

2023-2025 STRATEGIC **PLAN**

VISION

Elevate the brand of Chicago as a must-experience global destination

MISSION

Enrich our community by attracting meetings, events and leisure travelers to Chicago

TARGETS

Achieve by 2025 Total Visitation: 61.1M Hotel Room Demand: 12.1M

Storytelling

KEY INITIATIVES

KEY INITIATIVES

Selling

KEY INITIATIVES

Advocating

KEY INITIATIVES

Engaging

Leading **KEY INITIATIVES**

- a. Develop a comprehensive brand strategy
- b. Launch marketing/media strategy to grow leisure travel
- c. Launch a comprehensive marketing/media strategy for meetings & conventions
- d. Launch a comprehensive strategy for sports
- e. Ensure equity, inclusion and diversity play a leading role within all marketing
- f. Create marketing strategy to promote exploration of neighborhoods by locals and visitors
- g. Develop a compelling story for global visitors to make Chicago a bucket-list destination

- a. Build a sales strategy to establish Chicago as the premier destination for diverse meetings, conventions and events
- b. Leverage Chicago's vast network of intellectual capital to attract meetings and attendees
- c. Build a comprehensive strategy to attract more sporting events to Chicago
- d. Expand network of global tour operators, travel trade and media
- e. Leverage large scale events and new major attractions to maximize awareness and longterm impacts for the city (NASCAR, DNC, Obama Presidential Center)

- a. Work with city officials to address public safety
- b. Develop a comprehensive plan to improve international visitor experience
- c. Increase and stabilize funding through local, state and federal advocacy
- d. Advocate for accessibility options for visitors
- e. Explore developing a destination master plan
- f. Advocate for improved environmental sustain-ability at meetings/events
- g. Develop a comprehensive plan to advocate for careers in tourism with focus on ethnically diverse talent

- a. Establish a diverse, civic C-suite tourism advisory council to lead major advocacy initiatives
- b. Locally promote the importance of tourism and Choose Chicago's value for the city's economic vitality
- c. Establish a greater presence in downtown to better connect with the community
- d. Integrate neighborhoods as essential parts of the visitor experience
- e. Grow partnership through increased engagement and opportunities
- f. Prioritize diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in all internal initiatives
- g. Identify and advocate for issues that affect travel

- a. Identify and secure new sources of sustainable funding
- b. Promote a positive organizational culture to inspire excellence and recruit/retain talented staff
- c. Create an organization that reflects the diversity of Chicago
- d. Improve Choose Chicago and Chicago Sports Commission board governance and engagement
- e. Become a data driven organization
- f. Embrace technology to improve all aspects of our business

TARGETS

- In traveler survey, increase likelihood to visit Chicago by 10%
- 20% increase in economic impact of leisure travel
- 1.8M international visitors
- 10% increase in global earned media/total articles

TARGETS

- 2.25 million group room nights booked in 2025
- Double clients served by Connecting to Chicago
- Secure 70 citywide events per year beginning in 2028
- **Book 97 Impact Nights** (5,000+ peak group rooms) per year beginning in 2028
- Host 8-10 sporting events per year

TARGETS • Improve DNext public safety

perception ranking Increase annual scholarships awarded by Choose Chicago

Foundation by 50%

Increase revenue sources to be competitive with other markets

Five positive local media hits per month

TARGETS

- Improve DNext score
- Grow partnership to 1500
- Establish a resident sentiment survey and improve scores YOY
- Create a benchmark to measure success across peer neighborhood sets
- Improve diverse spending by 5% YOY

Increase satisfaction in employee survey to 80% across priority areas

TARGETS

- Under 20% turnover rate
- TID in place
- Improve diversity of team to reflect demographics of Chicago
- Implement a dashboard to integrate data across the organization