



Chicago Red Line South Extension



Urban Planning students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Part of a Community Engagement in Planning course with
Professor Lou Turner



What is Planning?

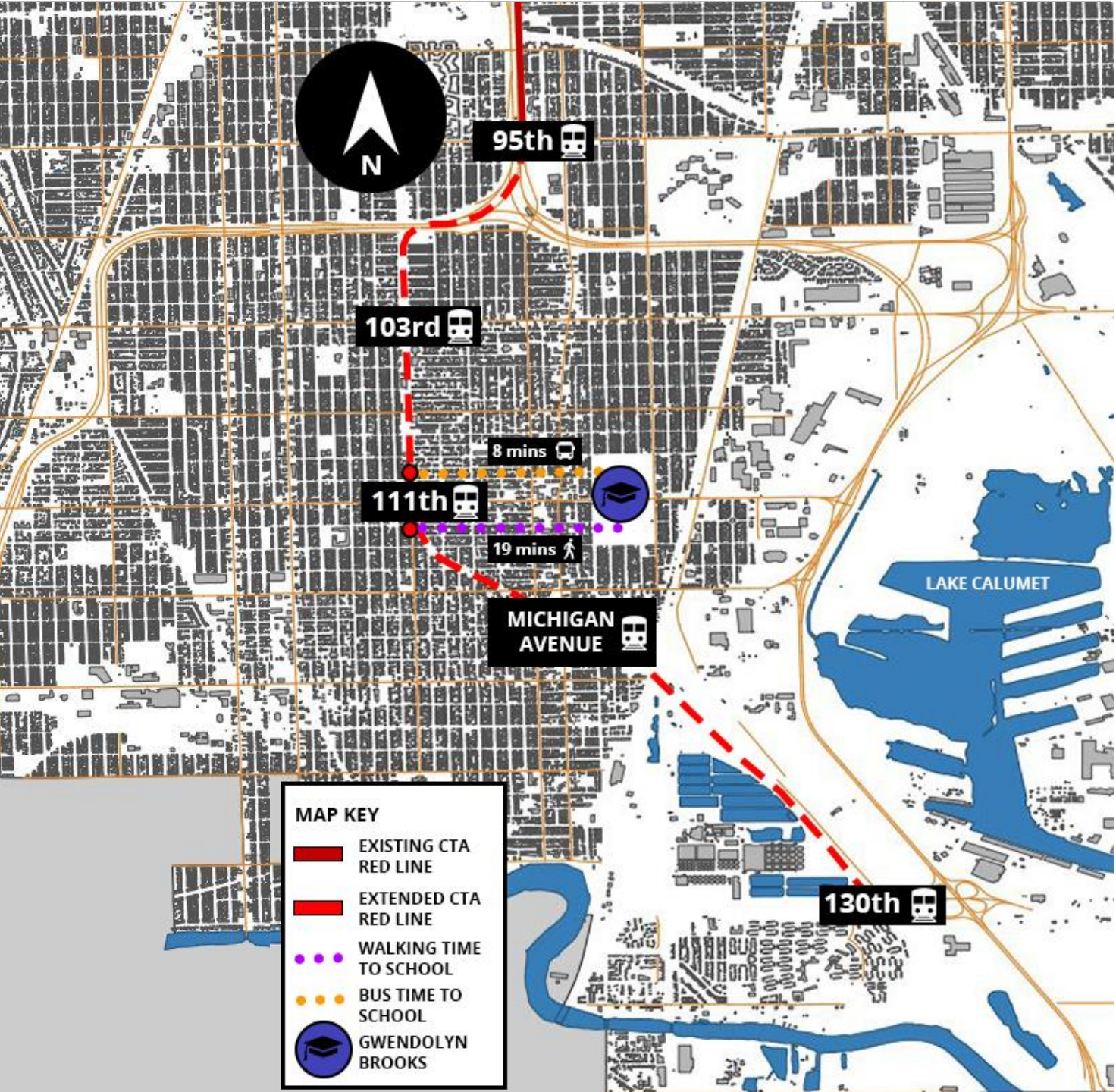
The development and design of land use and the built environment, concerned with the planning of settlements and communities, typically analyzing land use compatibility as well as economic, environmental and social trends

Urban planners provide designs for streets, parks, buildings, and other urban areas

Urban Planners investigate research and analysis, strategic planning, architecture, urban design, public consultation, policy recommendations, implementation and management

UIUC Urban Planning Concentrations:

- Social Justice
- Planning & Policy
- Sustainability
- Global Cities



Background of the Red Line Extension

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Purpose of Engagement for the Red Line Extension

Our goal: To increase the visibility of the Redline Extension.

