MEETING
February 24, 2022

POLICE BOARD
CITY OF CHICAGO
PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, February 24, 2022
7:30 p.m.
(VIA VIDEO and AUDIO CONFERENCE)

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APPEARANCES:

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS
GHIAN FOREMAN, President
PAULA WOLFF, Vice President
STEVEN BLOCK
MAREILÉ CUSACK
NANETTE DOORLEY
MICHAEL EADDY
STEVE FLORES
JORGE MONTES
ANDREA ZOPP

ALSO PRESENT:
ERIC CARTER, First Deputy Superintendent of Police;
JAY WESTENSEE, Acting Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability;
NATHANIEL WACKMAN, Acting Deputy Inspector General for Public Safety;
YOLANDA TALLEY, Chief of Chicago Police Department's Bureau of Internal Affairs;
BRIAN McDermott, Chief of the Chicago Police Department's Bureau of Patrol;
SCOTT SPEARS, Assistant General Counsel to the Superintendent of Police;
RAHMAN MUHAMMAD, Deputy Chief of the Chicago Police Department;
MAX CAPRONI, Executive Director of the Police Board;

MEMBERS OF THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF;
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Good evening, everyone. My name is Ghian Foreman, President of the Police Board, and I am calling the Board's February 24th public meeting to order.

In order to protect the public's health in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is taking place remotely.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, I have determined that holding this meeting in person is not practical nor prudent.

The City of Chicago remains subject to the Governor's disaster proclamation due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the disease continues to be a threat, especially to the unvaccinated and people with certain health conditions. We are therefore having this meeting remotely this month.

This meeting is open to the public via audio and video conference and is being carried live by CAN-TV.

Members of the public are on mute in order to reduce background noise and disruptions.

We have a court reporter making a
transcript of this meeting.

In addition to the Police Board members, we have several City officials here with us this evening. I will begin by taking attendance so it is clear who is participating in this meeting. Please say here after I read your name.

Police Board Vice-President Paula Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Steven Block.

BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Mareilé Cusack.

BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Nanette Doorley.

BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Michael Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Steve Flores.
BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Jorge Montes.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Board Member Andrea Zopp.

BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief administrator --
chief administrator is not here today. In place
of the Chief Administrator for COPA we have Jay Westensee.

In place of the Superintendent this
evening, we have First Deputy Eric Carter.

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: Here. Good evening,
everyone.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Good evening. Acting
Deputy Inspector for Public Safety Nathaniel Wackman.

ACTING DEPUTY INSPECTOR WACKMAN: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief of Chicago Police
Department's Bureau of Internal Affairs Yolanda Talley.

Chief of Bureau of Patrol Brian McDermott.
CHIEF McDERMOTT: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief Rahman Muhammad.

CHIEF MUHAMMAD: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Assistant general counsel to the Superintendent, Scott Spears?

ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL SPEARS: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And Executive Director of the Police Board Max Caproni.

MR. CAPRONI: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. We will now proceed to the items on the meeting agenda.

We'll have time at the end of the meeting for public comments. Once again, members of the public are on mute in order to reduce background noise and disruptions. When we get to the public comment portion of the meeting, we will unmute each speaker.

Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the Board's January 20th regular public meeting?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Paula Wolff. So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Michael Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor, please say
aye.

(CHORUS OF AYES.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

Our next public meeting will be held Thursday, March 17th, at 7:30 p.m. Whether this will be an in-person or remote meeting will be determined closer to the meeting date.

Is there a motion to close a series of executive sessions for the purposes of considering personnel matters in litigation as authorized by Sections 2(c)(1), (3), (4), and (11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act?

BOARD MEMBER WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor, please say aye.

(chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

A report of disciplinary actions taken by the Board during the previous month has
been made available on the Board's website.

There are two disciplinary cases on the agenda this evening.

The Police Board as authorized by The Open Meetings Act has considered in a closed meeting two police disciplinary cases. The Board will now take final action on these cases.

