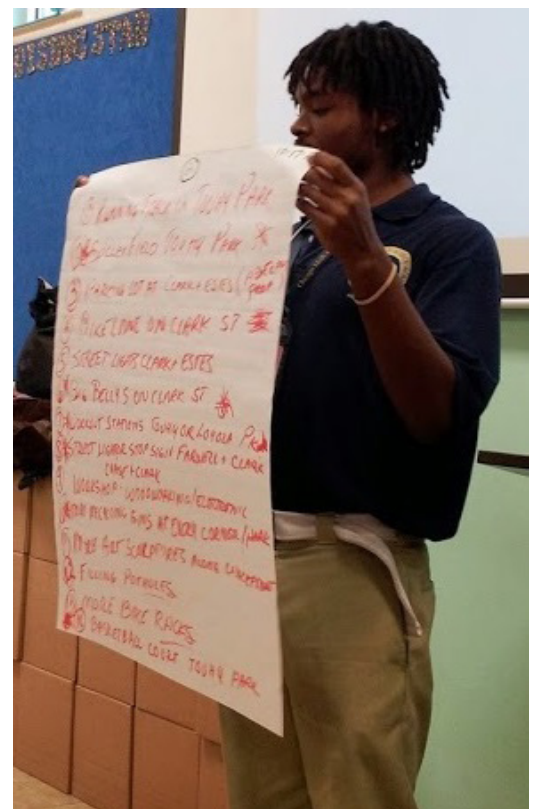
- the Chicago Park District on park improvement projects;
- the Chicago Department of Transportation and Active Transportation Alliance on bike lane planning, pedestrian safety transit projects; and
- the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Archtreasures, and the Chicago Public Art Group on public art and place-making projects.

The City of Chicago agencies, advisory organizations, project leads, and the aldermen and their staff also provided on-going technical support to community representatives as full project proposals were developed for the ballot.

Youth Engagement

This year PB Chicago also worked to expand youth participation. The voting age was lowered in the 22nd and 45th Wards to 14 years to encourage participation of younger residents. The 49th Ward held two youth neighborhood assemblies: one in Sullivan High School and the other at the Chicago Math and Science Academy (CMSA) with a total of 103 youth contributing ideas and 48 youth signing up to become community representatives. The 49th Ward also experimented with a new type of youth committee that included students from both Sullivan High School and CMSA on one committee that met outside of school hours. Although overall participation numbers were lower than anticipated, the youth that did participate were excited and engaged. Three workshops developed in collaboration with Mikva Challenge were held to develop project proposals for the ballot. Two youth-developed

Over 260 residents volunteered to research and develop project proposals for public vote



Youth neighborhood assembly participant shares project ideas.



Mikva Challenge youth participants.

projects made it to the ballot, both focused on increasing public safety through improvements to street lighting. Youth participating in the Mikva Challenge afterschool program also developed and implemented a get-out-the-vote campaign for their peers. PB Chicago provided materials and technical assistance to assist youth in creating an effective message, developing a design for printed materials and tee shirts, and to conduct outreach encouraging their peers to vote at the mobile voting site located in the school during voting week.

Outreach

To encourage the participation of traditionally marginally groups, the PB Chicago coalition sought to conduct more and more targeted outreach. Blocks Together, a PB Chicago steering committee member, developed and conducted an outreach and organizing training. PB Chicago recruited student interns, student volunteers and community volunteers to attend the training and to assist with outreach efforts. In preparation for the neighborhood assemblies interns and volunteers assisted with canvassing efforts. In addition, each ward sent out email listserv blasts, posted flyers, and also used “robocalls” (automated telephone calls that deliver a recorded message) that announced upcoming assemblies and targeted residents who may not have been in the alderman’s current outreach network.

In preparation for the project expos and public vote, PB Chicago designed and printed flyers and palm cards for each ward; emailed announcements to local community-based organizations; posted flyers in local businesses, religious institutions, transit stops, and other public locations in each ward; implemented robocalls to residents; and conducted door-knocking campaigns. In the 45th Ward, the project leads and Blocks Together worked with interns and volunteers to organize and conduct a door-knocking campaign. The campaign targeted the Latino population of the community. Volunteers and interns also provided additional staffing for mobile voting locations in all wards.

Project Expos (March - April 2014)

In March and April 2014, community representatives presented draft project proposals to the community at project expos. At the expos, community representatives shared their committees’ project ideas through posters and presentations that included information about the project, maps indicating the location(s), pictures of the project site(s), and examples of similar types of projects. Community members spoke directly with the community representatives about the projects, asked questions and provided feedback that was incorporated into the final projects for the ballot. The project leads provided technical assistance and support to the community representatives on strategies for how to present their projects to the public and, for those

projects that were more expensive, tips on ways to phase in the project over time. Each ward held between one to three project expos for a total of seven expos and 229 participants.

Public Vote (May 2014)

In preparation for the vote, the project leads worked with community representatives, Enlace Chicago staff, and ward staff to refine the project proposals for the ballot. They designed and printed ballots and large project posters. The ballots and posters were also translated into Spanish. A total of 37 project proposals were on the ballot including:

- 22nd Ward: 18 project proposals
- 45th Ward: 11 project proposals
- 49th Ward: 8 project proposals

In May 2014, 2,882 Chicago residents took to the polls in three wards to vote on how their public infrastructure dollars should be spent. Each ward held voting day assemblies, plus there were “early voting” opportunities in the ward offices over several days. In addition, each ward held mobile voting opportunities in dispersed locations across the ward in order to increase accessibility and encourage wider participation through 38 total mobile voting events. In addition, the 22nd Ward and the 49th Ward held youth targeted mobile voting events at the high schools where over 290 youth under the age of 18 voted.

Voters selected fifteen community projects totaling \$3 million. Winning projects included:

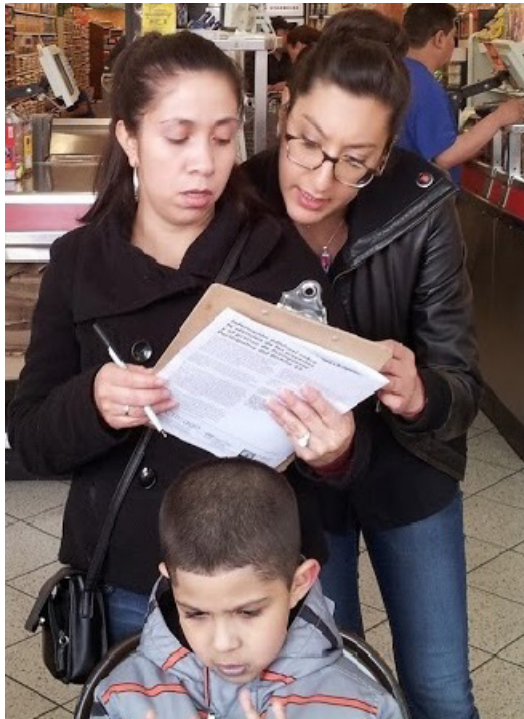
- street resurfacing,
- new trees throughout the ward,
- urgent sidewalk repairs,
- partial funding for a new handicap accessible playground,
- pigeon abatement on viaducts,
- improved street lighting,
- bus stop benches,
- new carpeting at a public library,
- park improvements,
- a mural project, and
- new speed humps for residential streets and school zones.

Once implemented, these community projects will not only serve the 165,377 community members living in the three Chicago wards, but countless other residents and visitors who will utilize the new and enhanced infrastructure improvements as well.

2,882 Chicago residents 16 years of age and older selected 15 projects totaling \$3 million



Stickers for residents who voted.



Residents vote at a mobile voting station in a local grocery store.

Meeting PB Chicago Goals

At the start of the cycle, the PB Chicago City-Wide Steering Committee renewed three fundamental goals for the year: community building, equity, and inclusion. Research and evaluation data demonstrate some success in achieving all three goals. Like last year, those who participated in the 2013-2104 process articulated high levels of satisfaction with their involvement overall and high degrees of learning about the needs of their ward, the interests of their neighbors, and the city budgeting process overall. In addition, through the process of project development participants worked together with city staff and agencies and had the opportunity to learn about additional city funding opportunities and programs. Through this interaction, communities participating in PB this year were able to leverage over \$1.6 million in additional funds for community improvements identified through the PB process.

Progress was also made in the area of equity. The GIS maps (maps are located in each corresponding ward profile below) demonstrate that the final projects are dispersed throughout different residential and commercial neighborhoods in the wards. In addition to funding critical street and sidewalk improvements, these projects are a more diverse and creative use of public funds that address critical needs and improve the overall quality of life in the neighborhood.

For the third goal of inclusion, this cycle saw progress towards more inclusivity of low-income individuals, people of color, and youth. For example, the 49th Ward saw increases in the rate of participation by people of color and low-income individuals and the 22nd Ward saw higher rates of participation by people of color and low-income individuals than other groups. In addition, this year saw higher rates of participation by youth likely due to the lower voting age (14 years of age) in wards 45 and 22 and targeted neighborhood assemblies and voting. Approximately 30% of 22nd Ward PB voters and 10% of PB voters in the 45th and 49th Wards were youth under the age of 18. Overall, the population participating in PB Chicago resembled the ward population or the portion of the population that recently voted in local elections. Levels of participation by people of color, individuals with lower household incomes, young adults, renters, and people with lower levels of education remain somewhat uneven in PB Chicago but notable progress was made towards greater inclusivity.

Building Community & Leveraging Funds

One of the goals of PB Chicago is to build and strengthen community by bringing together residents, government agencies, and elected officials to discuss community needs, public spending, and government programs. The theory is that over time new relationships between residents and government are developed, partnerships between government agencies are strengthened, residents increase their civic knowledge and skills, and additional community investments are leveraged.

Over this past year, additional resources for community projects were secured for projects identified as community needs through the PB process – more than \$1.6 million in additional funding for community projects was leveraged. The successful realization of these projects provides examples of how PB provides a space for residents to discuss needs and quality of life improvements in their community and work with elected officials and government agencies to realize projects beyond the PB vote. A few examples include:

Hartigan Beach Park – 49th Ward

This year, the 49th Ward had two proposed projects for Hartigan Beach including the beach path extension that won the PB vote and another project that would transform an adjacent vacant space into a park. The second project, originally called Albion Park, appeared on the PB ballot in 2012, but did not win the PB vote. However, community representatives continued to work with the Alderman and the ward staff to fund the project. The Alderman, ward staff, community representatives and the Park District met to discuss the project and identified the Park District's Open Space Impact Fee program as a possible source of funding. The project was submitted to the program and approved for approximately \$275,000 in open space funds just before the 2013 -2014 PB vote. This new park project transforms a vacant space on the lakefront into the park that the community envisioned. The new park includes crushed gravel paths, boulder-style seating, a lighted pergola, a drinking fountain, and new shade trees.

