

In 2014, Chicago committed to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. Leadership from both City Hall and from our neighborhoods is needed to meet our ambitious 2025 carbon reduction targets. Transportation accounts for nearly 20% of the city's carbon emissions, and increasing CTA ridership is one path to cutting our emissions.

Advanced Energy Group (AEG) volunteers work to help Chicago meet its climate goals. Find out what the 19Q4 AEG Chicago Task Force has been doing to aid in the effort to create a clean, more equitable, and resilient Chicago.







he 19Q4 AEG Task Forceset a 12 month goal to increase CTA ridership at an underutilized El stop. The task force chose to work with the Bronzeville community at the Indiana Green Line stop. Increased CTA ridership can reduce vehicle emissions, increase foot traffic, and build economic activity in the neighborhood. This is a virtuous cycle, and the Bronzeville community is already leading several initiatives that can help to meet this goal. AEG hopes to amplify their effort to investors and partners.

AEG worked with Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (BCDP) to survey community members about their use of the Indiana stop. According to CTA ridership data, US census results, and the survey responses, the Indiana station is underutilized. Community members generally perceive it to be "forgotten," with long stretches of poorly lit, isolated pedestrian access along 40th St. Some potential riders say that they walk further or drive to other stations or drive rather than travel to/ from the Indiana stop.

Great opportunity exists for Equitable Transit Oriented Development (eTOD) at this location.

Planning ahead to renewed travel and activity under a COVID-19 vaccine, we highlight Bronzeville initiatives already underway.





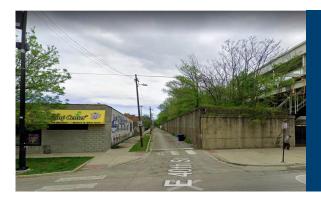
Above: CTA Green Line Indiana Stop, South of 39th and Indiana



Please see below for a short description of Bronzeville companies and projects that can bring foot traffic, economic activity, and riders to the Indiana Green line stop and surrounding area. Enhancing these local efforts can support Bronzeville and help Chicago meet its Paris Climate Agreement goals.

Microtransit Zone, and Mobility as a Service (MaaS) A hyperlocal microtransit zone lets residents use an app to hail rides from one Bronzeville location to another. Bronzeville startup JitneyEV is building this capacity using EV shuttles. Connecting to the Indiana stop solves the "first mile / last mile" problem by connecting riders between their homes, the Indiana CTA station, and other locations in the community. Other potential stops include Dawson Tech, and the neighborhood's many churches.

Solar PV Demo and Community Learning An abandoned rail line runs parallel to 40th street on both sides of the Indiana stop entrance. The community sees this as an ideal location to develop local community solar and energy storage capacity. Proximity to the IIT and ComEd microgrid adds to neighborhood resiliency, sustainability and economic development. Educational outreach initiatives regarding EV charging and renewables can be housed at this location as well.



Left: 40th St, entryway and Abandoned Line for Community Solar PV.



EV Charging Infrastructure

This El stop is a potential location for community EV charging stations. Additionally, this stop lies in Bronzeville Heritage Entertainment Zone 3, a cultural heritage tourism initiative that highlights Bronzeville's history as a center of Black culture and business. BCDP would like to include community EV charging stations here for public use.

Pop Up Vendors Discussions are underway to bring popup vendors to this area, supporting the expected foot traffic that would follow from these additional tourism, education, and community development efforts.

Tourism,
Technology and
Transportation
(T3) Project
Planning Studio

All of these initiatives fit into a larger framework and urban plan. BCDP is working to develop an urban planning studio to coordinate efforts with City planners, community leaders, project developers and entrepreneurs.

AEG is proud to work with BCDP to highlight these local initiatives and how they tie into citywide, statewide and global initiatives.

Please see BCDP's website and reach out for further information:

www.bronzevillepartners.com