

VI Implementation Approach

As the first comprehensive plan undertaken in the community in decades, it was the responsibility of this work to evaluate the potential future and not limit the strategies based solely on what the SSA can do on their own. This means that although this work was sponsored by the SSA, the scope was much broader resulting in a series of recommendations that require strategic partnerships, political and City support and outside funding. This document is a guide and while there are many strategies that the SSA can fund and begin work on independently, many others require the SSA to continue the conversation and build greater momentum moving forward. City and State agencies, local institutions, and interested developers must form an active dialog about these recommendations. The SSA will need to creatively blend dollars from both public and private sources to maximize impact.

Attached is an Implementation Matrix that details the action type, timeframe, responsibility and partners, and potential funding sources for each recommendation, to help guide and keep track of the progress in implementing the plan's components. The spreadsheet should be actively used, updated, and changed once implementation commences.



The Evolution of an SSA

It is important to put this type of plan into perspective. SSA's, or more commonly BID's, exist throughout the Country and abroad. The earliest BID's pioneered a path that just about all others follow in one way or another today. The most successful BID's started with a simple mission to keep commercial areas "clean and safe." The Downtown Alliance in New York City and Center City District in Philadelphia both spent years allocating a majority of their budget to maintenance and improving public safety. These basics become the foundation for how business owners, residents and the City perceive the effectiveness of each BID. Within a few years, BID's typically expand into marketing, streetscape design and event planning to name a few. But the decision to undertake additional functions is often a difficult process fraught with disagreement. The WPB SSA's decision to undertake this plan builds on the best examples of other BID's that have used plans to identify how best to spend their money (and time). The Center City District in Philadelphia is now one of the most pervasive planning agencies in Philadelphia which has allowed them to raise additional funds and strategically allocate their own resources in a pragmatic and goal-oriented process.

The WPB SSA has, in many ways, forged new ground here. As noted above, this plan is not just about the SSA, but the entire community. It is forward thinking but also pragmatic. It is also an opportunity to help the SSA take the next evolutionary step in its development. Learning from other BIDs indicate that no matter how many additional functions they take on, clean and safe (and increasingly green) remains the foundation on which they were built. Moving forward, the SSA will need to continue to focus on these basics yet expand to support a greater range of activities.

What do we do tomorrow?

The SSA's first action item is to submit the plan for approval by the City of Chicago. Copies of the plan should be delivered to Mayor Daley's office, Alderman Flores and Alderman Waguespack, and the commissioners and deputy commissioners of all of the relevant City departments. The intent is to get the plan recognized by the City and to raise awareness that significant strides have been made to organize and improve the community. This should occur as soon as the SSA Commissioners officially adopt the plan.

The immediate next step is to allocate SSA funds toward professionally printing and binding at least one hundred copies of the plan. On-line production houses can professionally print and bind this plan into a book and the prices decrease with larger orders. The intent is to hand deliver copies of this document to local neighborhood groups, key stakeholders, foundations, and a range of local business owners and artists to get the word out about the plan's strategies.

The SSA should build on the widespread distribution of this document and organize an Implementation Committee comprised of SSA Commissioners, SSA residents and business owners and other key stakeholders. The Implementation Committee should divide the task of implementing the plan's seven key recommendation areas into seven sub-committees charged with raising funds, organizing volunteers and lobbying the City and other agencies for improvements.

Finally, some of the recommendations will require frequent contact with experts to help move forward further planning and implementation tactics. The SSA should also consider setting aside money to retain Land Strategies to help coordinate and advise the process of implementing many of the transportation recommendations. Land Strategies could then be available to meet with City and State officials, run traffic studies and develop alternative approaches for specific strategies if necessary.

Phasing and Priority Projects

Through discussions with the SSA Long-Term Planning Committee and comments from residents, a number of priority projects were identified. These priority projects are defined as critical investments that can have a transformative impact on the area over the next one to two years. While some of these projects will not be fully implemented within that time frame, it is important that significant progress be made toward their implementation.

Key priority projects include:

- Undertake annual power washing of corridor sidewalks (Recommendation 1.1)
- Market the SSA's snow removal service (Recommendation 1.3)
- Lobby for bicycle police presence (Recommendation 2.1)
- Collect and track arts housing and workspace data (Recommendation 4.1)
- Convert vacant ground floor retail space into Live-Work space for artists (Recommendation 4.3)
- Create an interactive on-line map of arts resources (Recommendation 4.6)
- Create a sign rebate program using artists as designers (Recommendation 4.10)
- Merge streetscape design with local arts talent (Recommendation 4.14)
- Actively recruit retail to fill niches (Recommendation 5.4)
- Enhance local business (Recommendation 5.7)
- Develop a complimentary and comprehensive recycling program (Recommendation 6.1)
- Offer incentives for the green basics; help businesses run greener (Recommendation 6.2)
- Improve the urban forest (Recommendation 6.5)
- Add new signage and additional crosswalks (Recommendation 7.2)
- Convert parking spaces to café seating along Damen and Milwaukee (Recommendation 7.11)
- Bike Wicker Park Bucktown (Recommendation 7.16)
- Add bike shelters to WPB's streetscape (Recommendation 7.22)
- Dedicate more space for bike parking (Recommendation 7.23)
- Develop a graphic identity and character for each station (Recommendation 7.31)
- Encourage transit pass provision and car sharing for new developments (Recommendation 7.36)
- Increase turnover of on-street parking spaces (Recommendation 7.37)
- Improve the intersection of North Avenue / Milwaukee Avenue / Damen Avenue (Recommendation 7.51)

The SSA's Capacity to Implement

The SSA has proven it is an extremely capable and knowledgeable organization with the potential to undertake a strong leadership role in guiding many of these recommendations toward reality. But with new ideas comes the need for more people to be actively involved. This leads us towards one last recommendation:

Hire additional staff!

