

12.10.14 Black Bicycle Organizations Presentation to the City of Chicago Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Council

On behalf of Oboi Reed (Co-Founder & President of Slow Roll Chicago, Organizer of Red Bike & Green, and Co-Organizer of Southside Critical Mass), Peter Taylor (President of Friends of the Major Taylor Trail), and Shawn Conley (President of the Major Taylor Cycling Club of Chicago)...

Mission

We are advocating for the equitable distribution of bicycle infrastructure, education and bicycle-related resources that adequately and thoroughly serve the bicycle needs of Black Chicago especially in predominantly Black communities on the Southside and Westside of our City, by respectfully asking the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, and the various transportation advocacy organizations operating in the City of Chicago to make a publicly stated priority the both short- and long-term advancement of an equity agenda as related to bicycle infrastructure, education, and resources in the City we all dearly love.

Vision

We advocate on behalf of vibrant, bikeable Black communities in Chicago to achieve equity in the livability of our communities allowing us to have greater access to all of the various inherent benefits of robust bikeable neighborhoods. We envision predominantly Black Southside and Westside neighborhoods that are healthier, safer, more economically thriving, and more socially cohesive as a result of greater bikeability in these neighborhoods contributing to improving the condition of our communities.

What Are We Asking For

1. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois publicly prioritize equity as it relates to the distribution of bicycle infrastructure, education, and resources in Chicago and require that commitment to equity by any and all companies or organizations doing business related to the field of transportation with the City of Chicago and/or the State of Illinois.
2. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois make a publicly stated commitment to equitably spending public tax dollars in the years 2015 through 2020 on bicycle infrastructure and bicycle-related resources throughout the City of Chicago paying close attention to the equitable distribution of these resources in predominantly Black communities.
3. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois make a publicly stated commitment to spending public tax dollars in the years 2015 through 2020 as a publicly identified and specific amount of investment annually on bicycle infrastructure and bicycle-related resources on the Southside and Westside of Chicago in predominantly Black communities that is equitable as compared to the amount of investment spent on bicycle

infrastructure and bicycle-related resources in communities on the Northside and Downtown Chicago.

4. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois make a publicly stated commitment to spending public tax dollars in the years 2015 through 2020 a publicly identified and specific amount of investment annually on programs that educate and encourage greater levels of bicycling as a form of transportation in predominantly Black communities.
5. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois make a publicly stated commitment to establishing in the years 2015 through 2020 a publicly identified number of protected bicycle lanes, Divvy stations, bicycle racks, and other bicycle-related resources to be installed on an annual basis in predominantly Black communities on the Southside and Westside of Chicago.
6. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois commit to an equity audit of bicycle education & encouragement programs, infrastructure, and resources as related to race and income level with particular attention paid to those resources being available or not available in predominantly Black communities on the Southside and Westside.
7. The City of Chicago publish an analysis of the work of the Streets 4 Cycling Advisory Councils that began in 2012 and the City's status on achieving the suggestions that came from that work and any barriers that posed challenges in the City implementing those Streets 4 Cycling suggestions.

Lastly, we respectfully request a formal response to this presentation from the City of Chicago.

To request a copy of this presentation, please contact Oboi Reed via email at oboi@slowrollchicago.org or phone at 773-916-6264.