

ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL CHAIRMAN

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Date: May 16, 2022

# COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT APRIL 2022

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for <u>April 2022.</u>

Date, Time & Location of

Meeting: On April 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government

Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan held a meeting via video

conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance: The following members were virtually present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the

Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice Chair Martin (47), La Spata (1), Hairston (5), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Rodriguez (22), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Cardona (31),

Waguespack (32), Nugent (39), Smith (43), Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: None.

The following non-members were virtually present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: King (4), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Beale (9), Lee (11), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Coleman (16), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Taylor (20), Brookins (21), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Reboyras (30), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Vasquez (40), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Cappleman (46).

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Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On April 6, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Lee (11), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Tunney (44), Cappleman (46), and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: King (4), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Cardenas (12), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Tabares (23), Austin (34), and Smith (43).

The following non-members were virtually present at the April 6, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: La Spata (1), Beale (9), Burke (14), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Cardona (31), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), and Martin (47).

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On April 20, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the April 20, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Lee (11), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato



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(38), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), Cappleman (46), and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the April 20, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: King (4), and Austin (34).

The following non-members were virtually present at the April 20, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Burke (14), Coleman (16), Beale (9), Cardona (31), and Vasquez (40).

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations addressed the following items:

# REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE MARCH 23, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Amendment of Neighborhood Opportunity Fund redevelopment agreement with Ogden Washtenaw JV LLC, in the 28<sup>th</sup> Ward (O2022-887)

**HELD IN COMMITTEE 4/20/22** 

2. Provision of out-of-city water supply to Liberty Property Limited Partnership for property at 5064 S Merrimac Ave. (O2022-888)

PASSED COMMITTEE 4/20/22 PASSED CITY COUNCIL 4/27/22

3. Provision of out-of-city water supply to Lennin Carrion for property at 5530 N Canfield, Norwood Park Township (O2022-889)

PASSED COMMITTEE 4/20/22 PASSED CITY COUNCIL 4/27/22

4. Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2022 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Department of Family and Support Services and Chicago Police Department (SO2022-882)

SUBSTITUTED IN COMMITTEE 4/20/22 SUBSTITUTE PASSED COMMITTEE 4/20/22



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# PASSED CITY COUNCIL 4/27/22

5. Grant agreement with Community Investment Corporation to fund city pass-through grant reserve fund creating the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Preservation Loan Fund (O2022-898)

PASSED COMMITTEE 4/20/22 PASSED CITY COUNCIL 4/27/22

# DIRECT INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE APRIL 20, 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING

6. An ordinance amending the 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and creating a transportation assistance program (DIRECT INTRODUCTION)

PASSED COMMITTEE 4/20/22
PASSED CITY COUNCIL 4/27/22

# SUBJECT MATTER HEARINGS ONLY, NO VOTES TAKEN – APRIL 6, 2022 at 10:00 am

7. Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan – Community Development, Youth Opportunities, Violence Prevention

# SUBJECT MATTER HEARINGS ONLY, NO VOTES TAKEN – APRIL 6, 2022 at 2:00 pm

8. An ordinance amending the 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and creating a transportation assistance program

On April 6, 2022 at 10:00 am Chairman Dowell called the virtual Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan subject matter hearing to order pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting was conducted by video conference. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. Chairman Dowell recognized Joshua Coakley as the first public speaker. After Mr. Copley, Kara Crutcher and Nathan were recognized as the second public speakers. Lori Crowder was then recognized as the third public speaker. The fourth public speaker was Michael Allen. The final public speaker was Robert Rogerto. With no additional individuals signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.



