# SHAPING CHICAGO'S CREATIVE FUTURE

## CONTEXT

### The economic impact of the creative economy doesn't just run from 9am to 5pm.

Arts and culture entities and creative workers need systems that ensure their success at all hours of the day.

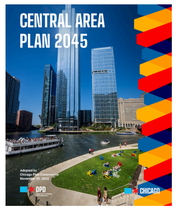
**A 24 Hour City**

Mayor Brandon Johnson's 2023 Transition Report and the 2025 Central Area Plan 2045 from the Department of Planning and Development both include recommendations related to enhancing life after dark.

More than 60 cities around the world have implemented policies to coordinate events, security, and related operational issues. The World Cities Culture Forum aggregates best practices around the globe.



**Reports**




Read the Central Area Plan 2045 recommendations related to Arts & Entertainment

Scan to Read



Check out the World Cities Culture Forum's notes on the 24-hour city

Scan to Read

**City Departments Resourcing & Regulating the Nighttime Creative Economy**

**Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE)**

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events processes Special Event Applications for outdoor festivals, street and art/craft fairs, and athletic events.

**Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP)**

BACP's Small Business Center (SBC) is the department's licensing and regulatory hub, providing streamlined access to municipal business licenses, public way permits, and essential guidance for launching or scaling ventures citywide. Hospitality and amusement licenses, including the Public Place of Amusement license, are particularly important to the creative economy.

**Department of Buildings (DOB)**

The Chicago Department of Buildings issues permits for everything from Maximum Capacity Signs to Tent, Stage, and Temporary Structures.

**Chicago Park District (CPkD)**

The Chicago Park District issues permits for outdoor activities and events taking place at Park locations.

### A Bill of Rights for Creative Workers?

As part of the City's "Art is Labor" initiative, DCASE is beginning to work with partners to develop a Bill of Rights for Creative Workers.

**Learn more about Art Is Labor**

### Learn from Other Models

Bills of Rights have been used as successful advocacy tools by lots of groups. Explore two recent examples:

**Creatives Rebuild New York**

**Highlights include:**

- Artists' rights to recognition as cultural workers
- Flexible work arrangements
- Fair wages
- Transparency
- Intellectual property protections
- Access to resources

**Scan to learn more**

**Chicago's Domestic Workers Bill of Rights**

**Highlights include workers' rights to:**

- Make the minimum wage
- Paid time off
- Day off
- Overtime pay
- Breaks
- Freedom from sexual harassment and discrimination
- Written contracts

**Scan to learn more**

## Help Build the Creative Workers Bill of Rights for Chicago

*Add your ideas to the topic areas below. This tool will help advance policies to support Chicago creatives.*

**Pay, earnings, and wages**

**Decision-making and representation**

**Scheduling and time on the job**

**Working conditions, safety, and workplace culture**

**Intellectual property and ownership**

**Professional development opportunities**

**Anything else? Add it here!**

## ENGAGE

**What are your top priorities for DCASE in the next few years and why?**

**If Chicago moves forward with programs and policies to support the nighttime economy, what would you like to see happen? How can DCASE support a thriving nighttime economy?**

**What do you need to access city resources related to nighttime programming, licensing, and permitting?**

## NEXT STEPS

**Do you want to help shape what's next for Chicago's creative sector?**

Leave your email on the clipboard below!