

CITY OF CHICAGO
DISTRICT COUNCIL 020
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: X Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

MEETING DATE: March 17, 2025

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: Budlong Woods Library

MEETING START TIME: 6:05 PM

Attendance & Quorum

The OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Anna Rubin	Present: X Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>
Nominator: Darrell Dacres	Present: X Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Engagement: Deirdre OConnor	Present: X Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: X No: ☐

Public Comment

Patrick: District Concerned about gun crimes in 20th District, gun crimes are not having FOID, having inadequately secured gun in car, an unsecured gun in car and cause other people to be charged, Burke starting a pilot in 7th District to end felony review calls to State's Attorney office to ensure probable cause, instead, now, these calls go to a desk sergeant, concerned not enough gun education about how to secure gun, this added to pre-textual stops manufactures a felony and it's concerning there is a pilot program for this, do not want to see the pilot program expanded. Fearful that this will cause unjust charges in communities already plagued w/ over policing

Karen: Read that new State's Attorney Eileen O'Neil Burke is going to remove gun crimes from list of crimes eligible for RJCC and disagrees w/ this decision. Would like to see an RJCC set up on north side that can continue to address non violent crimes, including gun possession. Will 020 continue to push for this?

Approval of Minutes

Minutes are approved by the second regular meeting after they are taken. Approved minutes are posted online within 10 days after approval

Councilor Rubin motioned to approve February 10, 2025 minutes.

February 10, 2025 minutes are approved by Councilors Rubin, Dacres and O'Connor with no edits or debate.

Discussions

Guest speaker, Jose Abonce Senior Program Manager w/ Policing Project presented on Policing Projects September and October 2024 reports that look at community policing and alternative response, then provided recommendations. The report includes both data and collected stories to hear perspectives on what made people feel safe and unsafe.

Some highlights

Community Perspectives on police:

Communities on South and West side are both over policed and under policed
Threat to public safety
People reluctant to use 911
Distrust of CPD, though trust in individual officers
Many people feel safety is up to them

Community perspectives on alternate response:

Want alternatives but have little faith in the city to deliver them
Skeptical that existing program exist and /or will actually use them
CARE and CNPI would directly address many of the serious community safety concerns but the city has failed to fully support them.

Through collecting stories, Policing Project became concerned that people not aware of CARE and how it worked.

CARE

Over a 2 year period CARE responded to 1,207 calls
Meant to divert mental health crisis calls from CPD
Limited in hours M-F business hours

Possible expansion of alternate response could include calls for

- CARE calls and wellness related calls
- Parking/stolen vehicles/towed vehicles
- Traffic collisions and hazards
- Burglar alarms
- Request for reports
- Animal controls

Other big cities are considering using civilians to handle things like abandoned vehicles, roadway issues and parking issues

Q: Is there a reduction in crime in big cities that do this ^

A: Yes, clearance and solve rates are better than here in Chicago. LA has taken major steps over time to reduce gang violence and gun violence and made big strides in bridging community and police in collaborative efforts

Q: What about costs for things like this?

A: Just on lawsuits alone, lots of money is saved.

Recommendations for CPD Restructuring Operations

- Community policing and collaborative problem solving (CPD does not know how to operationalize this)
- Maintain beat integrity to build relationships
- Develop and renew police community relationships
- Expand community problem solving capacity

NPI handed off dco work to District Councils in the 10 districts they operated in – however found that meeting structures did not always allow for collaboration

Elements for successful implementation

- Maintain 4th Watch – a flexible watch that allows DCOS to work the shift that makes sense for the current conditions
- Collaborate w/ OEMC to ensure that DCOS are not sent out on calls to protect their community time and work in the same geographic area of the district.
- Develop reporting mechanisms that accurately document DCOs problem solving efforts
- Reduce calls for service of longstanding issues
- Coordinate trainings for new DCOs

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 7th, 6pm

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Bezazian Library

District Council ended the meeting at: 7:36 PM