ACTION > *Spend the Budget*

Within the coming year, hire at least one full-time employee to support the Program Manager, and maintain the existing intern program.

Monitor SSA staff capacity to ensure that staffing needs do not prevent key components of the plan from being implemented.

This plan adds significantly to the WPB SSA's To Do list, and as the plan moves toward implementation, resident and business support and participation are key to the ultimate success of the plan. The SSA must continue to work to inspire all stakeholders to get involved and stay involved. While both the organization's professional capacity and level of volunteer commitment are impressive, the SSA's staff will need to grow in order to keep up with existing responsibilities plus new tasks stemming from the plan.

Within the next year, the SSA should hire at least one additional full-time employee to support the Program Manager. The full-time employee's role would be focused on community outreach and maintaining links with local businesses. The intern program should remain in effect as well, expanding if necessary.

The ball is rolling, the challenge now is to maintain the energy and momentum. *Good luck... and have fun!*

Implementation Matrix

▶ Priority Projects Indicated by: ▶

What the SSA should do tomorrow			
Action	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶ Present the Plan to the City's Department of Planning and Development, the Mayor's Office, and local Aldermen	2008	SSA	--
▶ Professionally print the plan for widespread distribution	2008	SSA	SSA
▶ Organize an Implementation Committee of the SSA	2008	SSA	--
▶ Deliver the plan to local partner organizations and foundations	2008	SSA	--

1. Spruce up the Place

Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶ 1.1 - Undertake an annual pressure washing of corridor sidewalks			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create ongoing contract with contractor	2008-	SSA	SSA
1.2 - Adopt eco-friendly street cleaning and landscaping practices			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Research options for local eco-friendly street cleaning	2009-	SSA	SSA
Define scope and set-up annual contract	2009-	SSA / Cleanslate	SSA
▶ 1.3 - Market the SSA's snow removal service			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create a brochure for distribution at area businesses	2009	SSA / Aldermanic offices	SSA
1.4 - More trash cans, please			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create New Trash Can Program	2009	Local Artists	SSA / Aldermanic Menu / Bundle with other programs
Discuss Feasibility & Constraints	2009	CDOT / Aldermen / City Dep't of Streets & Sanitation	--
Installation	2010-2011	City Dep't of Streets & Sanitation / Local Artists	
1.5 - Promote graffiti removal and prevention programs and help connect business owners with assistance			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create a list of tagged properties	2009	SSA / local merchant associations	--
Market and facilitate tax-payer use of the WPB Graffiti Abatement Program	2010	SSA / local merchant associations	SSA / WPB Graffiti Abatement Program
1.6 - Contract annually to address vermin issues			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Research local options for pest management	2010	SSA / Safer Pest Control Project	--
Create integrated pest management plan	2011	SSA	SSA

2. Keep an Eye on Things				
	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶	2.1 - Lobby for bicycle police presence			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with City Police to schedule bike police on the weekends	2009	SSA / Aldermanic offices	--
	2.2 - Shed a little light on the scene			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with the City on options for solar powered lighting	2009	SSA	--
	Determine locations for a pilot implementation	2010	SSA	--
	Select fixture and install	2011	SSA	SSA
	2.3 - Consider lobbying for video cameras to increase safety at key intersections			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with CDOT to add Red Light Cameras to dangerous intersections	2009	CDOT	CDOT
3. Spread the Word				
	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
	3.1 - Commission new, multi-lingual neighborhood signage			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Engage an environmental design firm to design, locate and install signage	2011	SSA / BCO / WPC	SSA / MMP
	Install signage	2012	SSA / BCO / WPC	SSA
	3.2 - Develop an ongoing online storytelling component for the SSA website			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with web designer to place initial interviews online completed from 2008 open house	2008	SSA	SSA
	Engage Bulletproof Films to expand storytelling session	2010	SSA	SSA
	Develop web page to combine video interviews with an interactive map and photos	2011	SSA	SSA / MMP
	3.3 - Develop a directory and annual calendar for arts, small businesses, and services and put it online too			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with local arts organizations to coordinate calendars	2009	SSA / NNWAC / Flat Iron / Chopin	--
	Put data base on-line tied to a map	2009	SSA / NNWAC / Flat Iron / Chopin	SSA
	3.4 - Celebrate the seasons in WPB with temporary streetscape improvements and events			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Develop concept and reach out to local businesses for support	2010	SSA / local artists	--
	Fundraise and market the decorations	2011	SSA / local artists	SSA / Businesses / Aldermanic Menu / MMP
▶	3.5 - Advertise to reach tourist shoppers			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Put transportation routes and other information online	2009	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Work with City tourism office to further promote WPB	2009	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	SSA / MMP
	3.6 - Create a granting arm of the SSA, the WPB FUNd			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Develop parameters for FUNd	2010	SSA	WPB Community Grant
	Release clear guidelines and timelines for submitting grants	2011	SSA	
	Allocate resources	2011	SSA	
	Increase awareness and facilitate community access of City and State dollars for historic preservation	2011	SSA	Historic Preservation Tax Credits