Regarding case number 21PB2989, is there a motion to find Police Officer Livius Tomescu guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and making a false statement and to discharge him from the Chicago Police Department?

BOARD MEMBER WOLFF: Paula Wolff. So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Michael Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. I will now call on members of the Board for their votes.

Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores.

BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp.

BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the motion. Voting in favor are Board members, Wolff, Block, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Flores, Montes, Zopp, and myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

Is there a motion to adopt the written findings and decisions that have been reviewed by all Board members who participated in the case?

BOARD MEMBER WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

(Chorus of Ayes.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

(No Response.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.
Regarding case number 21PB2992, the Superintendent filed charges against Sergeant Eduardo Beltran recommending that he be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for bribery and approving a false report. The Superintendent subsequently moved to withdraw these charges without prejudice because Beltran resigned from the Chicago Police Department. Is there a motion to grant the Superintendent's motion?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on members of the Board for their vote. Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores.
BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.
BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp.
BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the motion.

Voting in favor are Board members Wolff, Block, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Flores, Montes, Zopp, and myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

The written decisions in this case on which the Board took final action this evening will be entered as of today's date and sent to the parties then posted on the Board's website.

The Police Board also considers appeals by applicants for a Chicago police officer position who have been removed from the eligibility list due to results of a background examination. There are several appeals on the agenda this evening.

The Police Board, as authorized by The Open Meetings Act, has considered in a closed
meeting several appeals from applicants for Chicago police officer position who have been removed from the eligibility list due to the result of a background exam and will now take final action.

Regarding appeal number 21AA02, is there a motion to not adopt the appeals officers' findings, conclusions, and recommendations, and to reverse the decisions to disqualify the applicant?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on members of the Board for their votes. Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLF: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores.
BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.
BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp.
BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the motion. Voting in favor are Board members Wolff, Block, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Flores, Montes, Zopp, and myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

Is there a motion to adopt the written findings and decisions that have been reviewed by all Board members who participated in the case?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?
(CHORUS OF AYES.)
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?
(NO RESPONSE.)
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

Regarding appeal number 21AA05, is
there a motion to adopt the appeals officers' findings, conclusions, and recommendations and to reverse the decision to disqualify the applicant?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on members of the Board for their votes. Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLF: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores.

BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp.

BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of
the motion. Voting in favor are Board members Wolff, Block, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Flores, Montes, Zopp, and myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

Regarding appeal number 21AA07, is there a motion to adopt the appeals officers' findings, and conclusions, and recommendations and to affirm the decision to disqualify the applicant?

Vice President Wolff: So moved. Paula Wolff.

Board Member Eaddy: Second. Michael Eaddy.

President Foreman: I will now call on members of the Board for their votes. Wolff.

Vice President Wolff: Aye.

President Foreman: Block.

Board Member Block: Aye.

President Foreman: Cusack.

Board Member Cusack: Aye.

President Foreman: Doorley.

Board Member Doorley: Aye.

President Foreman: Eaddy.

Board Member Eaddy: Aye.

President Foreman: Flores.
BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp.

BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the motion. Voting in favor are Board members, Wolff, Block, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Flores, Montes, and myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

The written findings and decisions on each of the appeals the Board took final action on this evening will be entered as of today's date, sent to the parties, and posted on the Board's website within five days.

That was a lot. Next up we have the First Deputy who is going to provide the Superintendent's report. First Deputy. First Deputy, you're on mute.

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: I said so much important stuff, it's not worth repeating.

Thank you. Good evening, everyone.

Let me start by thanking all the members of the Chicago Police Board and Chicago residents. It
is all of your efforts combined that make a difference for the Chicago Police Department in serving and protecting Chicagoans and visitors every day.

As you know, public safety is about more than protecting and securing the public way. It's about the personal sense of security in our lives.

We shouldn't have to think twice about relaxing in our homes or driving around in our cars or shopping in our communities. These are the reasons why the Chicago Police Department's multi-prong public safety mission has been one rooted in collaboration.