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Chairman Dowell began the meeting by introducing the topics for discussion during the subcommittee meeting and recognized David Doig from Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives (CNI) as the first panelist to discuss community development as part of the Chicago Recovery Plan. Following Mr. Doig, Megan Harte from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) delivered her prepared statement on community development. Matt DeMateo of New Life Church spoke about youth services, followed by Tony Diaz from After School Matters to close out the youth services portion of the prepared remarks. Levon Stone Sr. from Acclivus gave his remarks on violence prevention, and the opening statement portion of the meeting was closed out by Dr. Lance Williams, Professor of Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies at Northeastern University, who also spoke about violence prevention initiatives. Budget Director Susie Park was then recognized by Chairman Dowell to give her update on Chicago Recovery Plan spending. Department of Planning and Development Commissioner Maurice Cox was next to deliver his prepared remarks regarding community development spending. After Commissioner Cox, Department of Family and Support Services Commissioner Brandie Knazze addressed the committee about youth services funding in the Chicago Recovery Plan. Next, Chicago Department of Public Health Commissioner Allison Arwady explained how CDPH is prioritizing recovery plan spending, which was expounded upon by Tamara Mahal, the Coordinator of the Safety Coordination Center. DFSS Commissioner Knazze returned to address youth violence prevention specifically, and Lisa Hampton Director of Intervention for the

At the conclusion of the presentations, Chairman Dowell opened up the meeting to questions from subcommittee members and non-members. Vice-Chairman Martin began by asking how much money has been spent to date. Budget Director Park responded 17 RFP's are posted and closed for \$200 million, that the revenue replacement dollars have been obligated, and the spending dashboard will track the spending as it goes. DPD Commissioner Cox added that they are going to make spending recommendations for round one by the end of the month, and in regards to the vacant lot program they are doing 1,000 properties a month through October. Budget Director Park continued that program updates will be posted on a quarterly basis for review. Vice Chairman Martin also asked about the service level for youth compared to prior years and the need overall. DFSS Commissioner Knazze responded that number is just DFSS services, not the program partners, and that they are trying to expand corporate partnerships to meet the total youth needs, which is hard to estimate because of pandemic impacts but 42,000 youth applied last year. Chairman Dowell asked about the revenue replacement figure. Budget Director Park responded that all \$782 million has been obligated. Chairman Dowell then asked about changes to the land sales process. DPD Commissioner Cox answered that the environmental review process is the biggest hold up in sale, so they are doing bulk reviews so they can identify which lots are

Youth Services Division further highlighted the issue for DFSS.



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clean and easy to sell, versus the ones that need more work, and then bundle the ones that are easy to sell. The sales changes will be done through ordinance with a target of launching by the fall. DPD is also willing to change and adjust the traditional sales methods like ANLAP or negotiated sale. Chairman Dowell encouraged changes to the appraisal process and taking back properties that aren't improved. Alderman Rodriguez talked about existing violence prevention efforts, and encouraged mental health violence intervention efforts. Alderman La Spata asked about how the City promotes collaboration between delegate agencies receiving funds. CDPH Commissioner Arwady said they are prioritizing coordination which includes regional meetings among delegates. Ms. Mahal added that they are prioritizing this type of work throughout their network of providers and programs. DPD Commissioner Cox added that they are coordinating with sister agencies when RFPs are released, and the Mayor's Chief of Staff has started weekly department meetings so everyone knows what each department is doing. Alderman La Spata then asked about capacity building. Budget Director Park said that is a big priority, and they hosted a summit to let contractors know how to move to the next step in organizational growth. DFSS Commissioner Knazze answered that they do monthly cohort meetings and work with BACP on grants to support the smaller agencies. CDPH Commissioner Arwady stated they are using models from COVID-19 response to apply to things like violence prevention. DPD Deputy Commissioner Kathy Dickhut answered that they are instituting requirements and a path for local organizations to grow. Alderman Smith asked about the SNAP program's first year. DFSS Commissioner Knazze 73 youth were engaged for housing, 37 got housing through the flexible housing pool, 200 youth were housed total, and the remainder of the youth are in bridge housing, and of the 659 youth served in 2021, 107 were carjackers arrested in 167 times, and they were connected to youth, jobs and case management. This is a 12-18 month program but DFSS will let program participants be in the program for as long as it takes, even though it's a higher cost program. Samantha Edwards from DFSS added they are implementing advanced youth engagement practices. Alderman Smith asked if DFSS had additional funding, could they serve more youth. DFSS Commissioner Knazze responded that agencies are having a difficult time hiring staff so adding more youth would be difficult. Chairman Dowell asked about minority organizations feeling locked out of funding and funding equity issues. CDPH Commissioner Arwardy highlighted that a majority of the organizations in CP4P are minority owned, they are diversifying the funding available to target smaller minority led organizations, and the seed grants are equitable by definition, and the larger grants there isn't a distinction between specific awards. Alderman Hairston stated that there was not one black agency receiving violence prevention funding. CDPH Commissioner Arwady contended that many CDPH grantees are run by African American organizations, including half of the CP4P participant groups, and talked about the expansion of violence prevention efforts in new communities. Alderman Hairston then asked about organizations that applied for funding but didn't get picked. CDPH Commissioner Arwady answered that this is the first year we are really getting funding, and the city is just now getting