Chicago Plays – 49th Ward

Improvements to Touhy Park won the PB vote in a previous cycle. This year as part of implementing that project, PB participants and other community members met with the Chicago Park District to review and discuss Touhy Park improvement drawings. After the meeting, Park District staff informed the group about a new funding program known as Chicago Plays, which offers financial resources for the maintenance and improvement of playgrounds located within Chicago public parks.



Hartigan Beach before park improvements.



Hartigan Beach after park improvements.



**Vote for a
New Playground
at Independence Park**

45th Ward residents choose how to spend \$1 million in taxpayer money!

If you live in the 45th Ward and you are 14-years-old or older you can vote in the 45th Ward Participatory Budgeting process.

You do not need to be a citizen. Just bring proof of ID to establish residency and age.

Independence Park playground before renovations.



Rendering of new accessible playground for Independence Park.

PB community representatives on the parks committee attended the meeting and, after hearing about this new funding opportunity, wrote proposals to secure funding for four playlots that PB participants had identified as needing improvements. As a result, the Chicago Park District has invested nearly half a million dollars into new playlots in the ward including Goldberg Park (\$126,745), Paschen Park (\$119,026), Matanky Park (\$126,860), and Lazarus Park (\$113,600). These projects alone represent nearly a 50% return on the Alderman’s initial investment of menu money into the PB process in the 49th Ward.

Independence Park – 45th Ward

Independence Park serves a number of children with disabilities through their summer programs; however, some parts of the park playground were inaccessible. The Independence Park Advisory Council (PAC) worked for a number of years to try to secure approximately \$750,000 to renovate the park to make it accessible to all children, including raising approximately \$100,000 in private donations. Members of the PAC served as community representatives in the 2012-2013 cycle. They introduced a project proposal for \$350,000 to cover a portion of these renovations but the project did not win the vote.

This year, community representatives included a \$100,000 proposal that was intended to fund playground accessibility improvements. The ballot measure represented a partial rather than a total renovation for the playground, with additional renovations to be phased in over a longer timeframe and completed in smaller installments as funds could be obtained. Community representatives, who were also part of the PAC, worked with the Chicago Park District to refine their proposal for the ballot. Through this process of technical assistance, they learned about an opportunity to apply for state funds that would, if awarded, provide enough additional funding to complete the entire renovation project.

The PAC created a proposal to secure the funds and was awarded \$560,000 in State of Illinois funding. Around the same time its project proposal for \$100,000 won the PB vote adding the final piece of funding needed for the full park renovation. The project is scheduled to be completed by spring 2016 with a new playground completely renovated and accessible for all children.

Piotrowski Park – 22nd Ward

One of the projects on the 2013-2014 ballot was new lighting for Piotrowski Park. As one of the few large green spaces in the ward, the community uses Piotrowski Park frequently. A lack of lighting prevented use of the playing fields outside of daytime hours, and a walking path along the park’s southern edge was under-utilized because dim lighting and extensive tree cover presented safety concerns.

The lighting proposal won the PB vote. Even before the vote, staff from the Chicago Park District Capital Division arranged a meeting with Park Director to review the lighting locations proposed by PB participants. This meeting turned into a broader assessment of the needs of the Park, which ultimately led to the maintenance and replacement of an additional \$9,000 in park lighting. In addition, meetings between Piotrowski Park staff, the Alderman and Park District Capital staff also led to the replacement of a broken field house door that was interfering with park programming. There is also the possibility that the 22nd Ward will be chosen to participate in the Chicago Plays initiative so that other community parks will have the chance to be the recipient of additional improvement funds.



Piotrowski Park walking path, to receive walkway lighting.



Piotrowski Park ballfield, to receive new lights that will enable night games.

Institutionalization and Expansion

Key steps have been taken to institutionalize PB in the City of Chicago. In November 2013, the Mayor and City Council voted to fund the hiring of a new City of Chicago Assistant Budget Director whose primary task is to support alderman as they implement PB projects. In April, the newly hired Assistant Budget Director began working to develop systems to track the implementation of PB projects, streamline communication between sister city agencies and the aldermen, and promote PB in other wards.

The hiring of the Assistant Budget Director adds capacity and resources for PB aldermen. One of this Director's main projects is to develop a resource guide for aldermen that includes a list of eligible "menu money" projects, estimated costs, and the type of contractual agreements needed to implement the project. This guide will significantly streamline the ward offices' ability to provide accurate and timely information to participants as they deliberate on project proposals. It will also help to standardize information and pricing across the wards.

In December 2013, the Obama Administration released its second U.S. Open Government Action Plan that endorsed PB for use with eligible Federal community development grant programs. As part of the Obama Administration's commitment to promote PB throughout the nation, PB Chicago was invited to "Promoting Innovation in Civic Engagement: Exploring Community-Led Participatory Budgeting in the United States," convened at The White House on May 13th, 2014. The purpose of the event was to share best practices and identify next steps for expanding and deepening PB throughout the nation.



The Great Cities Institute staff and Participatory Budgeting Project staff at the White House, May 2014.

At the convening PB Chicago members discussed key engagement, implementation, and research strategies with over 60 city leaders, community organizers, residents, funders, researchers and technologists from across the country, as well as representatives from The White House and other federal agencies. Recognition from The White House provided additional legitimacy to the PB process, which has opened the door for expanding PB beyond the "menu money" to other sources of public funds.

In the spring of 2014, PB Chicago steering committee member Blocks Together advocated for a PB process with \$2 million of the Chicago/Central Park tax increment financing (TIF) district funds and was approved by Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27th Ward. The first U.S. PB process using TIF funds was launched at a neighborhood assembly in West Humboldt Park on July 1. Research and evaluation results from that process will be included in the 2014-2015 research and evaluation report.

Research Methodology

The primary goal of the PB Chicago evaluation was to determine who participated in the process, why they did, what new knowledge or skills they gained as a result of their participation, and which outreach techniques were most effective in encouraging participation. Because PB provides a kind of ‘barometer’ of what Chicago residents are experiencing in their communities, the research gauging resident opinion and political behavior can also provide city administrators and decision-makers with information about how well the city is being managed and which city services require further improvement.

At the beginning of the 2013-2014 PB Chicago process, the Steering Committee renewed the three fundamental goals for the year-long cycle: community building, equity, and inclusion. Community building was measured by looking at participants levels of satisfaction with their involvement in the process, prior levels of civic engagement, the partnerships between government agencies and residents, additional resources leveraged, and levels of knowledge gained about the needs of their ward, the interests of their neighbors, and the city budgeting process overall. Equity was measured by looking at the types of projects that were voted on and their locations throughout the wards. To measure inclusion, we examined the demographic profiles of participants and determined how representative and inclusive they were relative to the demographic profile of the ward and local election turnout.

Data collection began in October when student interns and Great Cities Institute researchers administered surveys to participants 18 years of age and older and observed the process. In general, survey response rates were high.

For the neighborhood assembly phase: 302 surveys were collected from 698 participants, for an overall response rate of 43%.

For the final vote: 2,218 surveys were collected from 2,882 voters, for a response rate of 77%.

Data is disaggregated by ward because each of the three participating wards are demographically diverse and because the PB process differed slightly in each based on outreach and aldermanic staff and community organization commitment.

Most research previously conducted on civic engagement and political participation has found that, on average, better-educated, higher-earning, older and white citizens are more prone to participate in politics than citizens or immigrants of ethnic minority status who are less educated, younger and of lower income (Hillygus, 2005; Tam Cho, 1999; Verba et al, 1995). However,

these findings vary by historical era and region. Different periods in history have experienced greater levels of political participation by working class and minority voters -- most notably the era of bosses and political machines. Moreover the 1960s and 2000s saw an upsurge of creative forms of civic participation led primarily by younger Americans, women, and people of color. Participatory Budgeting (PB) was implemented first in Porto Alegre, Brazil in 1989 and has been studied extensively there. The experience of PB in Brazil shows that when given access to public revenues and offered authentic forms of decision-making power, volunteer participants come from groups that have traditionally been marginalized in other political processes.

Because of the goal and potential to engage non-traditional participants, a prime objective of the Chicago PB research effort was to determine who participated in it. The following “who participates” section of this report includes demographic information reported by PB participants in each phase of the process along with comparative baseline data. The comparative baseline data is presented as a “ward profile” in a separate column in each table. This data was compiled from two main sources: the 2010 Census and the 2008-2012 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates. These data are provided as a point of comparison to measure the extent to which PB participants were “representative” of the ward’s population.

Not all residents of a ward would have been eligible to participate in the PB Chicago process -- because, for example, they were under the age of 16. Moreover, the Institutional Review Board only granted approval to survey adults 18 years of age and older; as such, youth participants were not surveyed. To provide a more reasonable point of comparison for measuring representativeness, the “Race and Ethnicity” and “Age” tables also include data on “voting rates.” The voting rate data provides an estimate of 2010 local election turn-out by race and age for each ward. These estimates were calculated by applying rates of participation for the 2010 election in the State of Illinois derived from the Census Current Population Survey (CPS), Voting and Registration Supplement 2010 to raw population data in each ward. In the “race and ethnicity” table, data from the 2008-2012 five year American Community Survey (ACS) Citizen Voting Age Population Special Tabulation was used as the base population, and the self-reported rates of participation for each racial and ethnic category (i.e. “Asian alone or in combination,” “White alone or in combination,” etc.) were applied to the respective racial and ethnic population for each ward. The same method was used to calculate the estimated rates of participation by age range.

We acknowledge the problems with using census data and extrapolated local voter turn-out rates for comparative purposes. These data are themselves dated, they may over- and under-count certain groups, and the voter turnout rate for the state will differ from rates of participation in each ward. The most appropriate baseline for comparison would be the population of voters

in aldermanic or mayoral elections, but the Chicago Board of Elections does not sample or collect data about these voting populations. As such, we present different data to provide points of comparison but caution readers against drawing strong conclusions from it.

Note on interpreting data:

The following tables and text present survey data from neighborhood assembly participants and PB voters in separate columns and/or rows. In the 49th and 45th Wards, survey data from the first cycle conducted in 2012-2013 from neighborhood assembly participants and PB voters is also presented in separate columns and/or rows (the 22nd Ward did not participate in the 2012-2013 cycle). The column or row header is labeled “NA” for neighborhood assembly data and “PB Vote” for voting data, and, when appropriate “YR 1” for the cycle completed last year (2012-2013) and “YR 2” for this year’s cycle (2013-2014). The number of surveys collected and the overall response rates for each phase of the process for this year are included in the brief introduction for each ward. Some survey respondents opted not to answer all of the questions on the survey as such non-response rates are included under each table.