4. Promote Local Arts				
	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶	4.1 Collect and track arts-housing and workspace data			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Build on the Cultural Audit to develop database of arts organizations and artists	2009	SSA / arts organizations	--
	Work with each organization to identify locations of existing artist workspaces	2010	SSA / arts organizations	--
	Update the database annually	2011-	SSA / arts organizations	--
	4.2 - Provide housing counseling for Do-It-Yourself renovations			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Reach out to local contractors and architects to gauge interest in teaching classes	2010	SSA / arts organizations	--
	Spread the word about the program	2012	SSA / arts organizations	SSA
▶	4.3 Convert vacant ground floor retail space into Live-Work space for artists			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Reach out to property owners and interested artists to explain the benefits and constraints of the proposed initiative.	2008	SSA / WPBTCOC	--
	Partner with property owners to pursue an administrative adjustment at the Department of Zoning to change properties zoned B3 in specified districts within the SSA to B2.	2009	SSA	--
	Assist property owners in obtaining special use permits for live/work spaces and in navigating the process with the Assessor of having the taxing designation changed from commercial to residential.	2008	SSA	--
	4.4 - Develop affordable arts space in the upper floors of mixed-use buildings			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Identify underutilized upper floors and work with property owners to secure leases	2010-	SSA / NNWAC / private owners / Aldermen	--
	Develop improvement plans and raise funds	2012	SSA / NNWAC / private owners / Aldermen	Private equity / grants / SSA subsidy
	4.5 - Support arts programs in the local schools and celebrate new spaces for arts instruction and incubator studios			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Market the arts education programs offered by local schools to neighborhood residents, young parents in particular.	2008	SSA / BCO / WPC	--
	Market the arts education programs offered by other community cultural centers.	2008	SSA / NNWAC	--
▶	4.6 - Create an interactive on-line map of arts resources			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	With recommendation 4.1, create a database of local artists	2009	SSA / local arts organizations / CAR	--
	Reach out to artists to generate interest in an on-line map	2009	SSA / local arts organizations / CAR	--
	Implement map with web designer	2010	SSA	SSA / MMP
	4.7 - Hire an arts district manager dedicated to promoting local artists and crafters			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Develop job description and review with arts organizations	2011	SSA / local arts organizations	--
	Bring on new employee	2012	SSA	SSA

	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
	4.8 - Create a talent pool of "second-order" creatives, WPB's design professionals			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Begin to circulate volunteer list identifying profession at commissioner and other neighborhood meetings	2009	SSA	--
	Hold first meeting of interested creatives to discuss potential role in implementing this plan	2010	SSA	--
	4.9 - Use the video projector			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Solicit an expression of interest in local artists and students to develop proposals for a series of short-term, public video installations	2010	SSA	--
	Commission a series of exhibits	2011	SSA	SSA
	4.10 - Create a sign rebate program using artists as designers			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Develop parameters for the program including maximum subsidy and requirements to receive grant	2009	SSA	--
	Secure a list of artists interested in the program	2009	SSA / local arts organizations	--
	Enlist five businesses pilot businesses for the pilot run of the project	2010	SSA / area businesses	SSA
	4.11 - Create roving galleries by integrating art in local stores			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Reach out to local businesses to discuss the potential of including local art in their space	2010	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Create a list of potential galleries, "curate" local artists in each space, and market gallery walks / opening nights	2010	Local arts organizations	SSA
	Offer a limited financial incentive to businesses to encourage more participation	2011	SSA	SSA
	4.12 - Enhance the Flat Iron as WPB's arts hub			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Begin a dialogue with new arts group in the Flat Iron	2009	SSA	--
	Offer a clear timetable of SSA investments based upon their plans to help expand their presence and those of the arts in WPB	2010	SSA / Flat Iron artists	SSA
	4.13 - Introduce new public art			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Identify locations for new public art and create a timeline for action	2011	SSA	--
	Encourage private developers to include 1% for art along the sidewalks of their developments	2012	SSA / Aldermen	--
	4.14 - Merge streetscape design with local arts talent			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Coordinate with City departments to discuss permitting issues and potential support	2009	SSA	--
	Develop list of local artists interested in designing new street furniture	2009	SSA / local arts organizations	--
	Develop budget expectations, timeframe and expectations of final product	2009	SSA	--
	Identify locations for 15-20 new bike (art) racks as the pilot effort	2010	SSA / Aldermen	CDOT / CIP / Aldermanic Menu / SSA