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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL - ROOM 200

121 NORTH LASALLE STREET

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

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evaluation reports from the program's effectiveness. Chairman Dowell asked for data on CP4P and expressed her unhappiness about the intermediaries in the various communities. Alderman Scott asked about seed grant distribution. CDPH Commissioner Arwady responded how they are learning from the state and how they are trying to distribute seed grants more equitably. Alderman Scott then asked about land sales to outside developers and the Chicago Recovery Grants. DPD Commissioner Cox answered that for selling clustered lots, there is an 8 lot limit, and they are trying to engage a pipeline of minority developers for the sales, and that they will work with aldermen to sell to the right individuals. As for the grants, the max allocation is \$5 million and DPD is forwarding the full list of awardees to each alderman. Alderman Scott continued by asking what happens when people don't improve their City purchased property or use their grants. DPD Commissioner Cox responded that because the federal funding has an expiration date, DPD is enforcing the deadlines so that the funding is spent and not returned to the federal government. Alderman Sigcho Lopez asked for notification about the violence prevention quarterly meetings, suggested that CDPH funding should be distributed with community input, and if Chicago Police Department officers receive training on how other department programs work. CDPH Commissioner Arwady clarified the quarterly meetings, how violence prevention data is being put together, and the Community Safety Coordination Center ensures that CPD is happening on the nonpolice side and visa-versa. DFSS Commissioner Knazze stated that their community partners participate in roll calls, and participation in Town Halls. Alderman Moore asked about the qualifications for Dr. Lance Williams and asked for him to work with the violence prevention team. CDPH Commissioner Arwady stated that Marlena White is with violence prevention, and Ms. Mahal continued that there is an advisory committee for violence prevention to get subject matter experts in the area. Alderman Moore asked about the \$166 million obligated, and the large lot program. DPD Commissioner Cox clarified that the funds are in a category but not given to individuals at this time.

Chairman Dowell stated that there was no further business before the subcommittee and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting by the same roll call vote as was applied to determine quorum. Alderman Waguespack moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

On April 6, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Chairman Dowell called the virtual subject matter hearing to order pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an inperson meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting was conducted by video conference. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment



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period and explained the procedures for public comment. With no speakers signed up for public comment, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

