

City of Chicago _____
DISTRICT COUNCIL # 020
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: Regular

MEETING DATE: 6/9/2025

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: 5917 N Broadway

MEETING START TIME: 5:15 pm

Attendance & Quorum

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

| District Council Member Name | Attendance | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Chair: Anna Rubin | Present: • | Remote: E | Absent: O |
| Nominator: Darrell Dacres | Present: C | Remote: D | Absent: • |
| Community Engagement: Deirdre O'Connor | Present: • | Remote: D | Absent: O |

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: I No: O

Public Comment

Summary of public comments:

Michael Pavlon (Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce): Reported a significant drop in crime rates over the past three months, the lowest in about a decade. Cited effectiveness of "community hiring" strategies - local residents trained and paid to patrol between 3-11pm, identifying suspicious activities. Supported by Chicago Sun-Times coverage, University of Chicago Crime Lab research, and PBS reports. Suggested freeing police officers for serious calls, proposing CPD recognize and support these community efforts in workforce allocation.

Karen Goldner (Edgewater Resident):

Referenced Washington Post article linking rising crime in D.C. to school truancy. Emphasized interconnectedness of public safety departments and non-police actors (e.g., CPS).

Urged CPD allocation study to consider broader contributors to public safety.

Patrick Haren (20th District CPD Lieutenant):

Introduced himself and expressed support for community engagement

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

Minutes from May's meeting unanimously approved and to be posted online.

District Council Member Updates

Summary of the monthly update from each member of the District Council

Councilor Rubin UPDATE:

- Shared BITLY/020th District Website information with community - bit.ly/pdc020chi
- invited members to CCPSA Listening Session on traffic stops 16 April 2025
- Reformed CPD District Strategic plan - District Council/collaborating with CPD to create Strategic plan -shared CCPSA website with additional resources
- Update on Northside RJ Court
- update on Alderperson meeting
- Amendment to OMA for DC's to be able to meet/speak outside of public meeting
- announced 1st iteration of office hours 24 Apr 8-10am Collectivo coffee Andersonville on Clark

Councilor O'Connor UPDATE:

- gave presentation on CARE - Mental health presentation
- Advocated for expansion of CARE program to more districts and increasing hours
- update on WFAS

Councilor Dacres UPDATE: -7th Member of Commission update

Announcements & Upcoming Events

CCPSA COPA Listening Session:

Thursday, June 12, 6:30pm at Lawndale Christian Leadership Center; input sought on new COPA administrator search.

CCPSA Monthly Meeting:

Thursday, June 26, Copernicus Center (zoom available).

"Pizza with a Counselor":

Successful past gatherings, next scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, at Groundswell (early morning session).

Next Monthly Public Meeting:

Monday, July 14, 6-7:30pm at Budlong Woods.

Discussions

Chicago Police Department Workforce

Allocation Study

Presenters: Deirdre Grove (District Council)

Background:

Historical CPD allocation studies have not been made public; this round is intended to be shared with community input.

Matrix Consulting Group contracted to perform the study; engagement includes direct community feedback.

Key Points:

Superintendent Snelling prioritizes "community policing" as central to workforce allocation.

Challenges: lack of a unified vision of community policing, over-reliance on stand-alone programs, unclear policy definitions.

Aims: Operationalize departmental alignment with the consent decree, increase transparency and accountability (e.g., through DSPS metrics), and align with CPD's new strategic plan.

Community and Officer Input:

750+ community members engaged in 29 sessions; 140 CPD members (various ranks) interviewed.

Compared with practices in 17 other major cities, especially LA and NY.

Community wants: Proactive, visible, empathetic policing; proper response matching (especially for mental health calls); consistent officer presence ("beat integrity") improved accountability and communication. Officers recognize community policing exists, but cite issues: beat inconsistency, under-staffing, disconnect with HQ, need for positive reinforcement.

Best Practices and Recommendations:

Emphasized geographic continuity, cross-agency collaboration, leadership buy-in.

Officer professional development, wellness programs, and performance management highlighted as priorities.

Process, Transparency & District Council Role:

District Councils sought greater input/inclusion in Matrix's decision-making board—request denied, with

CPD citing prior community feedback sessions as "sufficient."

Council is gathering direct feedback (including via distributed surveys) to show District Council's unique value and advocate for continued seat at future policing conversations.

Feedback and Discussion Highlights:

Public and council members echoed value of non-police roles (peacekeepers, "violence interrupters") and concerns about redundancy, collaboration, and turf conflicts.

General consensus: police should not be expected to "do everything"; more non-police city staffing (e.g., ticketing, animal control, mental health crisis response) advocated.

Discussion of the need for communication "loop closure" on reported crimes (e.g., follow-up to victims/businesses). Concerns raised about favoritism in police-community relationships, staff turnover (especially at commander level) disrupting community relations.

CPD Lieutenant Insights:

Lt. Haren endorsed the value of beat meetings and personal follow-up in building trust and closing loops. Acknowledged challenge of getting department-wide "buy-in" to community policing. 40 hours/year of training required; challenge of scaling professional development in large organizations with high operational demand.

Stressed that officer wellness and careful supervisor engagement are key to effective culture change.

Discussion on Performance Management & Communication Gaps

Calls for clearer performance plans and mechanisms to identify officers unsuited to the role.

Noted disconnect between police and public knowledge about departmental changes and broader policy discussions.

Bureaucratization criticized (e.g., restrictions on officer communication with press/community).

Community Priorities for Police Proactivity (in Non-911

Time):

Top suggestions included following up with victims/businesses, attending community events, and visible patrolling in busy pedestrian areas.

Area-specific nuances discussed (e.g., west side "side streets" vs. 20th district's focus on business corridors).

Desire for Enhanced Communication:

Participants want officers to be more transparent, better feedback channels, and improved two-way communication.

Challenges with legal/regulatory barriers, but also concern that these are sometimes overstated obstacles.

Input Solicitation:

District Council distributed a 10-question feedback survey for broader input, especially focusing on the ideal roles for police officers vs. community organizations.

4. Update: Public Health and Safety Budget Advocacy Background:

Treatment Not Trauma Coalition—campaign for fully funded crisis mental health response (24/7).

Now part of the Public Health and Safety Budget Coalition.

Advocates for new city funding in public health, fire, youth jobs, etc., potentially by reallocating CPD vacancies/overtime budget.

Noted upcoming City of Chicago budget roundtables

(various dates in June) where residents can advocate for priorities.

CPD Staffing:

Inquiry about current vacancy rates (~1,500 positions estimated). Lt. Haren reported no direct information.

Concerns about over-reliance on overtime, impact on wellness, and whether recruitment is ongoing (noted at recent test held).

5. Restorative Justice Community Court—Catchment Expansion

Avondale Restorative Justice Community Court reportedly expanded to cover all of Chicago's north side—including the 20th district. Awaiting official confirmation; will need to build new relationships with local organizations for effective case referral and support.

6. Neighborhood Organizing—ONE Northside Survey

Representative from ONE Northside invited attendees to fill out a community safety priorities survey (paper & digital).

Votes

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: 7/14/2025

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Budlong Woods

District Council ended the meeting at: 7:25 Pm