Throughout last year and since the beginning of this year, we have maintained a precision focus on taking down gang and narcotic criminal networks driving violence in our city.

The Department has cultivated successful partnerships at the county, state, and federal level as we zero in on vehicular hijacking, organized retail theft, and guns, and gangs.

Our joint vehicular task force is
comprised of more than two dozen law enforcement agencies across the Chicagoland area. Together we conduct vital missions to combat vehicular hijacking, deploy resources on the ground and in the sky.

We held a mission last week and will host another this week. We don't want to keep pace with last year, but we want to set a new pace for this year.

In the vehicular hijacking missions we've led since the beginning of the year, we've already made 18 arrests, seized seven handguns, and recovered 27 vehicles.

All of last year we carried out 14 total operations which yielded 95 arrests, 25 firearms recovered, and 136 vehicles recovered.

We are curbing vehicle hijacking. This time last year, the City had 325 carjacking incidents. Today, as of 24 February, we've seen 287 since the beginning of the year. That's almost a 12 percent decrease.

We're also seeing progress as we address retail theft. The Department's working together with retailers and small business owners
and building key relationships.

We know that theft is never a victimless crime. It impacts the bottom line of our countless businesses, the overall economy of our City, and residents' and visitors' sense of well-being when patronizing establishments.

That's also why we are glad to join the Illinois Attorney General's organized retail crime task force in 2021. The first statewide public/private collaboration of its kind. The task force builds on CPD's ongoing efforts with local merchants while connecting us to important tools to stop criminals in their tracks.

Using pod video and other resources, we've brought several offenders to justice in January and February of this year, including one of the individuals that was responsible for stealing watches valued at more than $1 million late last year.

We also apprehended a young adult who targeted major retailers in the string of smash-and-grab-style robberies, resulting in $10,000 stolen merchandise from Ulta and Sephora beauty supplies.
Working with the Illinois Attorney General's Office, we also made arrests in the comprehensive investigation into a large cargo theft operation.

Chicago Police Department is applying the same level of collaboration with our city and federal partners as we combat guns and gangs in Chicago.

We continue working with all City Departments to address public safety as a public health issue because that's what it is.

It is up to all of us to address the root causes driving violence and provide resources for our youth, as well as hard-working families. And while we work to that end, our officers are working tirelessly to keep our streets safe and hold offenders responsible.

We aren't letting up and we hope that you don't either.

Chicago Police Department's gun investigations team works besides federal agencies to put an end to gun violence and gun trafficking.

So far this year, we've seized more
than 1400 guns. That's 1,457 in total. With 651 this month alone. That's up from 466 at the same time in February of last year.

In every example I've shared, collaboration has been the common denominator in the strides we made. It's why we remain committed to visibility, engagement, collaboration, and it's how we will improve this Department and impact this City.

Thank you. And I'll turn it back to you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you, First Deputy. Each month prior to the Police Board meeting, I typically have an opportunity to make sure I check in with the Superintendent and with the First Deputy. So I shared something with them today, and I wanted to make sure that I share it with everyone attending the meeting.

So, you know, in my travels throughout the City, you know, community meetings and that kind of thing, I'm often approached by community members. And it's a hard time kind of for everybody in the City right now. And, you know, we all read the newspapers and we hear the
criticism about the police. But more often, I get community members talking about the fact that the police are doing a good job in their community. Right? They're not saying it's perfect and that everything is fixed, but they are thankful for the work that the Police Department is doing. And so I know, CPD, you guys hear all of the criticism and never get to hear the thank-yous. Not never get to hear the thank-yous, but not often publicly get to hear the thank-yous.

I wanted to relay that to you, that the message does come to me. I hear the complaints, too. But I wanted to ensure that I passed along that, you know, the community members, I also hear a lot of thank-yous and get a chance to hear about the good work that you all were doing.