Because of the extensive amount of data collected, only a selection of data is provided in the individual ward profiles. Additional data is available upon request.



49th Ward neighborhood assembly participants.

49th Ward: Alderman Joe Moore

The 49th Ward is located in the northeast corner of the City of Chicago. The ward boundaries include Lake Michigan to the east; Ridge/Oakley/Western to the west; Devon to the south; and the City of Evanston to the north. The ward is distinguished by numerous community assets including several miles of parks and beaches, Loyola University Chicago, the Glenwood Avenue Arts District, and Frank Lloyd Wright's Emil Bach House. The 49th Ward was the first to adopt participatory budgeting in the United States, and residents there have undertaken the process since 2009.

**342 residents
came to a
neighborhood assembly**

The 49th Ward held nine neighborhood assemblies (including two youth assemblies) in September and October 2013 with a total of 342 participants. 129 surveys were collected at the assemblies for a response rate of 38%. At the assemblies, 150 residents signed up to be community representatives; 55 of those who signed up attended the orientation session and 33 residents remained involved as community representatives through the public vote. During the public voting phase of the process, the 49th Ward held seven days of early voting from April 26 to May 2 in the ward office, organized 31 mobile voting stations in dispersed locations throughout the ward, and held one voting assembly on May 3 at the Chicago Math and Science Academy. 1,763 residents turned out to vote, and 1,406 surveys were collected for a response rate of 80%.

The 49th Ward tracked surveys collected by voting location, allowing for a comparison of the demographic profile of who participated in mobile voting and who participated at the ward office or at the voting assembly. Based on the data, we found that mobile voting engaged significantly more people of color, more low-income individuals and more immigrants than voting in the ward office or at the voting assembly. Overall the participant profile in the 49th Ward showed higher rates of participation by people of color and low to moderate income individuals in Year Two.

**"Thank you for empowering
your constituents!"
49th Ward resident**

African Americans increased their participation overall in PB from Year One to Year Two by 7%. Latinos participated in PB at higher rates than in the 2010 local election, while African Americans participated at lower rates than in the 2010 local elections. Asians' rate of participation in PB was consistent with their rates of participation in the 2010 local election across both years and both phases. Overall, Caucasians' rate of participation in PB is slightly lower than their participation in the 2010 local election. In terms of household income, neighborhood assembly participation in Year Two by income category shows an overall "barrel effect" compared with last year's data, meaning participation increased in all middle income categories. Lower income individuals increased their participation in the vote.

The 49th Ward saw higher levels of participation by women and older adults (45 years of age and older). Individuals with higher levels of education participated at higher rates, but Year Two had an increase in participation by residents with lower education levels. The 49th Ward also engaged residents who do not always participate in other community events – only a small minority of respondents (11%-24%) reported that they “always participate in community events.” Overall, participants also reported an increase in knowledge about the needs in their ward.

**1,763 residents
voted to select
5 projects**

PB voters in the 49th Ward chose to spend the majority of their allocated revenues on street resurfacing, sidewalk repairs, and streetlight projects in addition to selecting public park improvements, beautification and transportation-related projects. In particular new bus stop benches and a beach path extension will improve access to and travel throughout the ward, a new spray pool water feature will enhance an existing park, and new carpeting at a public library will improve a public resource.

Who Participated in the 49th Ward?

Race or Ethnicity (Mark all that apply)*						
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)**	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
American Indian/Alaska Native	1%	2%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%
Asian	3%	7%	3%	3%	3%	7%
Black or African-American	13%	20%	13%	20%	33%	27%
Hispanic or Latino/a	6%	9%	19%	12%	6%	24%
White	62%	54%	55%	52%	58%	39%
Other/Unknown	14%	5%	15%	3%	N/A	3%

* Respondents were asked to mark all categories that applied; as a result, response totals are >100%.
 ** Totals include multiple responses from 24 respondents in Year 1. Total also includes 157 voters from two mobile voting stations that did not use surveys. Race/ethnicity was extrapolated from a review of registration forms and the percentages from other respondents.
 Note: Year 1 data does not include responses from 49th Ward Spanish Language Committee.
 Non-response rate for Year 1 is <1% for all categories. Year 2 non-response rates are 11% (NA) and 15% (Vote).

- African Americans and Latinos increased their participation in the Year Two neighborhood assemblies.
- African Americans increased their rate of participation by 7% in Year Two of PB.
- Latinos participated in PB at higher rates than in the 2010 local election, while African Americans participated in PB at lower rates than in the 2010 local election.
- Asian participation in PB remains consistent overall with their rate of participation in the 2010 local election. Asian participation at the Year Two neighborhood assemblies was higher than the rate of participation in the 2010 local election.

- Caucasians’ rate of participation overall was slightly lower than their rate of participation in the 2010 local election and was overrepresented in PB compared to ward demographics.

Household Income					
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)*	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Ward Profile
Less than \$10,000	11%	4%	5%	9%	13%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	5%	4%	5%	6%	8%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	4%	11%	5%	7%	12%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	8%	8%	9%	11%	12%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	12%	17%	11%	10%	14%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	9%	13%	15%	13%	17%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	10%	12%	12%	8%	8%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	12%	9%	13%	9%	11%
\$150,000 or more	7%	5%	8%	7%	5%

* Year 1 totals include multiple responses from one respondent.
Total percentages reflect a non-response rate from Year 1 of 21% (NA) and 17% (Vote), and Year 2 of 19% (NA) and 20% (Vote).

- All middle income categories (i.e. 15K – 24K to 75K – 100K) saw an increase in participation at the Year Two neighborhood assemblies creating an overall “barrel effect” compared with last year’s data.
- Low-to-lower middle income residents (i.e. < 10K – 35K) increased their rate of participation at the vote and middle-to-upper income residents (i.e. 35K – > 150K) decreased in their rate of participation at the vote.
- Over 40% of PB voters in both years had household incomes at or under the City of Chicago median of \$47,371 (ACS 2007-2011) compared with 59% of the overall ward population.
- People with higher household incomes (\$75,000 and above) participated in the Year Two PB process at rates consistent with the overall population of the ward (NA 26% and PB Vote 24% compared to 24% of ward population).

Educational Attainment					
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)*	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Ward Profile
Less than high school	2%	8%	2%	6%	18%
High school diploma or GED	6%	5%	5%	10%	18%
Some college, or Associate/Vo- cational degree	15%	21%	18%	20%	24%
Bachelor’s degree	36%	26%	29%	27%	23%
Graduate Degree	34%	36%	35%	28%	17%

* Includes multiple responses from six respondents.
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 7% (NA) and Year 2 of 5% (NA); Year 1, 11% (Vote), Year 2, 10% (Vote).

- People with lower levels of education (high school diploma and less) increased their rate of participation by 9% in the vote from Year One to Year Two.
- Participation of people with higher levels of education (bachelor's degree and above) in the neighborhood assemblies (70% YR 1; 62% YR 2) and the vote (64% YR 1; 55% YR 2) were overrepresented compared with the overall population of the ward (40%).

Gender					
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Ward Profile
Male	42%	39%	41%	39%	50%
Female	51%	53%	47%	49%	50%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 7% (NA) and 11% (Vote); for Year 2, 8% (NA) and 12% (Vote).					

- Women consistently participated at higher rates than men.

Age						
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
18 to 24 years	7%	3%	5%	6%	11%	17%
25 to 44 years	31%	25%	36%	31%	45%	45%
45 to 64 years	41%	43%	36%	33%	32%	28%
65 years and older	13%	21%	12%	17%	12%	10%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 8% (NA) and 11% (Vote); for Year 2, 9% (NA) and 12% (Vote). Note: The data above does not include youth assembly or Spanish Language Committee participants.						

- Participants aged 45 to 64 participated in the vote at rates consistent with the 2010 local election. They represented a majority at the neighborhood assemblies in both years.
- Young adults (18 to 24 years of age) were underrepresented in both Year One and Year Two compared with participation in the 2010 local election.
- The ward experienced a moderate increase in participation among residents 65 years and older (+8% for NA, +5% for PB Vote).

Occupancy: Rent or Own					
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)	Ward Profile
Rent	36%	34%	35%	46%	70%
Own	53%	62%	52%	41%	30%
Other	5%	0%	1%	3%	N/A
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 6% (NA) and 12% (Vote); for Year 2, 4% (NA) and 13% (Vote). Note: The data above does not include youth assembly or Spanish Language Committee participants.					

- Renters participated at greater rates (46%) than homeowners (41%) in the Year Two vote.
- Prior to the Year Two vote, the majority of participants were homeowners.

Length of Time in the Neighborhood				
	YR 1 NA (n=106)	YR 2 NA (n=129)	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)	YR 2 Vote (n=1,406)
Less than 1 year	9%	10%	8%	8%
1 to 3 years	9%	9%	12%	12%
4 to 7 years	21%	13%	23%	18%
8 to 15 years	14%	17%	19%	21%
More than 15 years	41%	46%	29%	30%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 6% (NA) and 9% (Vote); for Year 2, 5% (NA) and 11% (Vote). Note: The data above does not include youth assembly or Spanish Language Committee participants.				

- The majority of PB participants had lived in the neighborhood for eight years or longer.
- Residents living in the neighborhood between 4 – 7 years participated less in Year Two than in the previous year. This may be due to the transience of this tenure range (e.g. students moving to Chicago for college then moving away afterwards).

Which outreach methods were most effective?

- Participants heard about PB most from the Alderman’s newsletter, other electronic means of communication (internet/online, and email), word of mouth, and flyering.
- Significantly more people heard about the neighborhood assemblies through a phone call for the Year Two neighborhood assemblies (26%) compared with the Year One neighborhood assemblies (0%). This is likely due to the use of “robo-calls” in Year Two as an outreach method prior to the neighborhood assemblies.
- The Alderman’s newsletter was a more effective means of announcing the vote than the neighborhood assemblies (46% and 34%, respectively).

The 49th Ward tracked surveys by location for the vote allowing for a comparison of the demographic profile of who participated in mobile voting and who participated at the ward office or at the voting assembly. Based on the survey data, we found that mobile voting engaged more people of color, more low-income individuals and more immigrants than voting in the ward office or at the voting assembly. Examples include:

- 62% of mobile voters were people of color while 29% of voters at the ward office and the voting assembly were people of color.
- 54% of mobile voters were moderate to low-income individuals with household incomes approximately at or under the City of Chicago median household income (\$47,371) while 22% voters at the ward office and the voting assembly had household incomes at or below the median household income.
- 18% of mobile voters were born in countries other than the United States while 9% of voters at the ward office and the voting assembly were foreign born.