5. Guide Development				
	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶	5.1 - Adopt an official SSA stance on density			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss zoning concepts with local community organizations and Aldermen	2009	SSA	--
	Work with Aldermen to change zoning and apply overlays where appropriate	2009	Aldermen	--
▶	5.2 - Promote Low Impact Development (LID) and green building technologies in all new construction and rehabilitation projects			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Establish high standards of review for stormwater management, green building, and site design, and reach out to owners of key development sites to discuss their future plans	2008	Aldermen	--
	Continue to review and guide development in coordination with the Chamber, BCO and WPC	2008	BCO / WPC / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Link prospective local developers with information about City resources for green desing and building.	2008	City Dep't of Environment	City Dep't of Environment
	5.3 - Work to Redevelop Strategic Sites			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Reach out to owners of key development sites to discuss their future plans	2009	Aldermen	--
	Continue to review and guide development in coordination with the Chamber, BCO and WPC	2009-	BCO / WPC / Chamber of Commerce	--
▶	5.4 - Actively recruit retail to fill niches			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with local Chambers of Commerce to develop recruiting plan	2008	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Contact local firms that fit niches	2008	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Contact trade associations	2009	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Advertise in trade journals	2009	Chamber of Commerce	SSA
	Develop contacts and finalize leads	2009 and Beyond	Chamber of Commerce	--
	5.5 - Reinforce retail districts			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Adopt an active voice in the future redevelopment discussions concerning key commercial sites to ensure that new retail development is in keeping with local values, needs, and design expectations.	2008	SSA / Chamber of Commerce / BCO / WPC	--
	5.6 - Take some retail precautions			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discourage national chains from locating on the Division Street corridor	2008	Chamber of Commerce / City / Aldermen	--
	Ensure that the banking ordinance is enforced throughout the SSA.	2008	Aldermen	--
	Maintain a healthy mixture of daytime and nighttime uses	2008	Chamber of Commerce	--
▶	5.7 - Enhance local businesses			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Encourage locally owned businesses to become members of Local First Chicago and become active in the group ensuring the needs of Wicker Park Bucktown are met by the organization.	2008	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Link building owners with Local First Chicago as well for education about reasonable commercial rental rates and strategies that will benefit both local businesses and building owners.	2008	Chamber of Commerce / SSA	--
	Set up a grant system for new, locally owned businesses that locate within the boundaries of the SSA.	2009	SSA	SSA
	Encourage national chains to locate outside key locations throughout the SSA, avoiding the Division Street corridor, in particular.	2008	Chamber of Commerce	--
	5.8 - Market small spaces to prospective businesses			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Designate a staff member and time to set up and maintain available space database	2009	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Set up a list of land owners that would be willing to participate in this program	2009	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Advertise this system to all current SSA contacts and prominent space on SSA homepage.	2010	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Develop a system to ensure regular maintenance while using as little staff time as possible.	2010	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	5.9 - Reuse the Northwest Tower building as a green hotel			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Research the concept of green and boutique hotels	2011	SSA	--
	Reach out to hotel operator to gauge interest	2012	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Discuss the concept with the Northwest's owner and Aldermen	2012	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--

6. Greenify				
	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶	6.1 - Develop a complementary and comprehensive recycling program			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Begin pilot program at six corners intersection to install new recycling cans	2008	SSA	SSA
	Set-up contract with Clean Slate to maintain cans	2008	SSA	--
	Work with area restaurants to collect cardboard - start with a pilot area on Damen north of	2009	SSA	--
	Develop a plan to coordinate recycling services for residential buildings of 4 or more units that are not eligible for City Scavenger Service	2010	SSA	SSA
	Pioneer a new application of RecycleBank at the BID level to incentivize recycling by all.	2009	SSA / RecycleBank	SSA / RecycleBank
▶	6.2 - Offer incentives for the green basics; help businesses run greener.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Determine specific approved green items and determine assistance levels	2009	SSA	--
	Buy bio-bags and bio-paks in bulk and offer them to local businesses	2010	SSA	--
	Order and distribute reusable WPB bags for local shopping trips	2010	SSA	--
	Enlist one to two restaurant owners to set up a Restaurant Green Alliance in WPB	2010	SSA / Chamber of Commerce	--
	Market the initiative in meetings, on-line and through postcards	2010	SSA / Aldermen	SSA / Aldermanic Menu
	6.3 - Integrate stormwater best management practices into streetscape design.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Reach out to private institutions about the possibility of integrating new rain gardens into their property	2010	SSA	--
	Require stormwater best management practices for all new developments	2010	Aldermen	--
	Work with the City to develop plans to integrate new swales and raingardens into local streets	2012	Aldermen / CDOT / DPD	CDOT / CIP
	6.4 - Green the alleys.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Identify first priority alleyways for improvement	2009	SSA / Aldermen / BCO / WPC	--
	Coordinate with the City on timeframe and implementation	2010	SSA / Aldermen	CIP
	Develop a calendar of temporary events to use and raise awareness of the alleys	2012	SSA / BCO / WPC	SSA / Aldermanic Menu
▶	6.5 - Improve the urban forest.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Set up a contract to maintain trees in the SSA using the tree survey as a starting point	2009	SSA	SSA
	Update the professional landscape inventory every three years.	2011	SSA	SSA
	Coordinate with the Garden Club and other groups about gardening at the base of trees - enlist the support of adjacent businesses	2010	SSA / Wicker Park Garden Club / Local Business	Local businesses / SSA
	6.6 - Make Western and Ashland Avenues green boulevards.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Coordinate with CDOT and the City to discuss opportunities for transforming them into green streets	2010	SSA / Aldermen	--
	Fund pilot projects that make a visible difference such as planters, raingardens and bike lanes	2012-	SSA / Aldermen	CDOT / SSA
	6.7 - Make the Bloomingdale Trail gateways center pieces of WPB.			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Continue to coordinate and participate in the activities of the Friends of the Bloomingdale Trail	2008-	Friends of the Bloomingdale / SSA	--
	Commission and install signage where the Bloomingdale Trail will meet the neighborhood to raise awareness about the plan for the Trail and the process for its completion.	2010	Friends of the Bloomingdale / SSA	SSA
	Allocate funds for upgrading Trail entrances with unique materials, sculpture, or water features.	2012	Friends of the Bloomingdale / SSA	SSA

Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶ 6.8 - Make Mautene Court happen.			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Coordinate with the City on final design	2008	DPD / CDOT / SSA	--
Execute maintenance contract with Cleanslate	2009	SSA	--
Coordinate final implementation	2009	DPD / CDOT / Chamber	CIP / CDOT
6.9 - Create breathing / living space "off Milwaukee."			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Discuss concept with CDOT and City and coordinate with local business owners	2009	SSA / DPD / CDOT	--
Create a mini-traffic study	2009	SSA	SSA
Develop plans for one pilot living room and implement	2011	SSA / DPD / CDOT	Aldermanic Menu / SSA / CDOT
6.10 - Reclaim the Polish Triangle.			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Plan to temporarily close the Triangle over the winter and organize meetings to discuss the future	2010	Aldermen / SSA	SSA / Aldermanic Menu
Organize holiday decorations and short-term outdoor exhibits for the space while long-term planning is underway	2011-	SSA / local arts organizations	SSA / Aldermanic Menu
Lobby the City to temporarily close Milwaukee and study the impacts	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	CMAQ/ITEP/CIP
Develop a full traffic study	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
Implement initial traffic recommendations (see Rec. 7.52)	2014	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
Coordinate a long-term improvement plan with CTA	2015-2016	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
7. Make Connections			
Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
7.1 - Create pedestrian gateways			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create Gateway Sign Prototype	2011	CDOT/Local Artists & Industrial Designers	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/ITEP/Bundle with other improvement programs
Establish Locations and Prioritize Placement	2013	Aldermen	
Manufacture and Erect Signs	2015	CDOT/Local Artists & Industrial Designers	
▶ 7.2 - Add new signage and additional crosswalks; upgrade existing facilities			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Locations and Prioritize Placement	2009	CDOT/Aldermen	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
Design signage and crosswalks	2010	CDOT	
Install signage and crosswalks	2010	CDOT	
7.3 - Reclaim pedestrian space and slow traffic with bump-outs, striping, and by removing excess asphalt			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Locations and Prioritize Placement	2010	CDOT/Aldermen	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
Design the Installation	2011	CDOT	
Install	2013	CDOT	
7.4 - Install pedestrian HAWK signals			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Discuss Feasibility	2010	CDOT	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
Establish Locations on and Prioritize Placement	2012	CDOT/Aldermen	
Design the Installation	2014	CDOT	
Install HAWK Signals	2015	CDOT	
7.5 - Eliminate or replace news stands			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create News Stand Program	2016	CDOT/Local Vendors	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/Local Business Grants/Bundle with other programs
Discuss Feasibility & Constraints	2017	CDOT/Aldermen	
Begin Program	2018	CDOT/Local Vendors	
▶ 7.6 - Encourage sidewalk repair and maintenance			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Locations for Repair (see this report for locations)	2009	SSA	CMAQ/CDOT Cost Share/ITEP
Discuss Shared Cost Sidewalk Program with Property Owners	2010	Property Owners	
Reconstruct Sidewalks	2011	CDOT	

Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
7.7 - Innovate with construction scaffolding and chain link			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Create Scaffolding Program	2010	Local Artists	--
Raise awareness of program	2011	Aldermen/Developers	SSA
Execute Program	2011	Developers/Local Artists	Developers
7.8 - Create safe and attractive pedestrian and bicycle programs under the Kennedy Expressway			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Feasibility & Constraints	2010	CDOT/IDOT	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
Identify Improvement Plan for Each Underpass	2011	Design Team	
Design and Prioritize Plan	2012	Design Team	
Construct Plan	2013	CDOT	
7.9 - Extend Pedestrian Street designations			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Study and raise awareness of plan benefits	2009	Aldermen/DPD/Property Owners	--
Coordinate Legal Issues	2010	Aldermen/City Law Dept.	--
Establish Plan	2011	Aldermen/City Council	--
7.10 - Launch a design review initiative on Ashland and Western Avenues			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Get involved with all development plans on Ashland and Western Avenues	2008	Aldermen/Developers	--
7.11 - Convert parking spaces to café seating along Damen and Milwaukee			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Locations	2008	Business Owners/Aldermen/CDOT	-
Design the Installation	2009	Design Team/Business Owners/CDOT	SSA
Install Café Seating	2010	Design Team/Business Owners/CDOT	SSA / Private Business / Aldermanic Menu
7.12 - Advocate for bicycle improvements			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Lobby the Aldermen/State Representatives to embrace the bicycling community	2010	Aldermen/State Representatives	--
Survey the community with regards to bicycle issues	2010	Community Organizations	--
Suggest outside funding sources for bicycle improvements	2011	Aldermen/State Representatives/CBF	--
Encourage the Aldermen to hold community meetings to get feedback from more stakeholders on biking in Wicker Park Bucktown	2011	Aldermen/Community Organizations	--
7.13 - Organize community bicycle event programs			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Plan an event that is targeted towards bicyclists	2012	Aldermen/CDOT	SSA Funds/Mayor's Office of Special Events/Sponsorships/Donations
Market the event in conjunction with CBF	2012	CBF	SSA Funds
7.14 - Educate new riders and car drivers			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Engage the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation to work with riders at local events	2009	CBF	--
Promote CBF's bike to work education services to local businesses	2009	CBF	--
7.15 - Create a Bike Buddy program			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Survey the community to gauge the interest in a program that would match experienced riders with beginning riders	2011	Residents/Community Organizations/Local businesses	SSA
Create a Bike Buddy website that matches riders and market it through Chamber of Commerce and local community organizations	2011	Chamber of Commerce/Community Organizations/CBF	
Monitor the usage of the program to measure its effectiveness	2011		
7.16 - Bike Wicker Park Bucktown!			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Gather information to include in map/website (bike routes, destinations, bicycle friendly stores, bike shelters, etc)	2008	Residents/Businesses/Aldermen/CBF	--
Obtain sponsors for program (similar to Chase and Chicago Bike Map)	2008	Businesses	--
Create map/website for Bike Wicker Park Bucktown!	2009	Outside Consultant	SSA Funds/Sponsors
Distribute map/market program	2009	CBF/Businesses/Hotels/Bike Stores	--
Update map/website	2010	SSA	SSA Funds/Sponsors