So, please, you know, on behalf of the residents who have passed it along to me, I want to share that with you all. And please share that with the members of the Department.

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: Certainly will. Thank you and appreciate it.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Next up, Jay Westensee.

ACTING CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR WESTENSEE: Hello and thank you, President Foreman. My name is Jay Westensee, and I am a Deputy Chief Administrator with COPA. I am grateful to be here with you this evening. I will be standing in for Chief Administrator Andrea Kersten who sends her regrets as she will be unable to join us.

Before turning to COPA investigative statistics for the month of January, I think it’s important to draw attention to yesterday's City Council meeting, during which City Council formally confirmed Andrea Kersten as COPA's Chief Administrator.

Under Andrea's leadership in the role of interim, the agency has continued to make considerable gains in its Consent Decree compliance efforts, address challenges related to investigative efficiencies, and find effective ways in which to engage and bring awareness in the community regarding COPA's vital role relative to police accountability and the overall public safety system.
COPA is approaching its five-year anniversary in September. But we look back with pride on the progress the agency has made during its short existence. Our focus is on enhancing agency stability and trust in the years to come. Specifically, COPA intends to increase focus on identifying and acting on opportunities to engage other City departments, staff, and resources, and data to further the City of Chicago's coordinated efforts to build safer communities.

With that, I'll turn to COPA's numbers for the month of January.

In January, COPA received 365 complaints and notifications. Of that total, COPA retained 103 under its jurisdiction.

Of the misconduct allegations within those complaints made against Chicago Police Department members, 61 percent concerned issues related to improper searches and seizures. As has been reported during prior to Police Board meetings, Fourth Amendment-related allegations remain COPA's highest category of complaints.

COPA also received and responded to two officer-involved shooting notifications. The
agency also concluded four officer-involved shooting investigations during the month of January.

Regarding COPA investigations, overall they concluded with findings in January. 53 percent of all cases closed had at least one sustained allegation of misconduct. That percentage mirrors the rate during the same period last year.

Regarding revised COPA policies that address agency requirements under the Consent Decree, 16 finalized policies largely addressing investigative operations, which are crucial to COPA's compliance efforts, are available on our website.

In the coming weeks, we expect to have additional draft policies posted and available for public comment and review.

On February 15th, COPA finalized the agency's 2021 annual report. Some highlights from that report include discussion on COPA's plans to launch its civilian COPA academy in 2022, discussion on COPA's plans to install a new video release and transparency unit. This unit
will include eight new staff positions within COPA that will manage the volume of requests for materials under the Freedom of Information Act by media and members of the public, while also fulfilling other requests for material -- for materials in accordance with City policy and executive orders responsibly.

The report also contains summaries on closure on a number of significant major-case incidents of great public interest, including the incident involving Ms. Nikkita Brown on North Avenue Beach, an off-duty shooting incident by a CPD officer in Evergreen Park, and the on-duty foot pursuit and fatal officer-involved shooting incident involving Anthony Alvarez.

Additionally, the report includes details regarding COPA's efforts to achieve 72 percent compliance of its Consent Decree stipulated requirements by the close of the year.

Encourage those interested in additional detail regarding COPA's community engagement efforts, complaint intake, and investigative outcome data, policy and research work, and training and professional development
efforts to visit our website to view the full report. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Just a quick question. A little bit less than a third of the complaints that you guys get that you retained, it falls under your jurisdiction, and then 60 percent of those are Fourth Amendment. Really, this is maybe a question for First Deputy. Obviously this is a challenging issue. What kind of training or what is taking place in CPD, you know, to see that we don't continue to see these numbers in the same rate?

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: Right now we've revamped our training. Obviously we've given officers 40 hours of training per year now. So with the de-escalation training, which is a key factor, that's one of the components of the 40-hour training. But we're also sending officers back through First Amendment and Fourth Amendment training. That is critical to try and stem some of the offset, as COPA mentioned, for Fourth Amendment violations or perceived Fourth Amendment violations.

