Alternative Futures for our Region
Chicago is the third largest U.S. metropolitan region.
We ask our communities how they envision their futures.

ON TO 2050
The five alternative futures

- Changed Climate
- Walkable Communities
- Innovative Transportation
- Constrained Resources
- Transformed Economy
How to use the keypads

- Votes are anonymous.
- Your last vote is the vote that counts.
- Return the keypad, please.

Think regionally about our future.
What do you know about CMAP?

0%  A. Is it something to do with maps?
0%  B. Make no little plans, they say
0%  C. Stands for Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
0%  D. You’re a partner with local communities
0%  E. All of the above
How old are you?

A. 0-19
B. 20-29
C. 30-39
D. 40-49
E. 50-59
F. 60-69
G. 70-79
H. 80+
CHANGED CLIMATE
If the effects of climate change intensify . . .

- More frequent and intense storms
- Prolonged drought
- Warmer temperatures
- More extreme temperatures

(source: Chicago Climate Action Plan)
As climate change intensifies, which impact worries you most in our region?

0%  A. Harm to life and property from storms, flooding
0%  B. Insufficient water supply
0%  C. Threats to regional agriculture, biodiversity
0%  D. Effect of extreme heat on health
0%  E. More intense impacts for vulnerable residents
0%  F. I’m not worried
0%  G. Other
What is the biggest barrier to action on climate issues?

0% A. Doubt that climate change is real
0% B. The issue is too complex and abstract
0% C. Lack of urgency due to competing priorities
0% D. Limited understanding
0% E. People don’t know what they can do about it
0% F. Other
Which 2 of our regional systems are the most important to protect from climate impacts?

A. Roads, bridges, and public transit
B. Energy supply and distribution network
C. Hospitals and emergency services
D. Natural resources and open spaces
E. Infrastructure for water supply and stormwater
F. Our sources of water
G. Food supply
H. Other
WALKABLE COMMUNITIES
A shift to walkable communities . . .

- Preferences of today’s seniors and millennials
- Less reliance on cars

Source: Flickr, Chicago
Source: Flickr, Oak Park
What are the 3 biggest benefits of more walkable communities?

0% A. Healthier residents
0% B. The ability to live car-free
0% C. More social interaction
0% D. Lower emissions mean less pollution
0% E. Transportation costs less
0% F. More economic development in those places
0% G. Other
What type of housing does your community need most?

0%  A. For residents at all income levels
0%  B. For middle-income households
0%  C. For lower-income households
0%  D. For families
0%  E. For young professionals
0%  F. For a specific group
0%  G. We don’t need more housing types
0%  H. Other
What’s your top concern about denser, more walkable neighborhoods?

A. I’m not concerned
B. Changes to neighborhood character
C. More traffic and parking hassles
D. More stress on schools
E. Increased costs to residents
F. Other
INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION
If technology enhances transportation . . .

- Congestion and route information at your fingertips
- Automated vehicles
- Instant gratification shopping (same-day delivery)
How comfortable are you with autonomous vehicles?

0% A. Very – can’t happen soon enough
0% B. Somewhat – they need more testing
0% C. Not at all
0% D. Will always prefer to drive my own car
0% E. Other
If fewer people own cars, we will need to invest in public transit. Which should be our top 2 priorities?

A. New bus/rail routes and extended rail lines
B. Service later at night
C. Shorter wait times
D. More reliable service
E. Faster travel (such as bus express lanes)
F. Easier transfers and connections
G. More comfortable vehicles and stations
H. Other
If you had a convenient commute no matter where you lived, where would you choose to live?

A. An urban neighborhood 0%
B. A walkable suburban community 0%
C. A suburban subdivision 0%
D. A small town 0%
E. A rural area 0%
F. Other 0%
CONSRAINED RESOURCES
If public resources diminish further...

Example: Revenue from the state Motor Fuel Tax is expected to decline.
How do you think your community will respond in a future with less federal and state funding?

0% A. Cuts in local public spending and services
0% B. Higher local taxes and fees
0% C. More coordination with other towns
0% D. Greater reliance on private sector partnerships
0% E. Fight harder for scarce federal and state dollars
0% F. Other
What are your top 2 priorities for public funding? (Assume education, public health, and public safety are already priorities.)

0%  A. Transportation
0%  B. Sewer and water systems
0%  C. Flood control
0%  D. Parks and open space
0%  E. Housing
0%  F. Social service programs
0%  G. Other
How should we fund the necessary improvements in our region’s transportation system (select 2)?

0% A. Charge drivers (higher gas tax, tolls, fees)
0% B. Charge more for parking
0% C. Increase sales or property tax
0% D. Raise public transit fares
0% E. Charge more to bypass congestion
0% F. Tax properties that benefit from improvements
0% G. Other
If economic restructuring continues…

Chicago region job growth by entry-level education requirement, 2001-15

- Less than associate
- Bachelor
- Associate
- Graduate/Professional

Recession


120
110
100
90
118.0
106.4
101.1
98.8
How will technology change jobs in the future?

A. More flexibility about when and where people work
B. Increased productivity
C. Frequent demands for workers to have new skills
D. Increased competition for jobs
E. New opportunities to grow businesses
F. Other
Some workers could fall behind as technology transforms the economy. Which strategies could help?

A. Double-down on education
B. Connect job training to emerging industries
C. Strengthen economically disconnected communities
D. Create new job opportunities
E. Other
What does our region need most to enable everyone to succeed in the future economy?

A. Reliable public transit
B. High quality, affordable education
C. Continuing job training
D. More options to work close to home
E. Grow our existing industries
F. Easier access to the internet
G. Other
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Where do we want to be in 2050?