“The synergy among participants is what makes it exciting and interesting.”
49th Ward resident

Why did people participate?

- Similar to Year One, the top two reasons reported for participating in PB at the neighborhood assembly and the vote were that people “wanted to create change” in their neighborhood (NA: 49%; PB Vote: 45%) and/or that they were “concerned about an issue or problem in the neighborhood” (NA: 35%; PB Vote: 29%)
- More people reported participating in the vote (29%) because they “just walked by” than in the neighborhood assemblies (2%). In comparison with Year One, there is an 11% increase in the number of participants indicating that they participated in the vote because “they just walked by.” Reporting increases are likely due to the large number of mobile voting events (31) that the 49th Ward conducted this year compared with the number conducted in Year One (7).
- In Year Two, only 24% of neighborhood assembly participants and 11% of voters reported that they “always participate in community events.” This indicates that the ward engaged residents who do not always participate in other community events.

How did participants evaluate PB?

Overall, the majority of Year Two participants evaluated their PB experience as “good” or “great” including:

- 68% of respondents indicated that their overall experience at an assembly was either “good” or “great.”
- 71% of voters thought the proposals on the ballot were either “good” or “great.”
- 81% of voters thought the voting process was either “good” or “great.”
- 78% indicated that the PB process overall was “good” or “great.”

In comparison, Year One participants reported higher rates of satisfaction than Year Two participants.

What did participants learn?

- Neighborhood assembly participants reported an increase in understanding about what menu money is and how it can be used, as demonstrated by the fact that 40% of respondents indicated that they did not know what menu money was prior to attending the assembly and 89% reported understanding how menu money can be used after attending the assembly.
- Participants in Year Two reported that they felt that they had a better understanding of the needs in their ward, including 74% of neighborhood assembly participants and 72% of PB voters. These rates are consistent with rates reported in Year One.

What previous level of civic engagement and attitudes did participants have?

- 50% of neighborhood assembly participants reported working with others in their community to solve problems compared with 44% of PB voters.
- In Year Two, the ward engaged more residents who had not previously been engaged in community affairs. Neighborhood assembly participants in Year Two reported a lower rate of working with others in their community to solve problems (-12% from Year One neighborhood assembly participants).
- 54% of neighborhood assembly participants reported that they thought the system of democracy in America “needs a lot of changes” or “needs to be completely changed.”
- The majority (67%) of neighborhood assembly participants reported voting in all local elections.
- There was a substantial decline (-15%) in the percentage of PB voters that reported voting in all local elections from Year One (62%) to Year Two (47%) indicating that in Year Two may have engaged more residents who do not always participate in formal politics.
- The majority of neighborhood assembly participants (84%) thought that they had “some” or “a lot” of influence in making their community a better place to live.

What types of projects did participants vote for?

PB Vote Survey: Which types of projects did you decide to vote for today? (Mark all that apply)*		
	YR 1 Vote (n=1,142)	YR 2 Vote (n=1,078)**
Streets resurfacing/repairs	80%	81%
Murals/public art	24%	11%
Signage	1%	2%
Sidewalk repairs	59%	53%
Park improvements	58%	59%
Street lights/cameras	19%	25%
Traffic calming/pedestrian safety	31%	12%
Green space/community gardens	17%	14%
Bike lanes	30%	8%
<p>*Because respondents could choose multiple response options, percentages add to >100%. ** The number of responses (n) to this question differs from the other denominators because it was omitted from an electronic version of the survey completed by 328 respondents. Non-response rate for Year 1 is 3%, and for Year 2, it is 5%.</p>		

Winning Projects:

The 49th Ward's ballot had two sections. The first section asked participants to vote on the percentage of \$1 million that should be devoted exclusively to street resurfacing, street lighting, and sidewalk repairs. The average of all the votes cast on this question determined the overall percentage of the budget allocated to resurfacing and lighting. The second section asked participants to vote on which other additional projects to fund. PB voters decided that 69% percent of the \$1 million should be spent on street resurfacing and streetlight projects, leaving \$310,000 for additional projects. Below are the proposed projects that received a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from the remaining portion Alderman Moore's 2014 capital budget:

- Bus Stop Benches \$36,750 – 1,125 votes
 - This project installs new black metal benches at 15 stops currently without benches along Clark, Howard, Rogers, and Sheridan.
- New Carpet Tiles at the Rogers Park Library \$100,000 – 1,037 votes
 - This project replaces the 15 year old carpet with new carpet tiles made with recycled materials.
- New Spray Pool Water Feature at Pottawattomie Park \$75,000 – 813 votes
 - This project replaces an existing outdated spray water feature with a new multi-spray feature so more children can play.
- Beach Path Extension at Hartigan Beach \$75,000 – 687 votes
 - This project installs a new beach path extension from the sidewalk to the beach at Hartigan Beach making the beach accessible for people using wheelchairs, strollers, or wagons.

Runner-up Projects

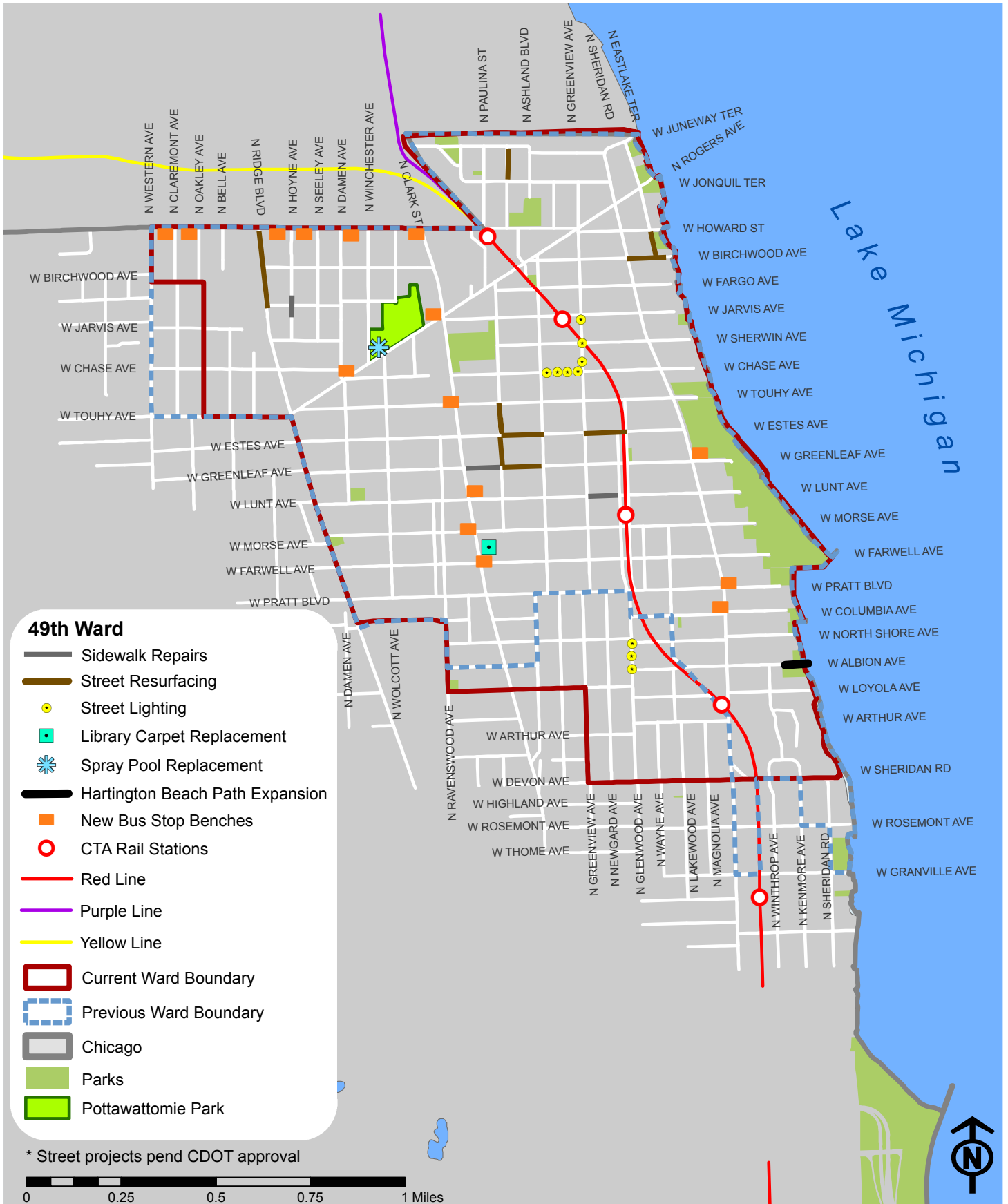
The following projects failed to receive a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from Alderman Moore's 2014 capital budget. However, if one or more of the winning projects cannot be implemented for any reason, Alderman Moore has pledged to use the allocated money to fund the next runner-up project(s).

- Fence replacement for Willye White Park \$45,000 - 639 votes
 - This project was awarded additional funding by the Alderman.
- New Indoor Drinking Fountain at Pottawattomie Park \$35,000 - 615 votes
- Mini AstroTurf Soccer Field at Langdon Park \$100,000 - 608 votes



Residents discussing critical community needs and project proposals at a neighborhood assembly.

49th Ward Winning Projects



45th Ward: Alderman John Arena

The 45th Ward is located in the northwest corner of the City of Chicago. The ward encompasses several neighborhoods including: Portage Park, Gladstone Park, Mayfair, Edgebrook, Forest Glen, Independence Park, and Jefferson Park. The ward is one of the transportation hubs of Chicago with good access to the CTA Blue Line, Metra, numerous bus routes, and the Kennedy Expressway. The ward is distinguished by several community assets including the Portage Park neighborhood's Six Corners shopping district, the Mayfair historic bungalow district, and forest preserves in the Forest Glen and Edgebrook neighborhoods.

**58 residents
came to a
neighborhood
assembly**

The 45th Ward held five neighborhood assemblies in October and November with a total of 58 participants. 43 surveys were collected at the assemblies for a response rate of 74%. At the assemblies, 17 residents signed up to be community representatives, with four of those attending the orientation session and five residents remaining involved as community representatives through the public vote. During the public voting phase of the process, the 45th Ward held five days of early voting from May 5 to May 9 in the ward office, organized four mobile voting stations in dispersed locations throughout the ward, and held one voting assembly on May 9 at Wilson Park. 516 residents turned out to vote, and 421 surveys were collected for a response rate of 82%.

