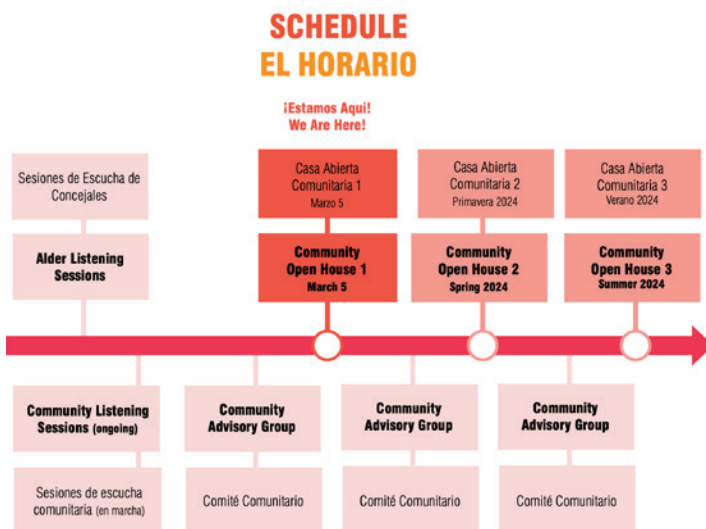


## Study Background

**Stitching It Together** is a multi-phased planning initiative led by the Department of Planning and Development that aims to center local voices in a vision to strengthen connections between the Brighton Park and Gage Park communities and improve access to the new Park District facility at 48th Street and Western Boulevard.

**Stitching It Together** includes areas of Gage Park and Brighton Park. This planning initiative will serve as a vision for the communities and inform future plans for generations.



## This study will explore ways to:

### Improve the Public Realm

Make it safer and more comfortable to move around and access the Park District facility through public realm improvements

### Support Local Businesses

Support local businesses and entrepreneurs and foster thriving commercial corridors

### Reduce Impacts of Industrial Operations

Articulate design ideas that help to reduce the impact of existing industrial operations

### Increase Public Health & Safety

Provide a future vision for the area that raises up and leverages community, institutional partners, and City investment toward a safer and healthier Brighton Park and Gage Park

## The Planning Process

### Why is urban planning important?

Urban planning helps us create a vision for the future of our communities and City by helping us understand how residents experience, work, grow, and interact with the urban environment. Recommendations and decisions in urban planning give shape to our neighborhoods by informing future economic development, locations for public assets such as parks and open space, community centers, and other public amenities, and improving physical and cultural connections.

The urban planning process brings together diverse representatives from the community. Together with the community, this process will help shape a future that elevates quality of life for generations.

### What will the engagement process look like?

**Stitching It Together** will be part of a multi-phased planning effort by DPD. This study itself began in late 2023 and it is anticipated that this phase will be completed in late 2024.

There will be multiple opportunities to engage and provide comments, ideas, and feedback. These opportunities will include but may not be limited to: community open house/meetings, various focus groups, one-on-one interviews, stakeholder advisory groups, and opportunities at pop-up or other community events.

There will be four engagement phases for this initiative. We anticipate complete the first engagement phase in early spring. Each engagement phase will include a Community Engagement Summary Report that will document the event, findings, and next steps. This report will be available to the public via the study website and will be distributed to our attendee email list, community partners. Future engagement opportunities will be announced in advanced on social media outlets and community/governmental partners. Questions or comments regarding the engagement process are welcomed at [dpd@cityofchicago.org](mailto:dpd@cityofchicago.org).