

Planning Summaries Methodology

The Chicago Neighborhoods 2015 Planning Summaries provide synopses of citywide and submarket planning documents since 2000. Design guidelines, studies and unfinished plans were not included. Each planning summary includes the plan name, date the plan was made public and/or adopted by the Chicago Plan Commission, the Community Areas, the Plan Contributors, a brief overview, General and Specific Recommendations, Plan Maps and Data References, Highlighted Accomplishments, Key Unfinished Projects, and a hyperlink to the planning document. The following explains how certain fields were populated within the planning summaries:

- Plan contributors are lead agencies or individuals that participated in drafting the plans.
- The Community Areas are the neighborhoods that the plans intend to impact.
- The brief overview explains the context in which a plan was written, why it was written and what it intends to achieve. Generally, these are extracted directly from the planning documents or paraphrased based on a culmination of information within the planning documents and document webpages. They are meant to provide an abridged introduction to the community or study area, the challenges faced and the purpose of the plan.
- The General Recommendations cited for each plan represent the overarching goals of a plan, while the Specific Recommendations represent more precise action needed to achieve those goals. General recommendations and specific recommendations were extracted directly from the planning documents with their choice of words intact.
- Plan Maps and Data References lead readers to pages containing tables, charts, maps, and graphics that are especially relevant to the general and specific recommendations.
- Highlighted Accomplishments include the major outputs and outcomes gathered from plan updates released by the lead agencies or their partners, online research and/or information gathered from individuals who participated in drafting and/or implementing the plans or who possess personal knowledge of accomplishments.
- Key Unfinished Projects are not exhaustive of every recommendation or suggestion that remains to be implemented, but rather capture the major remaining recommendations gathered from plan updates, online research and /or information received from individuals who participated in drafting and/or implementing the plans or who possess personal knowledge.
- Please see the Outreach Summary spreadsheet for an account of who provided updates on Highlighted Accomplishments and Key Unfinished Projects.

It is important to emphasize that the accomplishments and unfinished projects provide a point-in-time snapshot of planning efforts that have resulted from the selected plans. The recommendations found in each planning document and corresponding results are continually evolving.