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Chairman Dowell began the meeting with Item Number 1 on the agenda, an ordinance amending the 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and creating a transportation assistance program (DIRECT INTRODUCTION). Chairman Dowell then recognized Budget Director Susie Park to explain the ordinance. Following Budget Director Park, CFO Jennie Bennett further explained the ordinance. At the conclusion of CFO Bennett's remarks Chairman Dowell opened up the meeting to questions from members and non-members. Alderman Osterman asked to clarify where the funds for the program were coming from, how the program participants will be selected, and program sustainability. Budget Director Bennett explained that the funds are from aging programs. CFO Bennett clarified that need will be greater than funds available, but the administration is prioritizing community areas that face higher hardship mobility and low-income residents through 100% AMI limits, and the program will run through September to cover typical summer gas price increases, which can be revisited during the Budget process. Alderman Rodriguez inquired if wealthy residents will benefit more than working class residents through this program, and if anything can be done to encourage residents to drive less. CFO Bennett replied that 2/3 of the program transit cards go low income residents and the AMI threshold will limit distribution to wealthy residents. CFO also added that many Chicago residents need to drive to get to work, and that public transit isn't an option for all locations. Alderman Moore stated the money has other better uses like keeping residents in their homes. Alderman Ramirez Rosa expressed his frustration on getting the ordinance only hours before the meeting, that he supported a property tax rebate program, that lottery systems are overwhelming and not representative, and asked about the plan for multi-lingual outreach materials and if its required in the ordinance. CFO Bennett ensured that outreach materials are translated into multiple languages and paper applications will be made available. Alderman Ramirez Rosa also asked if undocumented immigrants are permitted to participate in the program. CFO Bennett answered they can participate. Alderman Cappleman explained the history of providing transit benefits to residents, and if the administration can assist social service agencies with CTA cards. CFO Bennett explained that it's a bit difficult to do that for this program but they can look at that in the future, and social service agencies can be a point of outreach to get benefits to the needy. Alderman Rodriguez asked if there were alternate programs considered outside of the transit benefit. CFO Bennett stated she is unaware of any existing programs to assist with gas/transit prices, and pointed to the Chicago Recovery Plan as where many programs to help the disadvantaged were funded. Alderman Ervin asked if the mobility index takes into account gas, and asked if areas without transit get extra gas cards. CFO Bennett answered that it is based on transit, and that the distribution of gas cards is being done through a mobility and equity lens, overlaying where the administration sees car ownership. Alderman Burnett



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stated that ride share drivers are struggling with the high gas prices, and asked if the transit cards are eligible to use for buses. CFO Bennett explained the transit cards can be used for buses and trains, and explained the qualifications to receive the benefit. Alderman Burnett also asked about the programs relationship to Dr. Willie Wilson's giveaway. CFO Bennett explained that it is not. Alderman Ramirez Rosa asked for clarification on the income limits, and stated that this program is political. CFO Bennett answered that the AMI limit was changed due to aldermanic feedback, and that the ethics board cleared this action. Alderman Reilly applauded changing from the \$0.03 gas tax to the gas/transit cards, but said this program is too limited to really help people, and that this isn't good environmentally. CFO Bennett reminded that 2/3 of this program is for transit, and that many people are required to drive to live. Alderman Reilly further argued that safety on CTA should be a priority over this program. CFO Bennett stated that this will help increase ridership by making transit more affordable. Chairman Dowell added that the CTA is adding additional security personnel to assist with transit safety. Alderman Sposato agreed that there are better uses for the money, and asked about the benefit distribution. CFO Bennett responded that every ward gets the same amount of gas cards, but the transit cards are 75,000 to transit underserved areas. Alderman Ervin asked if the city can subsidize the cost of gas per gallon instead of a gas card. CFO Bennett answered that the technology doesn't exist to provide a subsidy. Alderman Dowell asked if the City can exclude gas stations that are bad actors. CFO Bennett answered that they are looking into that from the list provided by BACP, and that they will look into the total number of gas stations in the City. Alderman La Spata asked about which funds were swept. Comptroller Reshma Soni said as part of their year-end accounting they look at accounts that have programs with funds left over from transfers and payments between programs, they can sweep those left over funds. This is especially prevalent in grant funded programs. This applies to 2018 and before for this program, and moves what would be swept for the end of the year into this transit program. Comptroller Soni identified the grant administrator fund (\$5 million), and the DCASE special deposits fund (\$7.5) that is being swept for the transit program. Alderman La Sapta asked for the name of the card manufacturer, and if they have a relationship to the gas company. CFO Bennett answered that the company is named Ombe, and that no they don't have a relationship. Alderman La Spata concluded by asking about the discrepancy between gas card amounts and transit card amounts, and why not put this money into the basic income program. CFO Bennett responded that it's due to the differing prices for each service, and the recovery plan targets specific other programs for the city. This targets a specific need, increased gas prices. Alderman Vasquez stated this is taxpayer money not like Dr. Wilson which uses his own funds, if the administration came up with this plan before or after Dr. Wilson's, and the timeline for basic income distribution. CFO Bennett wasn't familiar with the time frame for Dr. Wilson, and that federal dollars have more restrictions which makes it more difficult to distribute. Alderman Vasquez continued by asking why the City can't just give the money directly to CTA to lower ridership costs, and asked why AMI was targeted at 100%. CFO