So we've also partnered with the
Cook County State's Attorney's Office to help in presenting some of that training to our officers. So Kim Fox's office, the State's Attorney's Office has graciously agreed to allow her State's Attorneys to come in and produce that training throughout the city. So we're in the process of scheduling that right now.

So we're doing a lot of different things to help mitigate and educate our officers to better serve the public through that.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: As a quick follow-up to that. Have you set a goal in terms of the percentage reduction for the next year?

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: We're looking at that to see for the training -- how quickly we can get the training out before the goal. We won't know whether or not we're able to reach the entire Department as swiftly. So it depends on how quickly we can reach the entire Department to be able to calculate that goal. But we're looking into that as well.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you.
President Foreman, I'd like to add the Department regarding its constitutional policing module has reached out to COPA and its policy and research division here, and we have provided feedback on their training module from COPA's perspective on what we are seeing in terms of trends and issues in our Fourth Amendment-related complaints.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Great. We look forward to some continued improvement in these places. And we know that there's a lot of opportunities for improvement. So glad to see that that communication is taking place and that the training is ongoing. Thank you.

For the past several months, each month we tried to bring a speaker to educate members of the public on different -- a variety of subjects regarding public safety. This month I'm honored to be the speaker.

So I usually come here wearing my hat as the Police Board president. My daytime job, I'm the president and CEO of an organization called Emerald South. And we're focused on the southeast side of the City, thinking about economic development. And we're working on a
program. And I'm going to share a little bit about that today.

So the program is called Terra Firma, and it's a five-year, $25 million initiative to clean, green, beautify, maintain, and activate over 200 acres of vacant land primarily in the Washington Park, Woodlawn, and South Shore communities. To put this in perspective, 200 acres is the size of Disney Land.

This program was based on a program in Philadelphia called Philadelphia Land Care. When they did this, you could see a before and after where they basically cleaned and beautified some of the vacant lands.

Some of the results, including gun violence in these areas, were reduced by 29 percent. A sense of mental health and well-being were reduced by 69 percent. There were employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, as well as about ten percent of the sites were turned to new uses.

So some of the anticipated outcomes that we're anticipating are mental health,
physical health, reduced crime, increased land
value, improved walkability, and environmental
resiliency.

We have some great partners.
Companies like Green Corps and Sunshine
Enterprises. Funding partners like ICJIA and
Citibank. So we're thinking about adult
workforce, entrepreneurship training, youth
workforce, art and activation, and things like
maintaining maintenance of the vacant lots.

So some of the things we were able
to do last year in 2021, employed seven adult
trainees and 44 youth trainees in green industry
training. This year we plan to train another 40
individuals, 20 youth and 20 young people.

We were able to improve 27 acres of
vacant land, both city and private land. This
year we plan on maintaining the original 20 acres
that we worked on, plus an additional 20 acres.

We held six community events in
Bronzeville, Washington Park, Woodlawn, and South
Shore. We're hoping to continue that training
for this year. We worked with four local
minority-owned companies. Gave them over
$400,000 in contracts. So we're hoping to continue that.

We engaged community parks. So with COVID, a lot of people, they were in the house, and so we were able to work with 15 community gardens, either by providing labor, or materials, or, you know, sometimes just getting out and encouraging the community to get the garden started again, many of which, because of COVID, went fallow.

One of our partners is Green Corps, so we were able to work with 13 of their previous trainees and get them re-engaged. And this year we hope to work with another 20.

So the area that we worked in was -- primarily we looked at our commercial corridor, so 63rd Street and then along King Drive. So we were able to do 27 acres.

This year we're going to expand that 63rd Street corridor, as well as expand west. And then by year three we would like to go all the way to 67th Street. So this is kind of the area that we're covering.

Again, one of our thoughts is that
we are able to kind of mimic some of those results that Philadelphia got; that we could have that same kind of results here.