Our Plan: To meet with you, the students, and engage/inspire you to push for the development of the RLE

What we have done so far?

- We have visited stakeholders and community members that the RLE would impact
 - Trinity Christian Church
 - Altgeld Gardens
- We have visited agencies that are working on the RLE
 - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
 - Chicago Department of Transportation
 - CTA Chicago Transit Authority

Planning Process of RLE

The RLE is currently on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.



How is Brooks impacted?

Positive

- Saving Time
- Better Time Management
- Saving Money
- Freedom
- Accessibility

Negative

- Greater travel times
- Unreasonable distances
- Location
- Multiple modes of transportation
- Traveling is Costly

How to Engage the Red Line Extension?

SOCIAL MEDIA

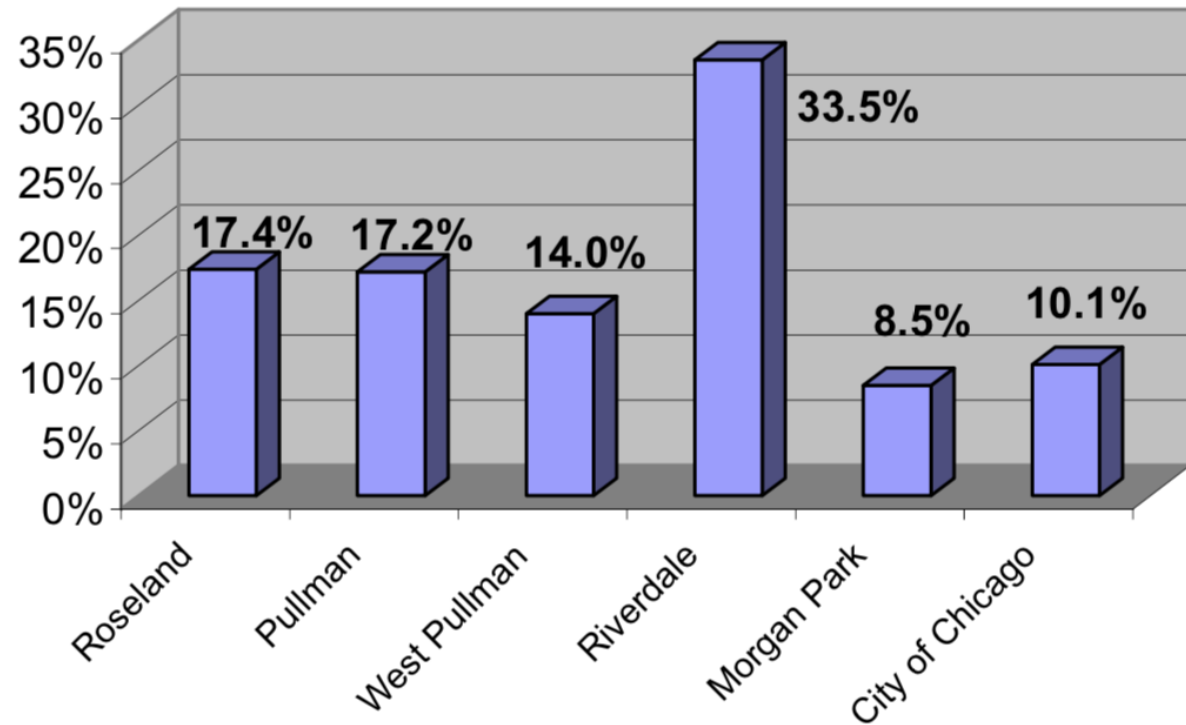
Follow us on [Twitter](#) @Reduiuc and use #MyRLE

- Express your voice on how the Red Line Extension can and will benefit you!
- Talk about it with family and friends to get the word around
- Tweet about how the RLE will help you get to school, downtown, a friend's house, etc.