**"In the past,
[“menu money” was]
just slush fund.”
45th Ward resident**

Overall, the 45th Ward's participant profile at the vote remained fairly consistent from Year One to Year Two. African Americans and Asians participated in the PB vote at rates consistent with the 2010 local elections. Latinos participated at lower rates in PB overall than in the 2010 local elections. Caucasians participated in PB at higher rates in general but at lower rates in the PB vote than in the 2010 local election. Older adults ages 45 to 64 voted at rates consistent with the 2010 local elections; all other age ranges voted at slightly lower rates. Approximately 10% of the ward's PB voters were youth 14 to 18 years of age. Similar to Year One, the 45th Ward also saw higher levels of participation in the PB process by women, people with higher household incomes, and people with higher levels of education.

**516 residents voted
to select 4 projects**

The 45th Ward engaged residents who do not always participate in other community events – only a minority of respondents (16%-18%) reported that they “always participate in community events.” Overall, participants also reported an increase in knowledge about the needs in their ward and about how menu money can be used. Similar to Year One, PB participants reported participating in the process because they were “concerned about an issue in the neighborhood” and because they “wanted to create change.” PB voters selected projects that will improve the natural environment and beautify the community through tree planting, enhanced recreational opportunities at a public park for children with disabilities, improve the appearance and safety of areas below viaducts, and improve the safety and appearance of streets through street resurfacing.

Who Participated in the 45th Ward?

Race or Ethnicity (Mark all that apply)*						
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)**	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
American Indian/Alaska Native	1%	0%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%
Asian	1%	0%	3%	2%	4%	7%
Black or African-American	0%	0%	1%	1%	3%	2%
Hispanic or Latino/a	9%	2%	6%	6%	12%	25%
White	81%	84%	79%	77%	81%	64%
Other/Unknown	7%	2%	2%	0%	N/A	2%

* Respondents were asked to mark all categories that applied; as a result, response totals are >100%.
 ** Totals include multiple responses from six respondents in Year 1.
 Total percentages reflect a non-response rate from Year 1 of 1% (NA) and 9% (Vote), and Year 2 of 12% (NA) and 15% (Vote).

- Latino participation remained consistent from Year One to Year Two at the vote (6%) but declined at the neighborhood assemblies (-7%). Overall their rate of participation was lower than the 2010 local elections (12%).
- Asian participation remained fairly consistent from Year One to Year Two. Overall, Asians participated in the PB vote (YR 1: 3%; YR 2: 2%) at slightly lower rates in comparison with the 2010 local elections (4%).
- Caucasian participation in the vote (77%) was slightly underrepresented compared to the 2010 local elections (81%) and consistent with rates of participation in Year One (79%). Caucasians were slightly overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (84%) compared to the 2010 local elections (81%).
- Consistent with Year One, African American participation in the vote (1%) was consistent with the 2010 local elections (3%) and the ward's population (2%).

Household Income					
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)*	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Ward Profile
Less than \$10,000	2%	0%	1%	1%	6%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	2%	2%	1%	0%	4%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	3%	0%	3%	3%	11%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	5%	0%	4%	4%	10%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	8%	12%	8%	7%	12%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19%	14%	11%	13%	18%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	13%	14%	14%	13%	14%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	11%	12%	17%	14%	15%
\$150,000 or more	14%	14%	17%	22%	10%

* Year 1 totals include multiple responses from one respondent.
 Total percentages reflect a non-response rate from Year 1 of 23% (NA) and 24% (Vote), and Year 2 of 32% (NA) and 23% (Vote).

- Approximately 15% of PB voters had household incomes at or under the City of Chicago median of \$47,371 (ACS, 2007-2011) and consistent with rates of participation in the Year One vote.
- Representation of low-to-lower middle income residents (i.e. < 10K – 35K) in the neighborhood assemblies decreased from Year One to Year Two.
- Participants with low to moderate incomes (\$35,000 to \$75,000) were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (26%) and the vote (20%) in comparison with the overall ward population (30%).
- Individuals with higher household incomes (\$75,000 and above) participated at rates consistent with the overall population of the ward (39%) in the neighborhood assemblies (40%) and were overrepresented in the vote (49%).

Educational Attainment					
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)*	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Ward Profile
Less than high school	1%	0%	2%	1%	15%
High school diploma or GED	8%	14%	11%	7%	26%
Some college, or Associate/Vocational degree	14%	16%	18%	12%	28%
Bachelor's degree	44%	37%	30%	29%	21%
Graduate Degree	30%	26%	27%	32%	11%
* Includes multiple responses from two respondents. Non-response rate for Year 1 is 3% (NA) and 12% (Vote); for Year 2, 7% (NA) and 12% (Vote).					

- In comparison with Year One, people with lower levels of education (some college and less) participated at higher rates in the neighborhood assemblies (YR 1: 23%; YR 2: 30%) but at lower rates in the vote (YR 1: 31%; YR 2: 20%).
- People with lower levels of education (some college and less) participated at higher rates in the neighborhood assemblies (28%) than the vote (19%), but were underrepresented throughout the PB process compared to the ward's population (69%).
- People with higher levels of education (bachelor's degree and above) were overrepresented in the neighborhood assemblies (63%) and in the vote (61%) compared to the population of the ward (32%).
- In comparison with Year One, the rate of participation in the neighborhood assemblies of people with higher levels of education declined in Year Two.

Gender					
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Ward Profile
Male	32%	26%	40%	40%	49%
Female	65%	70%	49%	48%	51%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 3% (NA) and 11% (Vote); for Year 2, 4% (NA) and 13% (Vote).					

- Women consistently participated at higher rates than men.

Age						
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
18 to 24 years	0%	0%	3%	2%	7%	10%
25 to 44 years	23%	9%	33%	33%	38%	39%
45 to 64 years	48%	56%	39%	37%	38%	35%
65 years and older	20%	26%	15%	13%	18%	16%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 9% (NA) and 10% (Vote); for Year 2, 9% (NA) and 15% (Vote).						

- Participants aged 45 to 64 participated in the vote at rates consistent with the 2010 election. They participated at higher rates than the 2010 local election at the neighborhood assemblies in both years.
- Participation of younger adults (25 to 44 years of age) in the vote (33%) was moderately underrepresented in comparison with participation in the 2010 local elections (38%) and the overall ward population (39%) and consistent with the rate of participation in Year One.
- Older adults (45 years of age and older) were slightly underrepresented in the vote (50%) compared to participation in the 2010 local elections (56%) and consistent with the overall population of the ward (51%).
- From Year One to Year Two, participation in the neighborhood assemblies significantly declined among residents 25-44 years old (-14%), while participation moderately increased among residents 45-64 years old (+8%).

Occupancy: Rent or Own					
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)	YR 2 Vote (n=421)	Ward Profile
Rent	11%	9%	10%	16%	40%
Own	83%	86%	71%	70%	60%
Other	2%	0%	5%	3%	N/A
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 4% (NA) and 14% (Vote); for Year 2, 5% (NA) and 11% (Vote).					

Length of Time in the Neighborhood				
	YR 1 NA (n=90)	YR 2 NA (n=43)	YR 1 Vote (n=520)	YR 2 Vote (n=421)
Less than 1 year	4%	0%	2%	6%
1 to 3 years	9%	7%	8%	13%
4 to 7 years	8%	7%	14%	14%
8 to 15 years	25%	19%	23%	17%
More than 15 years	51%	63%	43%	39%
Non-response rate for Year 1 is 3% (NA) and 10% (Vote); for Year 2, 4% (NA) and 11% (Vote).				

- Participants were predominantly homeowners that lived in their neighborhoods for eight years or longer, but Year Two had a 7% increase in the participation of renters in the vote.
- Year Two data shows a 9% increase among residents who have lived in the neighborhood for three years or less in the PB vote.
- Year Two data shows a slight to moderate decline in neighborhood assembly participation among all tenure ranges except for residents who have lived in the neighborhood 15 years or longer.

Which outreach methods were most effective?

- Similar to Year One, most participants heard about PB from the Alderman’s newsletter, other electronic means of communication (internet/online and email), and word of mouth.
- More participants reported hearing about the neighborhood assemblies from a newspaper article or a phone call in Year Two (21% and 21%, respectively) than in Year One (13% and 2%, respectively). This is likely due to the use of “robo-calls” in Year Two prior to the neighborhood assemblies.
- Flyering reached more participants for the PB vote (13%) than for the neighborhood assemblies (0%).
- More participants reported hearing about PB through word of mouth at the vote (24%) than at the neighborhood assemblies (9%).

Why did people participate?

- Similar to Year One, the top two reasons reported for participating in PB include that people were “concerned about an issue or problem in the neighborhood” (NA: 49%; Vote: 45%) and/or that they “wanted to create change” in their neighborhood (NA: 47%; Vote: 57%).
- Similar to Year One, more people reported participating in the vote (22%) because they were “invited by a family member, friend, or colleague” than in the neighborhood assemblies (12%).
- More people reported that they participated in the vote because “they just walked by” in Year Two (13%) in comparison to Year One (2%). This increase is likely due to the use of mobile voting events in Year Two.
- Approximately one quarter of neighborhood assembly participants and PB voters reported participating because they had a “specific project to advocate/vote for.”

How did participants evaluate PB?

Overall, the majority of participants evaluated their PB experience as “good” or “great” including:

- 70% of respondents indicated that their overall experience at an assembly was “good” or “great.”
- 79% of respondents indicated that the quality of the budget proposals were “good” or “great.”
- 85% indicated that the voting process was “good” or “great.”
- 81% indicated that the Participatory Budgeting process overall was “good” or “great.”

Year Two participant rates of satisfaction are similar to the rates participants reported in Year One.

What did participants learn?

- Neighborhood assembly participants reported an increase in understanding about what menu money is and how it can be used, demonstrated by the fact that 58% of respondents indicated that they did not know what menu money was prior to attending the assembly and 60% reported understanding how menu money could be used after attending the assembly.
- 72% of neighborhood assembly participants and 71% of PB voters reported that they felt that they had a better understanding of the needs in their ward as a result of the PB process.

What previous level of civic engagement and attitudes did participants have?

- Neighborhood assembly participants reported higher rates of working with others in their community to solve problems (65%) than PB voters (47%).
- 60% of neighborhood assembly participants reported that they thought the system of democracy in America “needs a lot of changes” or “needs to be completely changed.”
- Significantly more neighborhood assembly participants (84%) reported voting in all local elections than PB voters (57%).
- There was an 8% decline in PB voters that reported voting in all local elections from Year One to Year Two indicating that the ward vote engaged more residents that do not always participate in electoral politics.
- The majority of neighborhood assembly participants (68%) reported that they had “some” or “a lot” of influence in making their community a better place to live.