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Bennett said CTA has its own budget issues, and 100% AMI covers 30% of the population of Chicago. Alderman Beale said the transit program is political, asked if any of the basic income program funds have been distributed, and stated monetary relief should be from speed camera rollbacks. Comptroller Soni stated that the program is in RFP. CFO Bennett stated the benefits can be distributed by late May. Chairman Dowell added that the basic income task force just concluded its work. CFO Bennett closed the meeting with a short statement. Alderman Sposato moved to adjourn by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned on April 6, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

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On April 20, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Dowell called the virtual committee meeting to order pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an inperson meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting was conducted by video conference. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. With no speakers signed up for public comment, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Alderman Dowell called for approval of the Amended March 2022 Monthly Rule 45 Report for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Reilly moved to approve the Amended Rule 45 Report. Hearing no objections, the item was approved.

Chairman Dowell began the meeting with Item Number 1 on the agenda, amendment of Neighborhood Opportunity Fund redevelopment agreement with Ogden Washtenaw JV LLC (O2022-887). Chairman Dowell moved to hold the item at the request of the local alderman. Chairman Dowell then moved to Item Number 2, provision of out-of-city water supply to Liberty Property Limited Partnership for property at 5064 S Merrimac Ave. and recognized Carmela Moretti from the Department of Water Management to introduce the ordinance. Following Ms. Moretti's statement, Chairman Dowell opened up the meeting to questions and comments from committee members and non-members. Alderman Ervin started by asking the water rate, and if the City can annex the property. Ms. Moretti stated they pay the same rate as the City rate. DWM Director of Legal Services Karen Bielarz added that the property is in Stickney Township and there is no infrastructure in the township for this property. Chairman Dowell asked how many accounts there are for out of city water service. Joel Viera from DWM answered that there are approximately 275 such accounts. Alderman Rodriguez asked for and received clarification on the location of the property. Alderman Rodriguez moved do pass Item No. 2 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.