RLE Issue: Jobs & Workforce Development

The Red Line Extension could increase access to jobs in the Far South Side of Chicago by 56%

Greater Roseland Unemployment, 2000



RLE Issue: Community & Transit-Oriented Development



Community Economic Development: Creation of “a strong workforce and a healthy culture for thriving businesses to stimulate economic investment, growth and stability” — Endeleo Institute

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD): “the deliberate planning and development of an area to provide a mix of housing, work, shopping and entertainment options near transit stops” — Lou Turner, Wetmore Lecture, 2015

RLE Issue: Gentrification

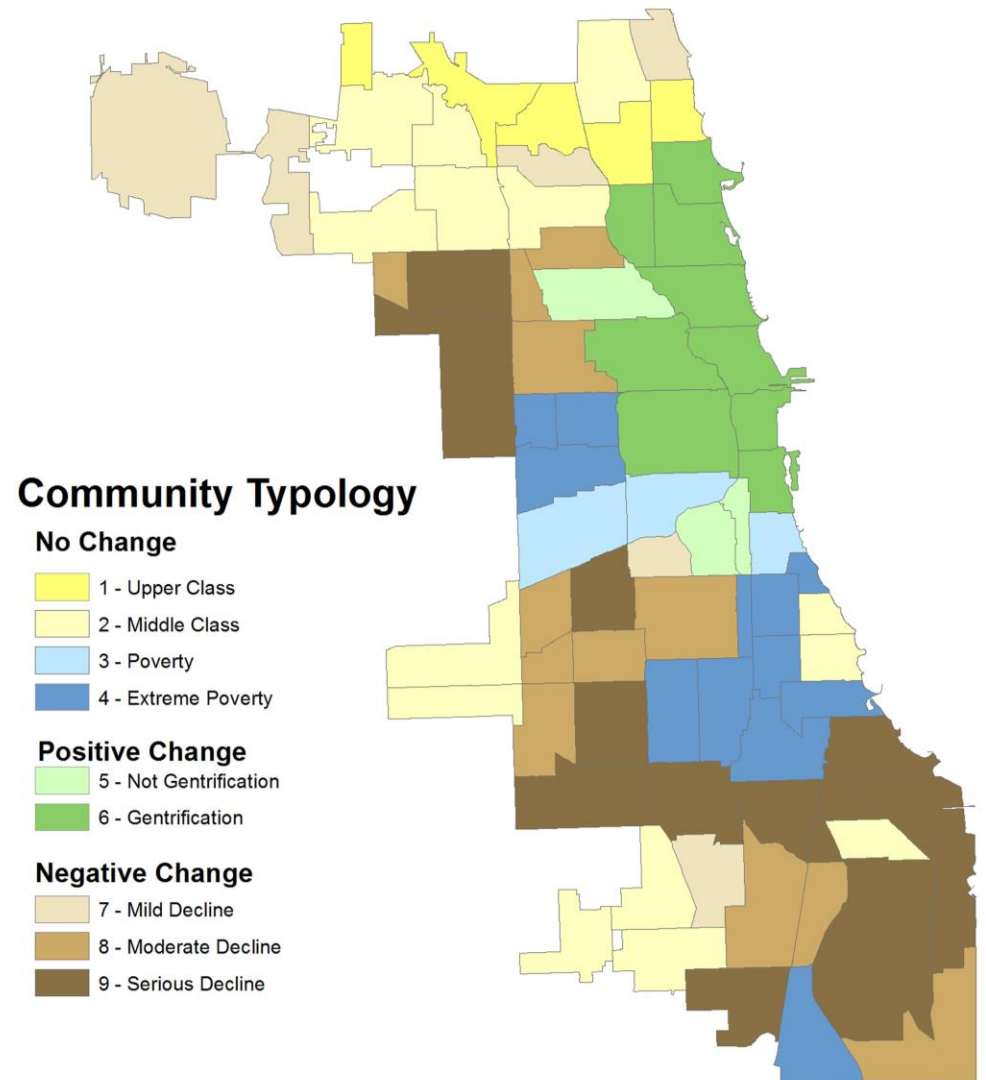
Poll: Have you heard of gentrification before?

Discussion:

- What do you know about gentrification?
- What does gentrification mean to you?