	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
	7.17 - Design and install new bicycle signage			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Design an install unique street signs that identify Wicker Park Bucktown as a bicycling community	2012	Artists/Aldermen/CDOT	CMAQ/ITEP/STP/Aldermanic Menu/Business Sponsorships
	Work with Aldermen and CDOT to receive approvals	2013	Aldermen/CDOT	--
	Allow for sponsorship of the signs	2013	Local Businesses	--
	7.18 - Provide bicycle parking at festivals			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with local festivals to dedicate space and employees for bicycle valet parking	2009	Local Festivals	Festivals/Mayor's Office of Special Events
	7.19 - Sponsor Bike to Work Week activities			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Host an event such as a Commuter Bike Check Station during Bike to Work Week.	2009	CBF	Festivals/Mayor's Office of Special Events
	7.20 - Introduce new bicycle lanes and make all bicycle lanes more visible			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Provide bicycle lanes on Western Avenue	2013	CDOT/Aldermen	CMAQ/STP/ITEP/TCSP/Cook County Highway Department/CIP
	Provide bicycle lanes on Ashland Avenue	2011	CDOT/Aldermen	CMAQ/STP/ITEP/TCSP/Cook County Highway Department/CIP
	Support bike lanes on Bloomingdale Trail	2008	Friends of Bloomingdale Trail/Project for Public Spaces/CDOT/Aldermen	--
	Support innovative striping on SSA roadways	2009	CDOT	--
	Gather support for new bicycle trail along Chicago River	2010	CDOT	--
	7.21 - Advocate for the installation of bike boulevards in WPB			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Support CDOT's future bike boulevard effort	2009	CDOT/CBF	--
	7.22 - Add bike shelters to WPB's streetscape			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with Aldermen, CDOT, and CTA on design and materials	2008	Aldermen/CDOT/SSA	--
	Install bike shelters on Milwaukee Avenue, Damen Avenue, Division Street, and CTA L stations	2009	Bicycle Shelter Designer	CMAQ/SSA Funds/Sponsors/Aldermanic Menu
	Sponsor a design contest for artists and designers to create future shelters	2010	Artist/Public	SSA Funds
	Recommend that bike shelters be installed on sidewalks with new developments	2008	Aldermen/CDOT/DPD	--
	7.23 - Dedicate more space for bike parking			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Provide on-street bike parking at three locations	2009	Aldermen/CDOT	SSA Funds/Aldermanic Menu
	Convert existing parking meters to bike parking	2010	Aldermen/CDOT/Department of Revenue	SSA Funds
	Place a link on the SSA website to request more bike parking	2008		--
	Work with the TMA and local businesses on future bike parking locations	2009	TMA/Local Businesses	--
	Review all developments to ensure that adequate bike parking is being provided	2008	Aldermen	--
	7.24 - Claim space for Bike Boxes at Intersections			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Establish Locations and Prioritize Placement	2012	CDOT/Aldermen	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
	Design signage and crosswalks	2013	CDOT	
	Install signage and crosswalks	2014	CDOT	
	7.25 - Provide bike lane channelization through intersections			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Establish Locations and Prioritize Placement	2012	CDOT/Aldermen	SSA/Aldermanic Menu/CMAQ/ITEP/STP/ HEP
	Design signage and crosswalks	2013	CDOT	
	Install signage and crosswalks	2014	CDOT	
	7.26 - Adjust traffic signals to accommodate bicycles			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with CDOT to ensure that all future traffic signal designs take bicyclists into account!	2014	CDOT	--
	7.27 - Provide bus tracker information at bus stops and business locations			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Determine technical issues and opportunities of bus tracker	2013	CDOT/CTA	RTA Transit Technology/CMAQ
	Create bus tracker locational and priority plan	2014	CTA/CDOT/Business Owners/Alderman	
	Design and installation of bus trackers	2015	CTA/CDOT/Business Owners	