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Chairman Dowell then went to Item Number 3 on the agenda, provision of out-of-city water supply to Lennin Carrion for property at 5530 N Canfield, Norwood Park Township and recognized Carmela Moretti from the Department of Water Management to introduce the ordinance. Alderman Ervin asked about the municipal supply for Norwood Park. Ms. Moretti answered that there is private water supply but this property isn't connected to that supply, Norwood Park is unable to provide the property water, and the owner bears all costs for the connection. Alderman Sposato clarified Norwood Park's location. Alderman Cardenas asks why Norwood Park can't supply water service. DWM First Deputy Viera answered that this is an existing account with infrastructure already in place, and the property is right across from Chicago, and Chicago provides water service to 120 municipalities, and there is no additional cost to the City. Alderman Hairston asked if there is a water main break if it's the City's responsibility, and if the village can build their own infrastructure. DWM First Deputy Viera confirmed that yes we would be responsible for our own infrastructure, and that there isn't enough room in the street to have two separate water lines. Alderman Napolitano asked for clarification on the location which was provided. Alderman Sawyer moved do pass Item No. 3 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Chairman Dowell then moved to Item Number 3 on the agenda, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2022 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Department of Family and Support Services and Chicago Police Department. Alderman Cardenas moved to accept the substitute. With the substitute accepted, Chairman Dowell recognized Chloe Belczak from the Office of Budget and Management to introduce the ordinance. Chairman Dowell recognized Alderman Sadlowski Garza asked about the smart grid grant. Ms. Belczak provided clarification on what the grant does. Chief Sustainability Officer Angela Tovar further clarified on the position, which is existing, that the grant funds. Alderman Osterman asked about funding for the food pantries. Alisa Rodriguez from DFSS responded the funding goes through the Chicago Food Depository to fund hundreds of sites across the City. Alderman Reilly discussed the ISIP funding. Alderman Cardenas implored the City to work on sustainability initiatives. Alderman Tunney asked about how the DFSS funding is appropriated. Alisa Rodriguez from DFSS responded that its passthrough funding through the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Alderman Hairston inquired about Chicago Food Depository funding and it was affirmed additional funding could be utilized. Alderman Hairston continued by asking how many staff positions are in the Mayor's office, and the police grant uses. Budget Director Park responded there are 99 positions, and Elena Gottreich from CPD explained the grant programs uses. Alderman Osterman talked about the additional needs of local food depositories. Ms. Rodriguez from DFSS answered the department is increasing food pantries to meet



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need, and then work with a food equity task force to expand reach. Alderman O'Shea detailed the struggles of food pantries in his ward. Alderman Brookins moved do pass Item No. 4 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

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Chairman Dowell moved to Item Number 5 on the agenda, a grant agreement with Community Investment Corporation to fund city pass-through grant reserve fund creating the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Preservation Loan Fund, which was explained by Lisa Stephens a Financial Analyst from the Department of Housing. After Ms. Stephens presentation, Chairman Dowell asked for questions from members and non-members. Alderman Cappleman made the point that the City should be rehabbing studios and one-bedrooms instead of SROs and wants a pilot project for that in his ward. Ester Sorrell, Assistant Commissioner of the Finance Division of the Department of Housing responded that this is a pilot program and there are other programs to meet the needs Alderman Cappleman has identified. Alderman Osterman commended the Department of Housing for coming up with this program. Alderman Sadlowski Garza asked about the SRO in her ward, improving the facility and doing a walk through with the department, which was agreed to. Alderman Hairston asked for an assessment of all of the SROs in the wards, and an organizational chart of the Department of Housing. Alderman Mitts thanked the Department and Chairman Osterman for their attention to SROs, asked for wraparound services for SRO residents, and a list of SROs citywide with resident counts. Chairman Dowell responded that a list of SROs with their addresses was provided, and the department will do their best to get population counts. Alderman Cardenas asked how the City is tracking and engaging the City's homeless. Ms. Stephens answered that DFSS does the homeless tracking, and DoH is helping bridge the gap between residents and owners. Alderman Burnett commended the department in sustaining SROs. Alderman Ervin stated his support for the program. Alderman Lee stated she looks forward to working to address the homeless issue with the department. Chairman Dowell asked President and CEO of the Community Investment Corporation Stacie Young to make a statement. Alderman Smith talked about how her area lost affordable housing. Chairman Dowell also expressed her support for the program. Chairman Dowell then asked Managing Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Housing to address the MBE/DBE component of the program, which he explained. Alderman Ervin moved do pass Item No. 5 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Chairman Dowell then moved to the addendum to the agenda with Item Number 1 on the addendum, an ordinance amending the 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and creating a transportation assistance program which was introduced by Budget Director Park and CFO Jennie Bennett. Chairman