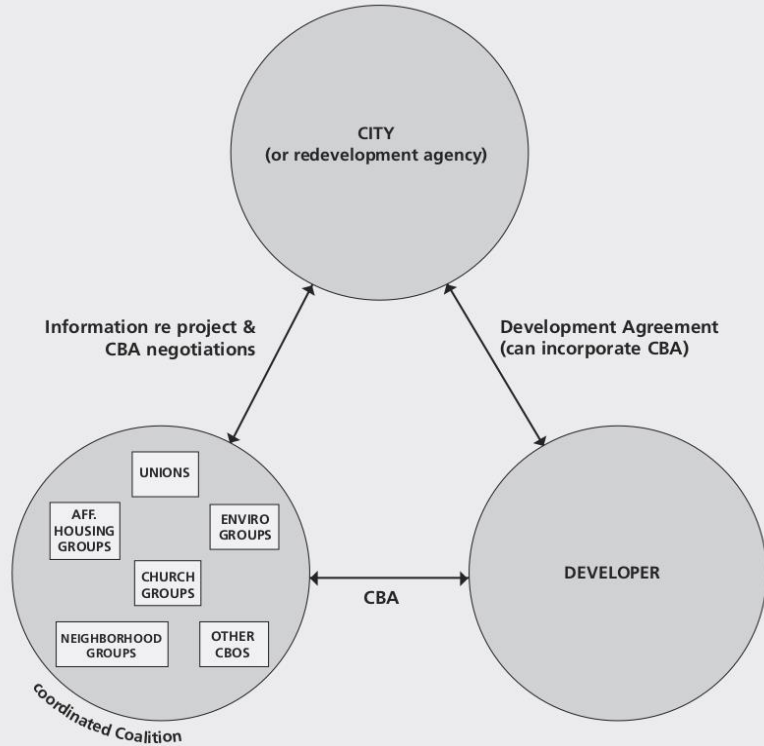
Currently, gentrification (or a plan to prevent gentrification) is not included in the CTA's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

“Everybody seems to think that this is prime land. We think so too... If we've been here that long and people been living here just that long why can't we live here when they build it up? We really need that [train] stop and we really want to stay”
— Altgeld Gardens resident



CMAP, CTA, DCP. (2012). Livability Report.
[Map] UIC Vorhees Center. (2010). Socioeconomic Change of Chicago's Community Areas (1970-2010)

WITH A CBA



RLE Issue: Jobs & Workforce Development (part II)

- Good living wage jobs can be a method of preventing gentrification
- One way to prevent gentrification & ensure that good jobs go to residents is through a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA):
 - a legal agreement between the project developer and a community coalition on the benefits that a development project will offer.

RLE Issue: Environmental Justice

How many of you think about climate change and its impact on our generation?

Do you think about transportation when you think about climate change?

Environmental Justice and RLE

- Environmental Justice is a priority now for many planning organizations even the Federal Department of Transportation. It is defined as **making sure the adverse/negative effects of government activities don't fall on minorities and underserved populations**
- In terms of sustainability, the RLE is a way to **shift away from automobile usage**
- The South Side experiences the disparate impact of many infrastructure policies in terms of their negative environmental impact –freight train traffic, the Dan Ryan Expressway, etc
- The RLE has the potential to disrupt many communities if not handled properly by the CTA – **ensuring that it is as sustainable of a means of transit as can be**

Do you see pharmacies closing in your neighborhood?

Do adults in your life have to go through a lot of effort just to pick up their medicine?

Health Justice and RLE

- Health desserts, pharmacy deserts, and food deserts are three of many **parts of the umbrella idea of opportunity deserts that exist on the south side of Chicago**
- Lack of access to adequate health care can be seen in how hard it was to get the trauma center in Hyde Park the past few years
- Pharmacies often get TIF funding to open in certain districts and it isn't coincidental that they are closing in south and west side neighborhoods, it is part of the bigger problem of disinvestment
- For people in Altgeld garden, the TCA clinic is the closest health center and the nearest hospital would be Advocate
- The bigger issue is that trauma centers are few and far between, but also hospitals provide access to opportunity as well so everything is tied together

The RLE now, and the progress on these issues

- So for now, it is important to demand that your alderman are aware that this is an issue you care about because it's gotten to the stage where it is all a money game
- The CTA has multiple phases it initiates to begin construction. We are still more than two years away from construction even starting but what does that mean?
 - **They have to secure funds to do research on the engineering process, they have to make sure it's a priority when it comes to the city budget, and they have to try and obtain as much money they can from the federal, state, and city government to do so**
 - As of right now it was not included in governor Pritzker's budget or Lori Lightfoot's

Red Line Extension Issues: Poll & Brainstorming Session

POLL: Which
issues interest you
the most?

