

14. Below are the dates of DC 017's public meetings for the remainder of 2024 calendar:

- September 19
- October 17
- November 19
- December 19

Barring unforeseen circumstances, if you are appointed for the vacancy before the end of 2024, will you be able to attend all of the 2024 meeting dates of the District Council that remain at the time of your appointment? *

- Yes
- No

1. GRACE

Open-Ended Questions

Please observe any listed word limits.

15. Why do you want to serve as a District Council Member in the 17th Police District? *

250 word limit

I want to serve as a District Council Member because I want the ECPS ordinance to be successful. I have been working as a community organizer in the field of police accountability since 2017, when I began canvassing for the CPAC ordinance. After spending four summers talking to my neighbors on the street about their experiences with CPD and views on policing, and engaging with some officers and their family members who signed post cards for CPAC, I learned how to speak with and listen to a variety of folks from all different backgrounds and experiences on this subject matter. As the struggle for accountability changed and CPAC sat down with GAPA to write ECPS, I participated in a group of ECPS coalition representatives to give input on the drafting of the ECPS ordinance. I once again hit the pavement to help get ECPS passed, and when it did pass I participated in educational workshops getting the word out to the public about what we had won and encouraging people to run for their District Council positions. I know the intent that went into creating the District Council positions, and after dedicating years of my life to this work I feel personally invested in ensuring this ordinance is carried out with fidelity and integrity- Chicagoans deserve nothing less.

Enter your answer

16. What do you think are the most important accountability and/or public safety issues facing the 17th Police District and how will you work on them? *

250 word limit

According to CPD's crime dashboard, the highest public safety issues the 17th District faces in terms of crime is theft, motor vehicle theft, and robbery. According to CPDP, from 2001 to 2023 the highest complaints filed by citizens against police officers in our District includes Operation/Personnel Violations (573), Use of Force (342), Illegal Search (204), Domestic (89), and Verbal Abuse (79). The number one way I would work on these issues would be by getting the community involved in attending and participating in monthly District Council meetings- flyers, canvassing the community once meetings are set, ensuring meeting are set well before they occur, meeting people where they are at to talk about what is going on, phone banking for turn out to meetings, collaborating with local organizations for turn out and to offer resources to attendees, etc. I have been to many of the meetings in 17, and just because attendance has generally been low at these meetings does not mean misconduct is not occurring. People need to know these meetings are happening, meetings need to be made as accessible as possible, and they need to be a space where people feel safe disclosing their experiences to the District Council. We need The People to drive this work.

17. Each District Council has a Chair, a Community Engagement Coordinator, and a Nominating Committee Member. If selected to serve on this District Council, your specific position would be that of **Chair**. Please note the role of the chair is very independent and part of the role includes being the primary contact with the 17th District Commander and staff. What does the role of Chair mean to you and how are you prepared to serve in this role? (Read more about the District Council roles here: https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/chicago/latest/chicago_il/0-0-0-2693661#JD_2-80-070) *

250 word limit

In my work as a community organizer, I have chaired many meetings and served as chair of a Fundraising Committee. Through those experiences, and through attending District Council meetings in multiple Districts, I believe the Chair's role is to organize monthly and special District Council meetings so these meetings can run smoothly and effectively. This would include coordinating with fellow District Councilors to set dates and times for upcoming meetings, securing an accessible location for these meetings, ensuring an agenda is drafted, ensuring the Zoom link, agenda, and notice are posted on the City's website, perhaps on a social media page, and physically within the community. I understand that legally these notices must be posted within 48 hours of a meeting, but I would make it a priority to ensure notices went out as far in advance as possible to ensure the greatest turnout from the community. I would also take meeting minutes and ensure those were posted within the mandated time frames after a meeting. Finally, I would act as liaison between the Police Commander and District Council/community. The years I have spent as a paralegal honing my administrative skills, taking meeting minutes, acting as a liaison between two parties in a dispute, coordinating multiple people's schedules in order to set meetings, and sharpening my attention to detail have prepared me for this role.

18. Please describe what a productive relationship with the police in the 17th District would look like? What role will you take in building that relationship? *

250 word limit

A productive relationship with the police in District 17 would look like a flow of communication coming from both sides. To build that relationship as Chair, I would communicate monthly with the Commander relaying any requests the community was making for data or regarding any issues/concerns community members were reporting, and I would also ask the Commander for updates from CPD that month. I would attend ride-alongs and morning calls quarterly, or as frequently as seems relevant given what was happening in the community, in order to keep a regular open line of contact between CPD and the District Council. I would also attend Police Board meetings to stay up to date on what was going on City wide with CPD.

19. The 17th District Council is committed to advancing and promoting diverse voices within the 17th Police District and the City of Chicago. How would you support the District Council duties as described in the ordinance? Please include any relevant experience. (Read more about District Council duties here: https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/chicago/latest/chicago_il/0-0-0-2693661#JD_2-80-070) *

250 word limit

There are many duties outlined in the ordinance for the District Council, but generally I would support the duties of the District Council by completing all administrative tasks required for monthly meetings to occur seamlessly, just as I have in the past organized meetings to discuss policing issues as a community organizer. I would reach out monthly to the Commander to facilitate open lines of communication between them and the community. It is unclear to me if the roles for attending quarterly/annual meetings mentioned in points (3) and (4) of the Ordinance have already been assigned, or if that person rotates, in which case I would help facilitate communication between the three of us, within compliance with OMA, to determine who would be able to attend quarterly/annual meetings based on scheduling. I would look to see what other Districts and local community organizations are doing in terms of restorative justice and see where there might be room for collaboration with the 17th District Council. I would familiarize myself with what community resources exist for those living within the 17th District and request literature from Department members to put out at monthly District Council meetings to facilitate access to resources for community members. I believe I have shown my ability to engage with members of the public and gather input from them regarding public safety and policing via organizing the press conference several different community organizations spoke at regarding their concerns with having an Oath Keeper working in our neighborhoods.

20. OPTIONAL: Is there anything else you would like to add about your skills and experiences that make you uniquely qualified for this position?

250 word limit

[Empty text box for optional response]

Resume and Candidate Questionnaire

Please remember to email your resume or biography to Anna.Mangahas@cityofchicago.org.