	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
▶	7.28 - Provide protected full bus shelters or benches at bus stops			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Establish best strategy for shelter and bench implementation	2009	Aldermen/CDOT/CTA/Business Owners	RTA & FTA Grants/CMAQ
	Review development plans for shelter and bench opportunities	2008	Aldermen/Developers	
	Prioritize locations for shelter and benches	2010	CTA/CDOT	
	Design of shelters and benches	2011	CTA/CDOT/Business Owners	
	Installation begins of shelters and benches	2012	CTA/CDOT/Business Owners	
	7.29 - Implement traffic signal priority for bus routes			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Monitor current traffic signal priority plan on Western Avenue	2008	CTA/CDOT	RTA Transit Technology/CMAQ/STP
	Determine technical issues and opportunities of traffic signal priority	2014	CTA/CDOT	
	Determine future plans for and opportunities for new traffic signal priority installations	2015	CTA/CDOT	
	Encourage and participate in new traffic signal priority installations	2016	Aldermen/CTA/CDOT	
	7.30 - Implement Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Western Avenue			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Create a Western Avenue BRT Future Committee	2009	All Participating Alderman	CMAQ/STP/RTAP
	Create land use, transportation and economic master plan for Western Avenue	2011	Aldermen/DPD/CTA/CDOT	--
	Implement BRT related improvements as new developments are constructed	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/CTA/Developers/DPD	--
	Examine opportunities for station locations that support the system and for the elimination of vehicular access locations	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/CTA/Developers/DPD	--
▶	7.31 - Develop a graphic identity and character for each station			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Create a graphic identity for each station	2009	CTA/Local Artists	SSA/CTA Adopt a Station
	Implement graphic identity at each station potentially with CTA Adopt a Station Program	2010	Local Artists/CTA	
	7.32 - Promote stations as places			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss benefits of transit oriented business located at and near stations	2009	Chamber of Commerce	--
	Discuss SSA role in review of land use near transit stations	2008	Aldermen/DPD/Developers/Chamber of Commerce	--
	Discuss bike shelter implementation at each station	2009	CDOT/CTA	--
	Construct protected bike shelters at each station	2010	CDOT/CTA	--
	Create formal plan for transit station pedestrian accessibility	2012	Design Team/CDOT/CTA	--
	Design pedestrian improvements at transit stations	2013	Design Team/CDOT/CTA	--
	7.33 - Improve the Clybourn Metra Station area			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with Metra on their station improvement plan to include community amenities	2009	Aldermen/Metra	--
	Discuss changing station name to benefit entire community	2009	Aldermen/Metra	--
	Review and support land use decisions that support transit	2009	Aldermen/DPD/Developers	--
	Discuss SSA role in review of land use near Metra station	2009	Aldermen/DPD/Developers/Chamber of Commerce	--
	Establish parking opportunities near station	2010	CDOT/IDOT/Property Owners/Alderman	--
	Create transit oriented design plan for station area	2013	Design Team/RTA	CMAQ / RTAP / Aldermanic Menu
	Work to provide bike and car rental near station	2016	TMA/Local Business	--
	Manufacture and Erect Signs	2016	CDOT/Local Artists & Industrial Designers	CMAQ/RTAP/STP/ITEP
	7.34 - Purchase transit passes			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss program	2012	CTA/TMA/Employers	SS/CMAQ
	Create and coordinate program	2013	CTA/TMA/Employers	
	Implement program	2014	CTA/TMA/Employers	
	7.35 - Launch a shopper benefit program			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss program	2010	TMA/CTA/Chamber of Commerce/Business Owners	SSA/CMAQ
	Create and coordinate program	2011	TMA/CTA/Chamber of Commerce/Business Owners	
	Implement program	2013	TMA/CTA/Chamber of Commerce/Business Owners	
▶	7.36 - Encourage transit pass provision and car sharing for new developments			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Create program	2009	TMA/Aldermen	--
	Implement program	2010	TMA/Aldermen	Developers
▶	7.37 - Increase turnover of on-street parking spaces			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Advocate for installation of new (pay and display meters)	2008	Aldermen/Department of Revenue	--
	Make price of parking a high priority with respect to transportation	2008	Aldermen/Department of Revenue	--
	Conduct parking studies to monitor parking demand and turnover once new meters are installed	2009	Outside Consultant	SSA Funds
	7.38 - Remove rush hour parking restrictions from North Avenue			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Petition the Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT to remove the existing rush hour parking restrictions on North Avenue	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	--

	Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
	7.39 - Create new remote access parking at the WPB's fringe			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Review plans for new parking lots to see if they fit the provided criteria	2009	Aldermen/DPD	--
	Ensure that all new parking lots are priced less than the cost of on-street parking	2009	Parking lot owners	--
	Provide bicycle parking with all off-street parking lots	2009	Aldermen/DPD	--
	Be creative with funding for new off-street lots	2009	Aldermen/DPD	--
	7.40 - Better tailor side street permit parking restrictions			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Continue to work with Aldermen to modify 24-hour permit parking restrictions to something less restrictive, like 6 PM to 9 AM	2008	Aldermen	--
	7.41 - Better utilize off-street parking during non-peak times			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Coordinate with valet operators and parking lot owners to share parking spaces	2009	Valet Operators/Parking Lot owners	--
	▶ 7.42 - Educate business owners and delivery service providers about loading zone rules			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Produce a flyer or brochure on the rules of loading zones	2009	SSA	SSA
	Create online map of loading zone locations	2010	SSA	SSA
	Discuss loading zones at large meetings with businesses	2009	Chamber of Commerce/Aldermen	--
	Review plans for new developments and minimize amount of new loading zones	2009	Aldermen/DPD/CDOT	--
	7.43 - Consolidate and share loading zones			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss advantages of shared loading zones at meetings with businesses	2012	Chamber of Commerce/Aldermen	--
	Remove existing loading zones at re-development locations if it is feasible to share a loading zone with an adjacent property	2012	Aldermen/DPD/CDOT	--
	7.44 - Investigate charging for loading zones			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with the Aldermen to support charging for loading zones	2010	Aldermen	--
	7.45 - Create a Transportation Management Agency (TMA)			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Work with Aldermen to discuss TMA	2008	Aldermen	--
	Set up TMA	2009	Aldermen/Chamber of Commerce/Developers	--
	7.46 - Introduce a local shuttle service			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Study the feasibility of shuttle service	2013	CTA/TMA/Shuttle Company	CMAQ/RTA Operating & Capital Grants
	Design Shuttle System	2014	CTA/TMA/Shuttle Company	
	Implement System	2015	CTA/TMA/Shuttle Company	
	7.47 - Create parking cash out program			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Discuss program	2016	TMA/Business Owners	SSA/CMAQ
	Create and coordinate program	2017	TMA/Business Owners	
	Implement program	2018	TMA/Business Owners	
	7.48 - Identify additional car sharing locations			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Support the use on on-street parking spaces for car sharing	2009	Aldermen/I-Go/ZipCar	--
	Review plans for new developments and advocate for car sharing spaces to be included in new parking structures	2008	Aldermen/DPD	--
	7.49 - Advocate for additional cab stand locations			
	<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
	Advocate for relocation of the existing cab stand on Milwaukee Avenue to Division Street, east of Milwaukee Avenue	2016	Aldermen/CDOT	--
	Look for new cab stand opportunities at retail areas and transit locations	2012	Aldermen/CDOT	--

Recommendation	Timeframe	Responsibility / Partners	Potential Source of Funds
7.50 - Sponsor a Car-Free Festival			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Establish Feasibility & Constraints	2016	Aldermen/CDOT/Bike Federation/Local Organizations	SSA / Aldermanic Menu / Private Sponsorship
Look for new cab stand opportunities at retail areas and transit locations	2017	Aldermen/CDOT/Bike Federation/Local Organizations	
Implement festival	2018	Aldermen/CDOT/Bike Federation/Local Organizations	
7.51 - Improve the intersection of North Avenue/Milwaukee Avenue/Damen Avenue			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Meet with IDOT, CDOT, and Aldermen to discuss the recommended improvements	2008	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	--
Conduct Intersection Design Study/Signal Plans to show the modification of the intersection	2010	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	SSA Funds/CMAQ/CIP
Re-stripe crosswalks and install audible pedestrian countdown signals to improve the pedestrian operations	2010	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	SSA Funds/CMAQ/ITEP/CIP
Prohibit left-turns on North Avenue and Damen Avenue and eliminate left-turn lanes	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	CMAQ/ITEP/STP/CIP
Provide dedicated bicycle lanes on Damen and reduce pedestrian crossing distances	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	
Install a new, modern traffic signal	2015	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	
Stripe bike boxes on Damen Avenue and Milwaukee Avenue	2011	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	
Stripe and allow for a pedestrian scramble at the intersection	2015	Aldermen/CDOT/IDOT	
7.52 - Set the stage for a renewed Polish Triangle: Improve the Intersection of Division Street/Milwaukee Avenue/Ashland Avenue			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Work with Alderman Flores and CDOT to reduce the lane sizes on Division/Milwaukee/Ashland	2014	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	CMAQ/ITEP/CIP
Move curb lines to reduce pedestrian crossing distances	2014	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
Conduct study to analyze the impact of closing Milwaukee between Ashland and Division	2012	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
Complete Intersection Design Study and Signal Plans for the proposed lane changes	2015	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
Construct improvements to the intersection	2016	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC/DPD	
7.53 - Improve the Intersection of Division Street/Honore Street/Marion Court			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Work with CDOT to improve the intersection's safety for pedestrians	2016	Alderman Flores/CDOT	CIP/Aldermanic Menu
7.54 - Improve Pedestrian, Bike, and Vehicular Safety at the Intersection of Milwaukee Avenue/Wolcott Avenue/Wood Street			
<i>Key Initial Action Steps</i>			
Short Term: Provide channelization/signage at the intersection to make it more clear to drivers and bicyclists	2009	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC	SSA Funds/Aldermanic Menu
Work with Alderman Flores and CDOT to restrict Wood Street to northbound only	2010	Aldermen/CDOT/OEMC	Hazard Elimination Program/CIP/Developer Contributions
Review plans for the redevelopment of the existing Walgreen's site at the southwest corner at the intersection and advocate that the developer contribute to the improvements at the intersection	2008	Aldermen/CDOT/DPD	--

- Glossary
- BCO Bucktown Community Organization
 - CAR Chicago Artist Resource
 - CDOT Chicago Department of Transportation
 - CIP Capital Improvement Program
 - CMAQ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program
 - CTA Chicago Transit Authority
 - DPD Chicago Department of Planning and Development
 - FTA Federal Transportation Administration
 - HEP Hazard Elimination Program
 - ITEP Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program
 - MMP Illinois Tourism Marketing Partnership Program Grant
 - NNWAC Near NorthWest Arts Council
 - RTA Regional Transportation Authority
 - RTAP Regional Technical Assistance Program
 - STP Surface Transportation Enhancement Program
 - TCSP Transportation, Community, and System Preservation
 - WPC Wicker Park Committee