Many of the
issues that we've talked about
today have not been addressed
by the CTA (Chicago Transit
Authority) or other agencies or
city departments in planning the
Red Line Extension.

**If you could ask the CTA a
question, what would you ask?**

A man wearing a white polo shirt, white pants, and a white cap with the word "DONUTS" on it. He is standing in a kitchen or bakery setting, with a tray of donuts visible in the foreground. The image is dimmed and has a dark overlay.

Community Mapping

Your Experience = Social Change



COMMUNITY MAPPING

Maps are *gates* into information that permit us to investigate our world, discern it better, and engage more productively.

What's most intriguing is that maps can tell a story!

Maps are known to be an effective storytelling method. Imagine a tool in which combines powerful narratives, text, and imagery; this is a map.



COMMUNITY MAPPING

Unlike your typical regional map that you'll discover on your county's website, a community map is produced collaboratively by residents!

The deliverables that should form this map are ***residents' knowledge and resources***.

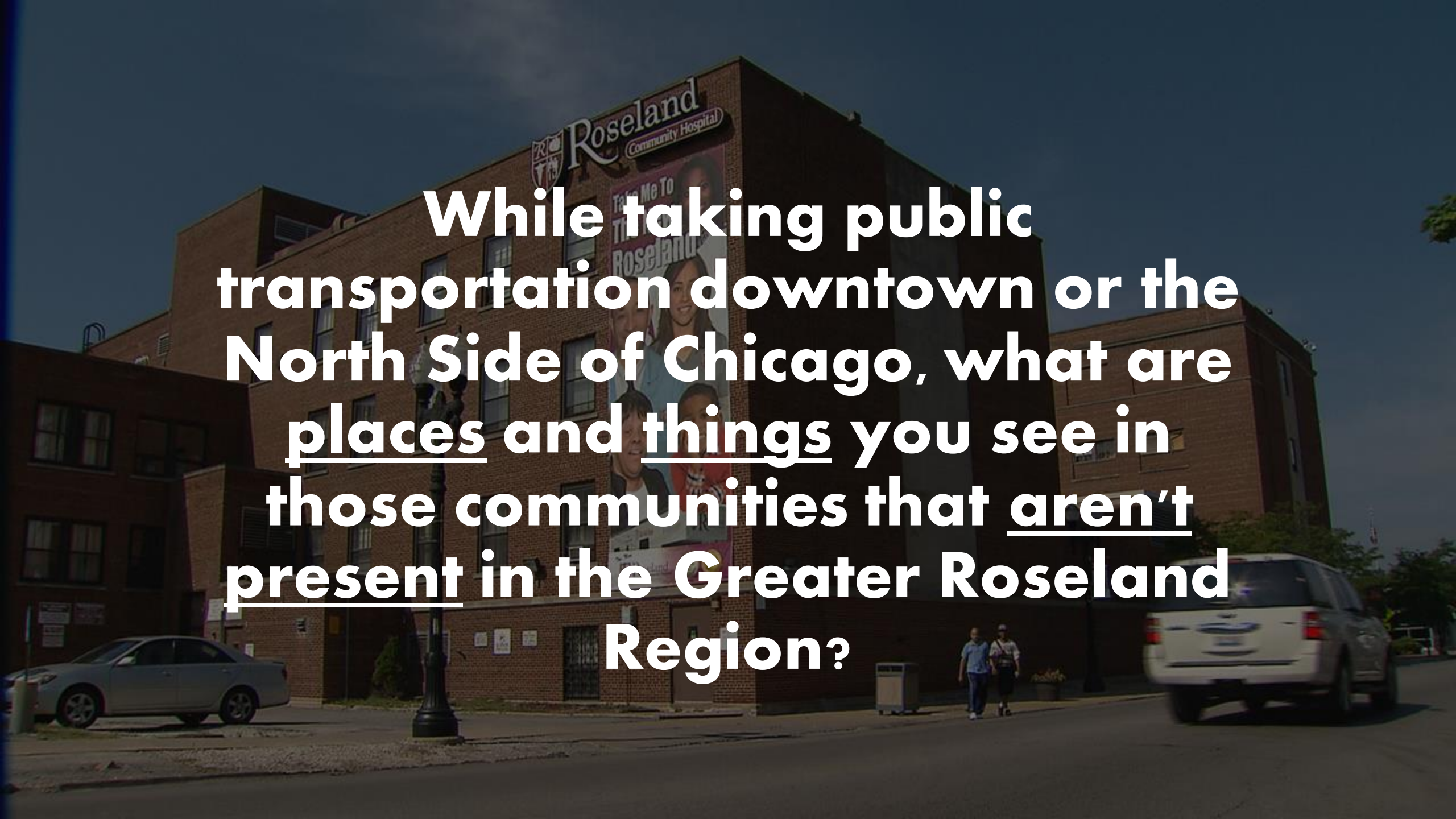
Community maps are a ***powerful tool*** because they can initiate ***radical social change!*** Transparency, inclusion, and empowerment are all enacted in the formation of community mapping.