What types of projects did participants vote for?

PB Vote Survey: Which types of projects did you decide to vote for today? (Mark all that apply)*		
	YR 1 Vote (n=520)	YR 2 Vote (n=421)**
Streets resurfacing/repairs	65%	69%
Murals/public art	18%	3%
Signage	9%	7%
Sidewalk repairs	24%	5%
Park improvements	47%	54%
Street lights/cameras	22%	23%
Traffic calming/pedestrian safety	25%	15%
Green space/community gardens	35%	29%
Bike lanes	33%	26%
<p>*Because respondents could choose multiple response options, percentages add to >100%. ** In Year 2, "Other" projects received 81 votes. The most frequent were tree planting (8%), pigeon abatement (4%), bike corrals (3%), viaduct improvements (2%), and playground improvements (1%). Non-response rate for Year 2 is 3%.</p>		

Voters decided the following winning projects:

The 45th Ward's ballot had two sections. The first section asked participants to vote on the percentage of \$1 million that should be devoted exclusively to street resurfacing. The average of all the votes cast on this question determined the overall percentage of the budget allocated to resurfacing. The second section asked participants to vote on which additional projects to fund. Voters decided that 55.1% of the \$1 million should be spent on street resurfacing, leaving \$449,000 for additional projects. Below are the proposed projects that received a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from the remaining portion Alderman Arena's 2014 capital budget (\$449,000):

- Tree Planting throughout the Ward \$240,750 - 256 votes
 - This project plants 450 trees throughout the ward to replace trees that have died due to age, storms, or the emerald ash borer.
- New Playground at Independence Park \$100,000 - 225 votes
 - This project partially funds improvements to Independence Park that will renovate the playground while making it accessible to children with disabilities.
- Viaduct Pigeon Abatement \$150,000 - 159 votes
 - This project washes, paints and adds pigeon spikes or netting to 10 viaducts and underpasses throughout the ward.

Runner-up Projects:

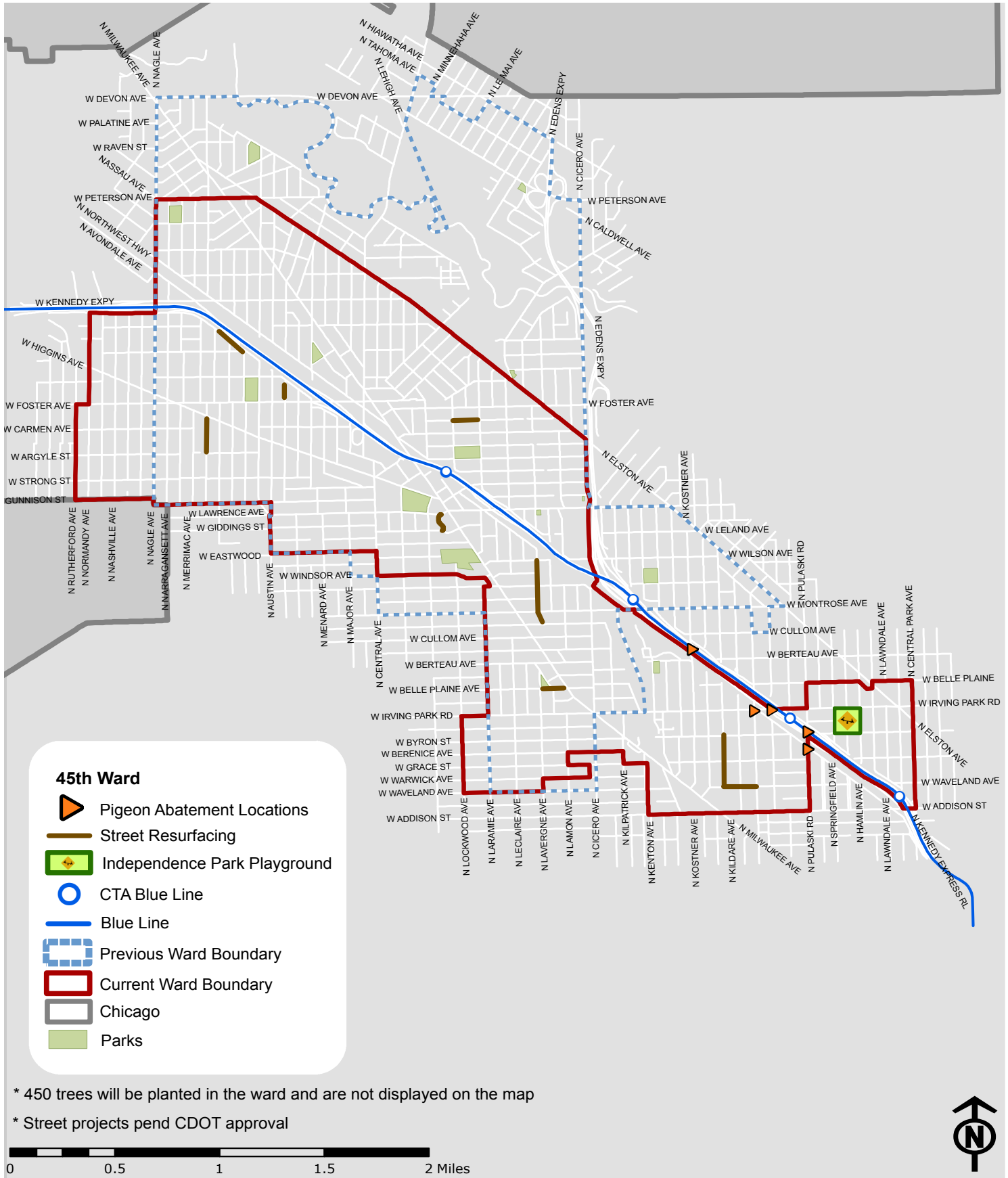
The following projects failed to receive a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from Alderman Arena's 2014 capital budget. However, if one or more of the winning projects cannot be implemented for any reason, Alderman Arena has pledged to use the allocated money to fund the next runner-up project(s).

- Buffered Bike Lanes on Lawrence \$70,000 - 147 votes
- Improved Lighting under the Kennedy at Irving Park \$51,000 - 137 votes
- Resurfaced Tennis Courts at Wilson Park \$67,000 - 106 votes
- On-Street Bike Corrals around Six Corners for \$8,843 - 102 votes
- Improved Viaduct Lighting under the UP Northwest Line at Pulaski for \$12,000 - 73 votes
- Jefferson Park Business District Banner Holders \$20,000 - 61 votes
- Improvements to Lighting and Fencing at the Pedestrian Bridge leading to the Gladstone Park Metra \$25,000 - 50 votes



Mobile voting in the 45th Ward at the Jefferson Park blue line stop.

45th Ward Winning Projects



22nd Ward: Alderman Ricardo Muñoz

The 22nd Ward is located in the central west side of the City of Chicago just five miles from downtown Chicago. The ward encompasses several neighborhoods including: Hearst, Le Claire, Little Village, North Lawndale, Sleepy Hollow, and Vittum Park. The ward is distinguished by several community assets including the a large industrial corridor that is home to over 80 companies; retail corridors along Cermak Road, Pulaski Road, and 26th Street; three public parks; and excellent access to railroad yards and the Stevenson (I-55) and Eisenhower (I-290) expressways. The ward is also home to many nonprofit community organizations, health clinics, and institutions that provide services and organize around community issues.

Alderman Muñoz's office partnered with Enlace Chicago, a community and economic development organization, on the implementation of all aspects of the PB process. They held five neighborhood assemblies in October and November with a total of 302 participants. 130 surveys were collected at the assemblies for a response rate of 43%. At the assemblies, 97 residents signed up to be community representatives, with 52 of those attending the orientation session and approximately 40 residents remaining involved as community representatives through the public vote. During the public voting phase of the process from May 1 to May 6, the 22nd ward held two days of early voting in the ward office, organized three mobile voting stations in dispersed locations throughout the ward (including two youth stations), and held three voting assemblies. 603 residents turned out to vote and 377 surveys were collected for a response rate of 63%.

The participant profile in the 22nd Ward was consistent with participation in the 2010 local election. Latinos and African Americans participated at rates consistent with the 2010 local elections and Caucasians participated at rates lower than the 2010 local election. PB participants had household incomes that were diverse and fairly representative of the overall ward population with higher rates of participation from individuals with very low household incomes. Participation by young adults (18 to 24) and older adults (45 to 64) in the PB vote was consistent with their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections. Participation by adults ages 25 to 44 was lower than their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections. The 22nd Ward also saw higher levels of participation in the PB process by women, the elderly, and people with higher levels of education.

The 22nd Ward engaged residents that do not always participate in other community events – only a minority of vote respondents (24%) reported that they “always participate in community events.” Overall, participants also reported an increase in knowledge about the needs in their ward and about how menu money can be used. 22nd Ward residents reported participating in the process because they were “concerned about an issue in the neigh-

**302 residents
came to a
neighborhood
assembly**

**“This is great.
Little Village needs
this.” 22nd Ward
respondent**

**603 residents voted
to select 6 projects**

borhood” and because they “wanted to create change.” PB voters selected projects that improve the safety and appearance of streets through street resurfacing, increase pedestrian safety on residential streets and near schools with speed humps, install new lighting at a public park to expand recreational activities for residents and children, and create a mural project that will beautify an aging viaduct.

Who Participated in the 22nd Ward?

Race or Ethnicity (Mark all that apply)*				
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0%	1%	<1%
Asian	2%	1%	<1%	<1%
Black or African-American	28%	28%	29%	7%
Hispanic or Latino/a	50%	55%	53%	88%
White	5%	6%	17%	4%
Other/Unknown	3%	2%	N/A	<1%

* Respondents were asked to mark all categories that applied; as a result, response totals are >100%. Total percentages reflect a non-response rate of 16% (NA) and 11% (Vote).

- Latinos participated at rates (NA 50%; Vote 55%) consistent with their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections (53%) and were underrepresented in comparison with the overall population of the ward (88%).
- African Americans participated at rates (NA 28%; Vote 28%) consistent with the 2010 local elections (29%) and were significantly overrepresented in comparison with the ward’s population (7%).
- Caucasians participated at lower rates (NA 5%; Vote 6%) than their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections (17%) and were representative in comparison with the ward’s population (4%).

Household Income			
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Ward Profile
Less than \$10,000	5%	12%	7%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	4%	8%	8%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	12%	13%	18%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	14%	12%	14%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15%	13%	20%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	11%	8%	18%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	5%	6%	7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	5%	3%	6%
\$150,000 or more	1%	1%	2%

Total percentages reflect a non-response rate of 28% (NA) and 23% (Vote).

