

SAMPLE LETTER

Date

Mayor Richard M. Daley
121 North LaSalle, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Mayor Daley,

On (*date*), a group of concerned parents and community members performed a neighborhood walkability assessment around (*school or streets*). You can see the tool we used at www.clocc.net. In the course of our walking assessment, we noticed both positive and negative aspects of the environment affecting the ability of our children to walk to and from school. Our group convened and chose the following priorities as those in need of immediate attention.

- The intersection of **xx** and **xx** is dangerous because of both the wide crossing distance for pedestrians and the fast moving traffic. The shorter the crossing distance the less likely a pedestrian is to be struck by a vehicle and we are concerned for the children and senior citizens who cross there. There are many ways to reduce the crossing distance and we request the installation of a refuge median or curb bumpouts. CDOT Menu money is eligible to be spent on these infrastructure improvements.
- The speed of traffic along **xxx** Street is also a major concern. We are requesting that CPD perform targeted speed enforcement on this street; please support our request by following up with Commander (*name*). We also request the installation of curb bumpouts in order to slow speeds; temporary planters that mimic the shape of curb bumpouts would help us test how the permanent version would work.
- We are concerned about the amount of criminal activity occurring at **xxx** Street. This is a barrier to walking and creates a negative perception of safety in our community. We have decided to work with CAPS in order address this problem, and will attend the next CAPS Beat meeting to discuss our concerns and possible solutions. Your support, in the form of encouragement to the local police commander, would be much appreciated.

While performing this assessment we realized some steps we can take to change our own behavior and set good examples in our community. We have pledged to drive the speed limit, yield to pedestrians, and be patient. We also noticed that the traffic circle at **xx** and **xx** Streets is working well – it help keep people driving slower on side streets.

Thank you for your service and for helping us improve the long-term livability of our community. The better we can make our walking environment the healthier our community can be and the more likely our neighbors will be to walk.

Sincerely,

(*Group name and contact*)

(*Individual names and signatures*)

www.clocc.net

Neighborhood Walkability Assessment - Tools