So our objective is to really kind of say, How can we take a model and scale it up? So we took a look at the City of Chicago in the violent crime areas. This is a heat map. As you will see, red is kind of the most crimes, where you see violent crimes. The yellow is also. And then green also is where there is less crime. So we overlaid that with the vacant lots.

So the way that we looked at this, there's 10,000 parcels of City-owned vacant land. About 1300 acres. 1.5 times the size of Central Park. The communities with the most vacant lots are Garfield Park, West Garfield Park, Lawndale, Back of the Yards, Englewood, West Englewood, Grand Boulevard, and Washington Park.

So it's our hope that as we do things like this, we can get an opportunity to work hand in hand with CPD, hand in hand with other community organizations.

So the work we've been doing so far is in the 2nd and 3rd Districts. I had an
opportunity to present to the 3rd District.

Every Friday they have a group of community
members that meets with the CAPS team there. And
so some people like the fencing that we put up,
some people don't like the fencing. But I think
that all in all, people appreciate the effort
that we're making. And so this is a model that
we're looking at.

I know I've been speaking with
Reverend Eaddy about potentially modeling this on
the west side and some of the areas around his
church.

So we would be more than willing to
kind of share what we're learning with some of
the other community groups around the City,
working closely with the CPD in some of the areas
where you all have some trouble spots, working
with Streets and Sanitation.

You know, it's my belief that it's
not just on CPD to solve our issues of public
safety. Right? It's on all of us. So this is
one little effort that we're making. We have
some data. The study was done by University of
Pennsylvania. So we want to work with some
universities here in Chicago to try to see what
efforts we can put in place and, you know, put
our own little Chicago mild sauce on it to make
it work for us.

So if there's anybody who wants any
more information about this, I welcome the
opportunity to speak to you about it. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: On behalf of the
President of the Police Board, who is too modest
to do it, it was a very smart selection to have
him speak tonight. And congratulations on a
great project.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Thank you
very much.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: You are to be
commended, Mr. President, phenomenal work,
touching all of the very significant areas of our
City that requires all of the attention you gave
it. So you are to be commended.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Ghian, the funding
comes from those companies that you mentioned
or -- the $25 million? Or where does that come
from?

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yeah, so our biggest
funder right now is ICJIA. ICJIA had an RFP for a program called R-3, and that's the funding that came from the marijuana tax. And so that funding is really to think about how to improve these communities that were really most impacted by the war on drugs. So that's our biggest funder. We also got funding from Chicago Community Trust, Citibank.

And so part of the reason why you saw the pictures is because I can tell people what the idea is, but when people see the actual people that are working, the lives, capturing the stories of the neighbors. That neighborhood's been cutting that vacant lot for the last 15 years. We're hoping that we can go out and reach out to some of our corporate partners. Some of those partners on Michigan Avenue as the First Deputy was talking about, right? To be able to show them the kind of impact that we can have on our community.

So our plan is to raise $7 and a half million for this year. Next year the goal about another $10 million. But all in all we want to raise $25 million.
We are working closely with the Obama Foundation. It's introducing us to some corporate partners. If we have any corporate partners watching CAN-TV, I would welcome the opportunity to present this plan to you.

But, again, we're only looking at a couple of neighborhoods right now. And this a challenge for our whole city. So it's a -- it's the first couple of steps we are taking right now. But we had a really good meeting today and hopefully have another big partner coming on next week. Thank you.

I will now call upon members of the public who signed up in advance to speak. To make sure that we have time to hear from all speakers, there is a two-minute limit on comments.

Our first speaker, Da'Jae Allen.

Da'Jae.

MS. ALLEN: My name is Da'Jae. And I'm part of the Chicago Youth Council for Police Accountability. Thank you for having me tonight.

And I want to give a report on some of the things we've been doing. First, we have
been interviewing police officers around the City stationed at schools and colleges. And we're hoping to kind of step that up and maybe get some videos of it and start a social media campaign with that.