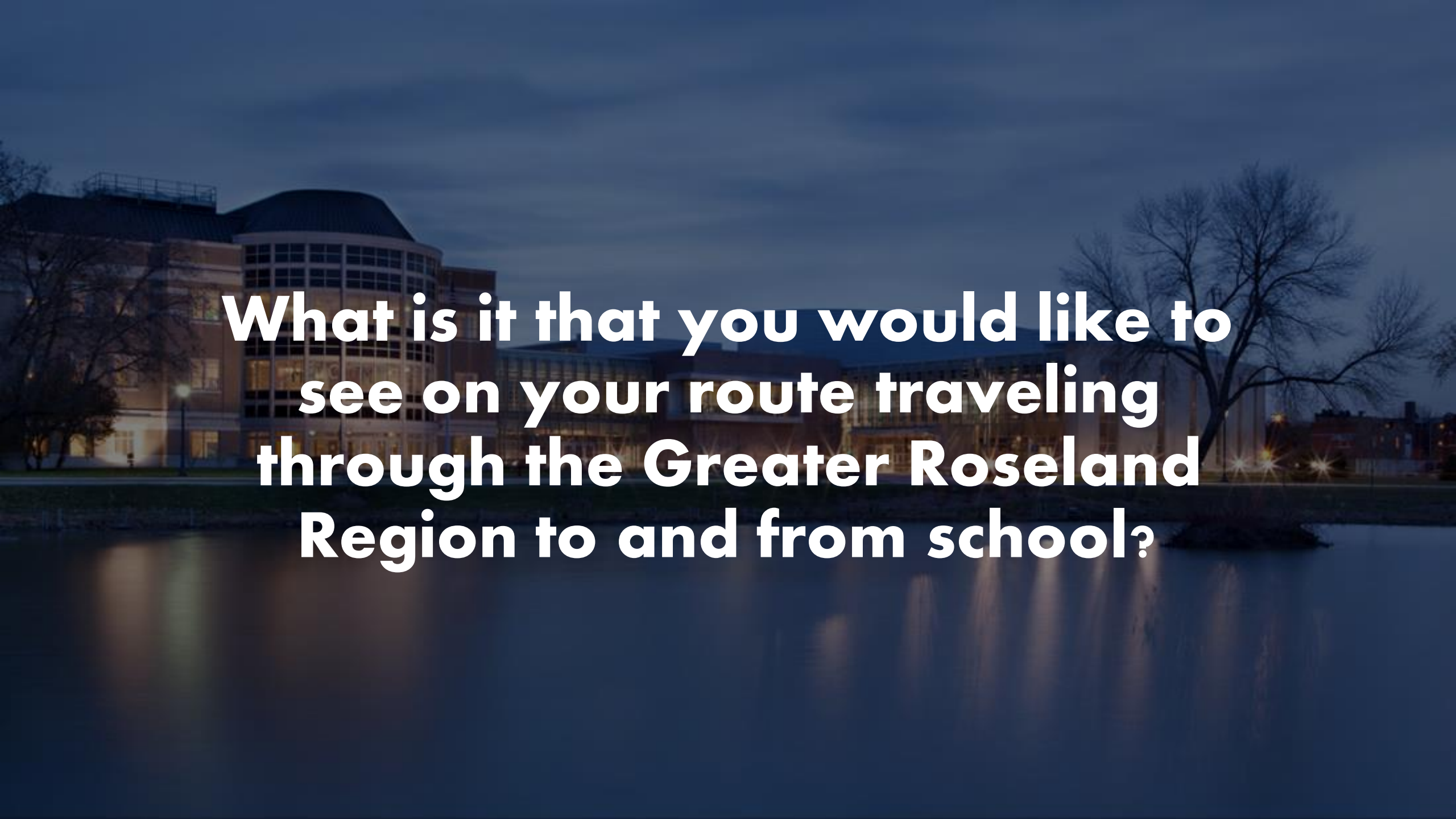
**Your experiences matter,
& sharing your story
can make an Impact!**