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Dowell recognized Alderman Sadlowski Garza to begin the question and answer period, who asked if the program funds come from the corporate fund, if the card vendor is charging the City for its service, about the area median income, and gave the reasons why she is not going to support the ordinance. CFO Bennett responded that the program is now 100% of the AMI and the vendor is not charging the City for the service. Alderman Sposato asked about the equity component of the program, and stated there are better uses for the funds. CFO Bennett stated the equity component comes from communities that face transportation challenges. Alderman Rodriguez stated his concerns with the program but also why he supports the program, and asked about the equity map. CFO Bennett explained how the equity map was developed. Alderman Ervin thanked CFO Bennett for making changes that were brought up during the last meeting, and that not everyone faces mobility challenges. Alderman Burnett stated that he is supportive of the program. Alderman Hairston stated money could be better spent in other areas. Alderman Quinn expressed his opposition to the program. Alderman Cardenas said that there are always other needs, but this is a need right now, and that aldermanic offices should be the primary location to hand out the transit cards. Alderman Curtis expressed his disappointment that his community was not included in the equity map. Alderman Smith inquired about how many people in the City would be eligible for the transit cards, asked for clarification on the mobility map, and utility relief as a prerequirement for program participation. CFO Bennett stated about 500,000 people would be eligible, with 150,000 households would be getting transit cards, that about of 1/3 of the total households citywide are in the hardship area, and that utility relief isn't part of the program. Comptroller Reshma Soni added that anyone that is enrolled in utility relief can apply for the transit program using an expedited process. CFO Bennett continued by talking about the cross-marketing efforts to drive program participation. Alderman Brookins stated that he supports helping people in a substantial way, instead of helping more people in an insignificant way. He continued by asking about the program's relationship with the universal basic income program. CFO Bennett said UBI participants would not be excluded from the transit program. Alderman Villegas said he would rather see the funds used for other programs, and also asked if there was an opportunity to expand the mobility map. CFO Bennett said the City has flexibility to ensure the benefits are widely distributed. Alderman Reboyras inquired about protecting the program from fraud. CFO Bennett gave the ways the program is being protected from fraud. Alderman Rodriguez asked for clarification on the mobility hardship map and how that works for program prioritization. CFO Bennett explained how applications will be tied to addresses. Chairman Dowell asked for additional clarification which was provided by CFO Bennett. Alderman Lee asked for the rationale for the transit card distribution changes. CFO Bennett responded that they are trying to target those with the highest needs. Alderman Sposato asked for income limit clarification. CFO Bennett explained how their income limits hit the targeted participants. Alderman Ramirez Rosa expressed additional concerns with the update to the program, citing the design of the card, connections to the Dr. Wilson giveaway, which



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communities are targeted, and encouraged better CTA use. Alderman Osterman talked about CTA safety. Vice Chairman Silverstein asked about gas card distribution among mobility areas. CFO Bennett clarified. Alderman Mitts talked about individuals facing economic challenges. Alderman Tabares asked about the total amount program funding and asked for the funding to instead to go to the police. Alderman Beale agreed with Alderman Tabares and that funding should be used for other purposes. Alderman Vasquez stated the program feels rushed and responsive, that it's bad for the environment, and that there are better uses for the funds. Alderman Reilly stated he would have liked to focus on transit instead of gas, and if the spending could be on longer-term investments. Alderman Sposato inquired about procedural motions. Alderman Hairston also asked about procedural motions. Both of those inquiries were answered by Chairman Dowell. Alderman Mitts asked about other jurisdictions also providing transit card benefits. CFO Bennett stated there are 11 other jurisdictions doing similar programs. Alderman Ervin pointed out that the intent of this program is to provide relief to residents. Alderman Dowell closed this item by saying the committee needs to focus on who they are trying to help, that there are struggling families, and that the 2022 budget accomplished many of the needs identified by previous speakers. Alderman Burnett moved do pass Item on No. 1 on the addendum agenda. By a 15 yea to 12 nay roll call vote, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Chairman Dowell stated that there was no further business before the Committee and moved to adjourn by the same roll call vote as was applied to determine quorum. Alderman Cardenas moved to adjourn the meeting. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

This item was passed by in City Council on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 by a 26 yea to 23 nay roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Dowell, Chairman

**Committee on the Budget and Government Operations**