Our council has also met with Chicago's Crime Lab and we have been discussing ideas and projects, and we are working on getting it on the ground and running.

We have also been conducting community outreach for our panels here. That will be happening in a couple of months. It will include youth members, youth leaders, community members, community leaders, police officers, police leaders, as well as City members of the City leaders. The goal for this panel is to create a community between police and youth to reduce overall tension within both communities. And we also want to work on inviting members of the Police Board to possibly be involved in the panel series, whether that's as panelists themselves or just there to network and communicate and share ideas. That's it. Thank you.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Wonderful. Thank you very much. And we really appreciate you all's continued support of the Police Board and your activity. You all are future Police Board members. So we want to make sure that you all continue to learn this process and stay active and stay involved. So, absolutely, when you all have events, you can count on us to participate for sure.

Our next speaker is Crista Noel.

Ms. Noel.

MS. NOEL: Hello.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Good evening.

MS. NOEL: Good evening, everyone. Okay. So I'm going to be really quick. I came on late, so I'm not sure if the follow-up with the Nikkita Brown case decision was made but haven't gotten any information on that. Don't know what's going on. So need an answer as far as that's concerned.

Two, there is a serious issue with in-custody deaths within the Chicago Police Department, averaging about two per year. I have a serious problem with the treatment of veteran
Irene Chavez, and another serious problem about the lack of information around what happened to London Marquez, and why a pregnant woman would end up dead.

And then three, we have FOIA'd information on sexual assault, and offenses, and misconduct, whatever falls under misconduct, and we haven't really gotten an explanation of the information that we got. We're trying to meet with the Superintendent to get an explanation of all these three points that I've made.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. First Deputy, I know you probably cannot speak about some of these, but do you have any -- maybe it's Jay, if you have any update on Nikkita Brown.

FIRST DEPUTY CARTER: No, I don't have an update. But, Jay?

ACTING CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR WESTENSEE: No. I can simply reiterate that I believe we closed our investigation here at COPA on or about October 25th, and it's been in the post-investigation review process since that time.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And as far as FOIA, is a
little bit of kind of a challenging kind of
issue. We deal with it kind of regularly.

First Deputy, is it Dana that they
should reach out to or Scott?

ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL SPEARS: Good
evening, President Foreman. I can address this.
We're going to have our commanding office of the
FOIA issue reach out to Ms. Noel to discuss the
FOIA response.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay. Thank you very
much.

MS. NOEL: Am I still on?

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yes, ma'am.

MS. NOEL: He did. And I told him that I
wanted to meet with the Superintendent as well,
and I hadn't heard anything from him since I made
that request.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Max, if I can ask you to
coordinate with CPD and the commander from the
FOIA department to make sure Ms. Noel gets the
answers that she's looking for.

MR. CAPRONI: I will do that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Our final
speaker, Mr. Robert More.
Max, what does Mr. More need to press in order to unmute?

MR. CAPRONI: Callers press *6 to unmute.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Mr. More, *6, please, on one of your phones.

Mr. More, I can see that you're there. *6 on one of your phones. Mr. More, if you can hear me, if you can press *6, please.

Mr. More. Mr. More.

So, unfortunately, Mr. More is having technical difficulties. Unfortunately we are going to have to move on.

At this time, all members of the public who signed up in advance to speak have been called upon.

Is there a motion to adjourn?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor, please say aye.

(CHORUS OF AYES.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Motion passes. And the meeting is adjourned.
Thank you very much. Mr. More, is that you that just unmuted? No.

At this point the motion passes and the meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

Be safe, everyone.

(WHEREUPON, the proceedings were adjourned at 8:24 p.m.)
MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., being first duly sworn, says that she is a court reporter doing business in the City of Chicago; that she reported in shorthand the proceedings had at the hearing of said cause; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes, so taken as aforesaid, and contains all the proceedings of said meeting.

MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
License No. 084.002740
MEETING
February 24, 2022

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