As you travel on public transportation throughout the Greater Roseland Region, to and from school, what do you see along your route?

A photograph of the Roseland Community Hospital building, a multi-story brick structure. A large sign on the building reads "Take Me To The Roseland" with images of people. The text "Roseland Community Hospital" is visible at the top of the building. The scene includes a street with a silver car on the left, a white SUV on the right, and two people walking on the sidewalk. The sky is clear and blue.

While taking public transportation downtown or the North Side of Chicago, what are places and things you see in those communities that aren't present in the Greater Roseland Region?



What is it that you would like to see on your route traveling through the Greater Roseland Region to and from school?

Civic Engagement: Endeleo Institute

Areas: Community economic development,
job/workforce development, health

Mission: “To empower Washington Heights
and surrounding communities by repurposing
existing assets and leveraging Community
Engaged Research to improve health,
education and economic outcomes for greater
quality of life.”

Contacts: Melvin Thompson (community development), Bob
Wordlaw (jobs/workforce development)





Civic Engagement: People for Community Recovery

- Founded in June 1979 by Hazel M. Johnson to fight for repairs in Altgeld Gardens
- Focus became urban environmental pollution after study showed Southeast side had the highest incidence of cancer in Chicago
- Altgeld Garden's Youth Environmental Justice Photovoice Club
- Also in Altgeld Gardens: Carver Military Academy, TCA Clinic

Contacts: Cheryl Johnson

Civic Engagement: CTA (Chicago Transit Authority)



- Public development agency for the Red Line Extension
- They want to meet with Brooks students!
- Potential to speak up to the CTA about issues like gentrification, jobs, timeline, environment, etc.

Contacts: Barbara Stubblefield (community outreach, workforce development), Sonali Tandon (senior manager), Marlise Fratinardo (RLE project manager), Leah Mooney (director of strategic planning)

Civic Engagement: CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning)

- Metropolitan planning organization that provides oversight for projects like the Red Line Extension
- Hosts Future Leaders in Planning Program (FLIP) for high school students
- Potential to address issues of gentrification and healthcare (recently released a report on the Roseland Medical District)
- Contacts: Katanya Raby (FLIP, Roseland Medical District), Lindsey Bailey (maps)



Civic Engagement: Elevated Chicago

- Mission: “We are working to improve the built environment (the physical structures and spaces available to people) for greater climate resiliency, to increase exposure to arts and culture, and to improve public health outcomes for residents, without residential displacement, for people of color in ways that acknowledges racial inequities that have long existed in opposition to this work.”
- No information on the Red Line Extension on their website currently
- Their next event is December 18th at 4pm at the Chicago Cultural Center. It is titled "Undesign the Redline Youth Summit meet-up"

City Bureau: Open Reports Report card

- CityBureau is a journalism group on the south side that recently published a report card on city agency transparency, overall the city did poorly but specifically with transportation they got a C
- You can get involved with them through the documenters program which is a PAID opportunity to report on city hearings
- You can also go to different public newsrooms they host in Woodlawn every Thursday on a variety of different civic engagement topics
- The **MIVKA challenge** is specifically geared towards amplifying student voices through different organizing programs in the city, if you are interested you can google Mivka challenge Chicago

Survey

- Thank you to everyone who has completed the survey so far!
- If you haven't already you can access the survey here:

<https://qrgo.page.link/WFTEU>

OR

<https://forms.gle/dFgsMbHNbYwANJns5>