- Overall, individuals that participated in the 22nd Ward showed a diverse and fairly representative income range in comparison to the overall ward population.
- Individuals with very low household incomes (under \$15,000) were moderately overrepresented in the vote (20%) compared with the overall ward population (15%)
- Approximately 50% of participants in the neighborhood assemblies and 58% of PB voters had household incomes at or under the city of Chicago median of \$47,371 (ACS, 2007-2011) compared with 67% of overall ward population.
- Participants with low to moderate incomes (\$35,000 to \$75,000) were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (26%) and the vote (21%) in comparison with the overall ward population (38%).
- Individuals with higher household incomes (\$75,000 and above) were underrepresented in the neighborhood assemblies (11%) and the vote (10%) compared to the overall population of the ward (15%).

Educational Attainment*			
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Ward Profile
Less than high school	10%	28%	48%
High school diploma or GED	15%	23%	29%
Some college, or Associate/Vocational degree	27%	24%	16%
Bachelor's degree	25%	11%	6%
Graduate Degree	8%	8%	1%
* Percentages are >100% due to multiple respondents choosing more than one response option. Non-response rate is 15% (NA) and 9% (Vote).			

- People with lower education levels (high school diploma and less) were underrepresented in the neighborhood assemblies (25%) and the vote (51%) when compared to the overall population of the ward (77%).
- People with higher levels of education (bachelor's degree and above) were overrepresented in the neighborhood assemblies (33%) and the vote (19%) compared with the overall population of the ward (7%).

Gender			
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Ward Profile
Male	32%	34%	52%
Female	53%	56%	48%
Non-response rate is 15% (NA) and 10% (Vote).			

- Women participated at a higher rate than men.

Age				
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Voting Rate	Ward Profile
18 to 24 years	4%	10%	12%	17%
25 to 44 years	35%	27%	46%	46%
45 to 64 years	28%	31%	30%	27%
65 years and older	18%	20%	12%	10%

Non-response rate is 15% (NA) and 12% (Vote).

- Young adults (18 to 24 years old) participated in the vote (10%) at rates consistent with their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections (12%) but at lower rates in the neighborhood assemblies (4%).
- Adults (25 to 44 years of age) participated in the neighborhood assemblies (35%) and the vote (27%) at rates that were lower than their participation in the 2010 local elections (46%) and the overall ward population (46%).
- Older adults (45 to 64 years of age) participated in the neighborhood assemblies (28%) and the vote (31%) at rates consistent with their rate of participation in the 2010 local elections (30%) and with the overall population of the ward (27%).
- Participation among residents 25 to 44 years old declined from the neighborhood assemblies to the vote (-8%).

Occupancy: Rent or Own			
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)	Ward Profile
Rent	26%	34%	42%
Own	55%	50%	58%
Other	2%	5%	N/A

Non-response rate is 19% (NA) and 10% (Vote).

Length of Time in the Neighborhood		
	NA (n=130)	Vote (n=377)
Less than 1 year	0%	2%
1 to 3 years	2%	5%
4 to 7 years	4%	6%
8 to 15 years	12%	9%
More than 15 years	65%	69%

Non-response rate is 17% (NA) and 9% (Vote).

- Participants were predominantly homeowners that lived in their neighborhoods for more than 15 years.
- 25% of neighborhood assembly respondents and 31% of vote respondents reported that they were born outside of the United States.

Which outreach methods were most effective?

- Most participants heard about PB from the Alderman’s newsletter, word of mouth, a phone call and from flyers.
- More participants heard about PB through a phone call at the neighborhood assemblies (35%) than the vote (11%).
- There was a 7% increase in participants who reported hearing about PB from a community group from the neighborhood assemblies (12%) to the vote (19%).
- There was an 11% increase in participants reporting that they heard about PB through word of mouth from the neighborhood assemblies (27%) to the vote (38%).

Why did people participate?

- The top two reasons reported for participating in PB include that people that they “wanted to create change” in their neighborhood (NA: 63%; Vote: 57%) and/or were “concerned about an issue or problem in the neighborhood” (NA: 52%; Vote: 52%).
- More people reported participating in the vote (16%) because they “just walked by” than in the neighborhood assemblies (2%). This is likely due to the mobile voting events the ward conducted during the vote.

How did participants evaluate PB?

Overall, the majority of participants evaluated their PB experience as “good” or “great” including:

- 76% of respondents indicated that their overall experience at an assembly was “good” or “great.”
- 66% of respondents indicated that the quality of the budget proposals were “good” or “great.”
- 65% indicated that the voting process was “good” or “great.”
- 59% indicated that the Participatory Budgeting process overall was “good” or “great.”

What did participants learn?

- Neighborhood assembly participants reported an increase in understanding about what menu money is and how it can be used, demonstrated by the fact that 62% of respondents indicated that they did not know what menu money was prior to attending the assembly and 89% reported understanding how menu money could be used after attending the assembly.
- 85% of neighborhood assembly participants and 82% of PB voters reported that they felt that they had a better understanding of the needs in their ward as a result of the PB process.



Residents voting in the 22nd Ward.

What previous level of civic engagement and attitudes did participants have?

- Neighborhood assembly participants reported higher rates (68%) of working with others in their community to solve problems than voters (50%).
- 46% of neighborhood assembly participants reported that they thought the system of democracy in America “needs a lot of changes” or “needs to be completely changed.”
- The majority of 22nd Ward participants reported voting in all local elections (NA 62%; Vote 52%).
- 8% of neighborhood assembly participants and 9% of PB voters reported that they were not eligible to vote indicating the ward had some success in being inclusive of immigrants and ex-offenders.
- The majority of neighborhood assembly participants (82%) thought that they had “some” or “a lot” of influence in making their community a better place to live.

What types of projects did participants vote for?

PB Vote Survey: Which types of projects did you decide to vote for today? (Mark all that apply)*	
	Vote (n=377)
Streets resurfacing/repairs	70%
Murals/public art	19%
Signage	5%
Sidewalk repairs	45%
Park improvements	55%
Street lights/cameras	48%
Traffic calming/pedestrian safety	27%
Green space/community gardens	34%
Bike lanes	5%
*Because respondents could choose multiple response options, percentages add to >100%. Non-response rate is 5%.	

Voters decided the following winning projects:

The 22nd Ward’s ballot had two sections. The first section asked participants to vote on the percentage of \$1 million that should be devoted exclusively to street resurfacing. The average of all the votes cast on this question determined the overall percentage of the budget that was allocated to resurfacing. The second section asked participants to vote on which other additional projects to fund. Voters decided that 40% of the \$1 million should be spent on street resurfacing and streetlight projects, leaving \$600,000 for additional projects. Below are the proposed projects that received a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from the remaining portion Alderman Muñoz’s 2014 capital budget:

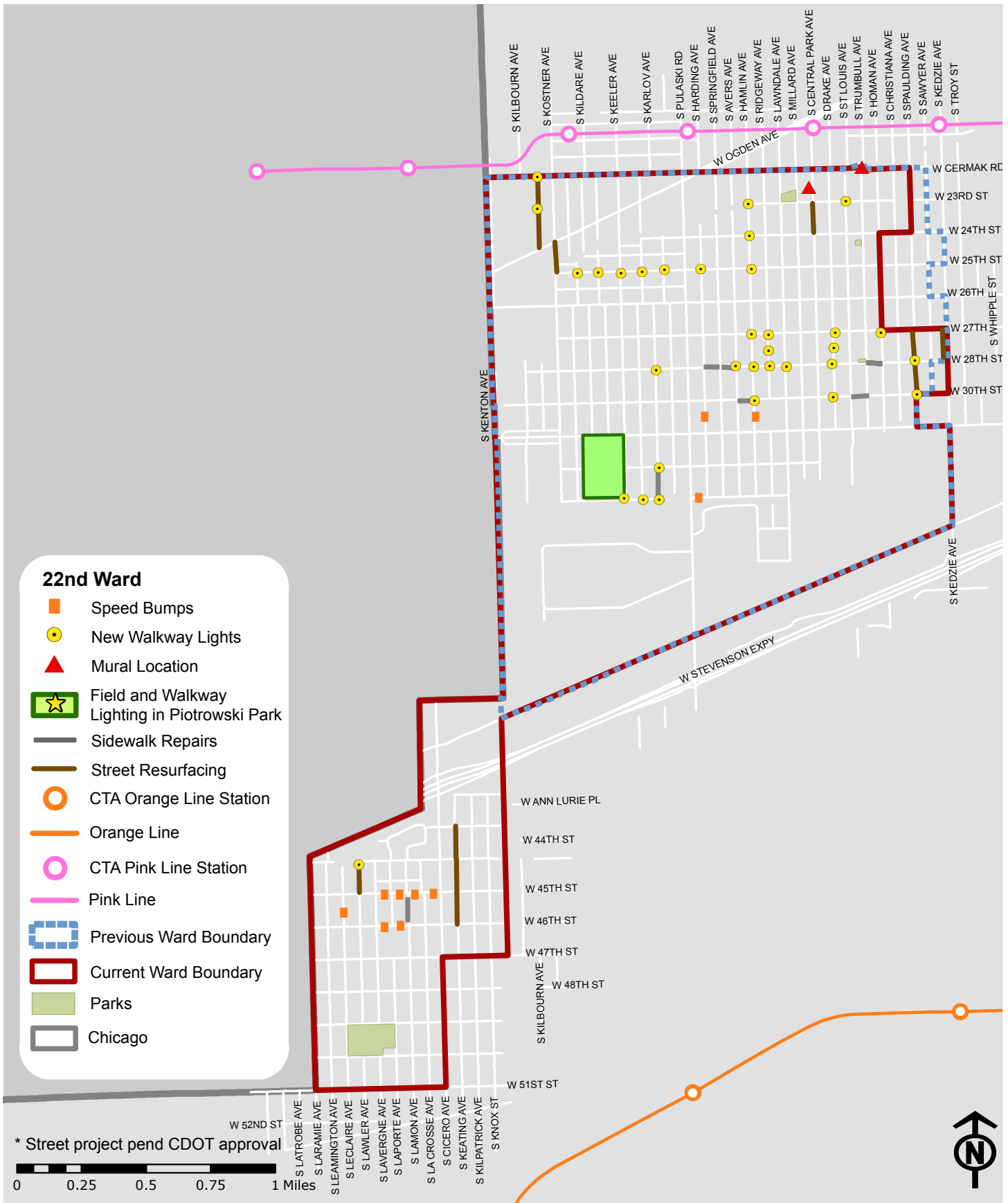
- New Floodlights/Walkway Lights to Existing Street Light Poles \$16,000 - 341 Votes
 - This project adds new floodlights or walkway lights to 32 existing street poles.
- Residential and School Zone Speed Humps \$37,000 - 267 Votes
 - This project adds 10 speed humps near schools and on residential streets to slow down traffic and increase safety for students and residents.
- Sports Field Lighting: Piotrowski Park \$250,000 - 261 Votes
 - This project adds additional lighting to the sports field increasing safety and usability of the park.
- Urgent Sidewalk Repairs \$240,000 - 245 Votes
 - This project replaces sidewalks in the most critical need in multiple locations throughout the ward increasing safety for pedestrians.
- 22nd Ward in Sepia-Murals \$60,700 - 217 Votes
 - This project transforms unattractive underpasses in the ward with a sepia toned mural of portraits of previous and current community members. This item exceeded the \$1 million mark by \$3,700. Alderman Muñoz funded the overage so that the project can be completed.

Runner-up Projects:

The following projects failed to receive a sufficient number of votes to obtain funding from Alderman Muñoz's 2014 capital budget. However, if one or more of the winning projects cannot be implemented for any reason, Alderman Muñoz has pledged to use their allocated money to fund the next runner-up project(s).

- Lawndale Triangle Neighborhood Identifiers \$36,000 - 169 Votes
- Neighborhood Greenways \$150,000 - 169 Votes
- Lawndale Triangle Gardening Pocket Park \$135,000 - 167 Votes
- Safer Fun-Lights at the Basketball Courts: Gary Elementary \$250,000 - 161 Votes
- Children's Summer Water Safety-Sprinkler Installation: Le Claire/Hearst Park \$200,000 - 159 Votes
- Healthy Fun-Renewing Play spaces-Gary Elementary \$350,000 - 157 Votes
- Increased Wattage for Existing Light Poles-22nd & Keeler, 22 & Kolin, 28th & Kilbourn \$6,000 - 133 Votes
- New Residential Street and Walkway Lights: 2700 & 2800 S. Ridgeway \$124,000 - 109 Votes
- Healthy Fun-Renewing Play Spaces-McCormick Elementary School \$500,000 - 106 Votes
- Children's Summer Water Safety-Play Sprinkler-Shedd Park \$125,000 - 93 Votes
- Children's Summer Water Safety-Play Sprinkler Upgrade-Limas Park \$125,000 - 78 Votes
- Children's Summer Water Safety-Play Sprinkler Upgrade-Vittum Park \$125,000 - 62 Votes

22nd Ward Winning Projects



Recommendations for PB Chicago

At the start of the cycle, the PB Chicago City-Wide Steering Committee renewed three fundamental goals for the year: community building, equity, and inclusion. Research and evaluation data demonstrate some success in achieving all three goals. Each of the participating wards actively worked to build their capacity to improve their PB processes.

Experiences from Year One cycle demonstrated that when focusing on individuals that have been historically underrepresented in civic affairs or individuals who are not normally eligible to vote, additional targeted outreach is necessary to engage them in the process. Based on observations and conversations with participants, the most effective strategy implemented during the 2013-2014 cycle was the use of “mobile” assemblies or voting. This strategy brought PB events to strategic locations such as those with high foot traffic. For example, mobile voting locations for the PB vote in the 49th ward saw double the rates of participation of low-income individuals, people of color, and immigrants compared with rates of participation at the ward office.

Other effective strategies included conducting youth-targeted neighborhood assemblies, working with schools to co-sponsor voting opportunities, and placing “robo-calls” or automated phone calls to residents living in the ward. In addition, the 22nd Ward demonstrated how partnering with, a high-capacity community-based organization utilizes existing civic and community networks to reach more marginalized populations.

Building on the recommendations provided after the first cycle, we propose the following measures to both expand the number of participants and increase participation levels by people of color, low-income individuals of color, youth, renters, and immigrants:

- **Develop stronger partnerships with local community-based organizations.** Partnerships with local community-based organizations provide additional resources and outreach networks to the PB process. The partnership with Enlace Chicago in the 22nd Ward builds on existing community networks and enhances the ability to engage marginalized populations.
- **Increase engagement with schools and hold neighborhood assemblies and voting opportunities at schools during school hours to increase youth participation.** The 22nd Ward conducted two mobile voting sites at local high schools during school hours and approximately 30% of their PB voters were youth under the age of 18.
- **Locate PB events strategically to increase access for populations that tend not to participate.** Data from the 49th Ward demonstrated higher rates of participation by people of color, low-income individuals, and

immigrants at mobile voting sites than at the ward office or at the voting assembly. For example, 62% of mobile voters were people of color while 29% of voters at the ward office and the voting assembly were people of color.

- **Increase the number of neighborhood assembly and voting opportunities to increase the number of participants.** The 49th Ward had more voting opportunities than the other wards and had the highest number of PB voters.
- **Develop stronger partnerships with City of Chicago agencies to ensure accurate project pricing, short-term implementation of projects, and access to other funding sources to implement more community projects.** PB provides a space for residents to discuss needs and quality of life improvements in their community, work together with city staff and agencies and learn about additional city funding opportunities and programs. Through this interaction, communities participating in PB this year were able to leverage over \$1.6 million in additional funds for community improvements identified through the PB process.
- **Expand PB to other sources of public funds.** Each year, community members generate project ideas that are ineligible for implementation with “menu money” such as after school programs or workforce development programs. Additional sources of funding should be identified and made available to wards committing to PB for service-oriented projects.

Appendix

PB Chicago Steering Committee

The following organizations and individuals served on the Steering Committee for the 2013-2014 year:

Chicago Aldermen

Alderman John Arena, 45th Ward

Alderman Joe Moore, 49th Ward

Alderman Ricardo Muñoz, 22nd Ward

Organizations

UIC Great Cities Institute (Co-Chair)

The Participatory Budgeting Project (Co-Chair)

Active Transportation Alliance

Architresures

Blocks Together

Center for Tax and Budget Accountability

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Chicago Public Art Group

Community Media Workshop

Enlace Chicago

Friends of the Parks

Grassroots Collaborative

Illinois Collaboration on Youth

Illinois PIRG

Lawndale Alliance

Metropolitan Planning Council

Mikva Challenge

The Right Source

Smart Chicago Collaborative

Survey Research Lab

UIC Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement

United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations

Urban Transportation Center

Roles & Responsibilities of Partners

Community Stakeholders

In each ward, community members identified neighborhood issues and needs, proposed project ideas, provided feedback on project proposals, encouraged people to participate, volunteered to become a community representative (if they lived, attended a school, owned a business, worked, or had a child that attended a school in the ward), and voted on project proposals (if they were at least 14 years of age and resided in the ward in the 22nd and 45th Wards, and in the 49th Ward if they were at 16 years of age and resided in the ward).

Community Representatives

In each ward, community representatives did the extra work necessary to turn community ideas into full project proposals. They identified local problems and needs, discussed and prioritized initial project ideas, researched project ideas, developed full project proposals (with technical assistance from experts), consulted with community members on project proposals, and monitored the implementation of selected projects.

Ward Leadership Committees

In each ward, a PB Ward Leadership Committee (WLC) composed of residents, local organizations, institutions, and/or community leaders managed the PB process locally. The WLC assisted in the planning and implementation of the neighborhood assemblies, provided logistical support for the assemblies and meetings, distributed promotional materials and information about PB, conducted outreach to mobilize community members to participate, and monitored project implementation after the vote.

PB Chicago Steering Committee

The PB Chicago Steering Committee (SC) coordinated the PB process across the participating wards. The committee included the participating aldermen, the project leads, approximately two community representatives from each participating ward (who also serve on the WLC), and city-wide organizations focused on good government, research, policy, organizing, and community education. The SC designed and oversaw the PB process, assisted in raising support funding or in-kind contributions, distributed promotional and educational materials, conducted outreach to mobilize community members to participate, and encouraged PB for other wards and budgets.

Aldermanic Offices

Staff from each Aldermanic office participated on the Steering Committee and the Ward Leadership Committees. They also prepared and distributed educational and promotional materials; provided information on the prior year “menu” funds and past spending; provided logistical support for the assemblies, meetings, project expos, and the vote; acted as liaison with city

departments and agencies providing estimates for project proposals and leveraging funds with sister agencies; offered feedback and technical assistance on project proposals; delivered final PB decisions to the City; and monitored project implementation. In the 22nd Ward, Enlace Chicago partnered with the alderman's office on the implementation of the above activities.

**Project Leads – UIC Great Cities Institute
and the Participatory Budgeting Project**

The project leads prepared and distributed educational and promotional materials, provided technical assistance throughout the entire PB process, conducted the evaluation of the PB process, prepared written reports and data summaries of the process, assisted in providing interpretation and translation of materials, helped establish the PB Chicago online presence and resources for media, and encouraged PB for other wards and City budgets.

The project leads recruited graduate-level student interns from UIC's College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs to assist with implementation and add staffing support in each ward. Student interns were placed in Aldermanic offices throughout the cycle. Student interns assisted with day-to-day logistics and provided support for community meetings and neighborhood assemblies, assisted in data collection for the evaluation, provided administrative support to staff, conducted outreach, and facilitated small group discussions. Students also developed outreach plans with the goal of reaching more low-income individuals and people of color and soliciting their involvement in the process.

Acceptable IDs for PB Voter Eligibility

PB Voters were asked to prove that they live in the ward and are 16 years or older (14 years or older in the 45th and 22nd Wards). In order to facilitate broad participation, voters were able to present a wide array of proofs of identification, including but not limited to one or more of those below, to establish residency and age:

- A document with name and current address from a local, state, or US government agency such as a state driver's license or non-driver ID, consular ID, passport, EBT card, military ID card;
- Voter registration card;
- Utility, medical, credit card bill with name and current address;
- Current lease;
- Paycheck or paycheck stub from an employer or a W-2 statement;
- Bank statement or bank-issued credit card statement;
- Student ID;
- Employee ID;
- Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) or other Immigration Documentation;
- Residency Letter or Identification issued by a homeless shelter, halfway house, etc;
- Passport or other ID issued by a foreign government;
- Social Security benefit statements or check;
- Employment Authorization Document;
- Medicare or other insurance document with address;
- Tax forms;
- School records (or naming the parents of children attending school and the parents' address;
- Title to any property (automobiles, house, etc.) with address;
- Birth or marriage certificate;
- Union Membership Card.

People who could not present the above documents were instructed to contact their Alderman's office to learn how they can participate.

