



CITY OF CHICAGO

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL-ROOM 200  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

ALDERMAN JASON C. ERVIN  
CHAIRMAN

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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT  
DECEMBER 2023

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Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations (CBGO) submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for DECEMBER 2023.

**Date, Time & Location of Meeting:** On December 8, 2023, at 10:00 A.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Attendance:** The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice-Chairman Lee (11), La Spata (1), Dowell (3), Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), , Conway (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Knudsen (43), Martin (47), Hadden (49) and Silverstein (50).

The following members were present virtually: Rodriguez (22), Rodriquez-Sanchez (33) and Vasquez (40).

The following members were absent: Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), O'Shea (19), Mosley (21), Cardona (31), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), and Reilly (42).

The following non-member was present: Hall (6).

Internal witnesses present were: Terrence Johnson, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Planning and Development (DPD); Matthew Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director, Office of Budget Management (OBM); Tahira Baig, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE); Raymond Barrett, Deputy Commissioner, Andrea Chatman, Deputy Commissioner, Christine Riley, Director of Homeless Prevention-Policy & Planning, Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS); Natalie Gutierrez, Managing Deputy Director, Daniel Casey, Managing Deputy Director, Office of Public Safety Administration (OPSA); Tomas Maulawin, Lieutenant, Chicago Police Department (CPD).

External witnesses present were: Theaster Gates Jr., Founder & Executive Director, Ellen Alderman, Director of Programs & Operations, Rebuild Foundation.

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

- 1. Redevelopment Agreement with, and NOF Grant to, Ellen Alderman and The Rebuild Foundation, to repurpose St. Laurence School at 1341-1353 E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street into residences, tool, tech and fab labs, promoting art, music, writing and craftsman disciplines for emerging and established artists. (O2023-0005700)**
- 2. Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 amendment within Fund 925. (O2023-0005937)**
- 3. Transfer of funds within Committee on Public Safety for Year 2023. (O2023-0005576)**
- 4. Transfer of funds within Committee on Economic Capital and Technology Development for Year 2023. (O2023-0005739)**
- 5. Transfer of funds within Committee on Workforce Development for Year 2023. (O2023-0005949)**

Chairman Ervin called the meeting to order, took roll call, and found that a quorum was present.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to read the Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings, then opened the floor for public comment, and acknowledged there were no public speakers. The Chair concluded the public comment period and moved to Item # 1 of the agenda, a Redevelopment Agreement with, and NOF Grant to, Ellen Alderman and The Rebuild Foundation, to repurpose St. Laurence School at 1341-1353 E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street into residences, tool, tech and fab labs, promoting art, music, writing and craftsman disciplines for emerging and established artists. The Chair made a motion to allow Alderman Michael Rodriguez to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Dowell, hearing no objections, Alderman Rodriguez was added to the roll.

The Chair proceeded to recognize Terrence Johnson, Assistant Commissioner (DPD) who provided testimony on the ordinance.

Chairman Ervin made a motion to allow Alderman Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez and Alderman Gilbert Vasquez to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Dowell, hearing no objections, the Aldermen were added to the roll. The Chairman then opened the floor for questions and comments on Item #1.

Alderman Harris was recognized and expressed her support of the project and gave a brief history on St. Laurence School from 1962 to present. In addition, Alderman Harris thanked Ellen Alderman and Theaster Gates Jr., for coming together to help preserve the cultural heritage of this beautiful structure that will boost the social and economic vibrancy in south shore community. The Chair recognized Theaster Gates, who thanked the members, then gave insight into how this project came to fruition.

Vice Chair Lee congratulated everyone on the project and hopes there will be lot more of this in the city's future. Alderman Dowell was acknowledged and congratulated Alderman Harris and thanked Theaster

Gates for his commitment to the City of Chicago. Alderman Burnett congratulated his colleague and stated that we need to continue to support our artists to do projects such as this. In addition, pointed out the need for affordable housing for artists. Aldermen Mitchell and Yancy congratulated Alderman Harris and thanked Theaster Gates for bringing this project to the south side of Chicago. Alderman Conway referenced the timeline of 1 month for building permits and asked if they had been secured. Theaster Gates responded, yes. Alderman Conway asked DPD about a settlement agreement in 2019 for 29<sup>th</sup> & Prairie. Terrence Johnson replied, there was a land sale that DPD entered that had MBE/WBE, the developer fell short in terms of the MBE/WBE portion, as part of the following deal that we did with them, we made up that difference so that's how we got to the 35 and 15%. Alderman Vasquez congratulated Alderman Harris and Theaster Gates, thanked his colleagues and pointed out that we have more art focused development and opportunities for people to express themselves, to see the beauty in the neighborhood is extremely important and meaningful in the city. Alderman Vasquez also commended Alderman Burnett for mentioning the affordability aspect. Alderman Harris moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The item passed and was to be reported out for the December 13, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Chairman Ervin moved to Item #2, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 amendment within Fund 925. Chairman made a motion to accept a substitute ordinance on item #2, Alderman Lee so moved, hearing no objection, the item was adopted. Matthew Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director was acknowledged and provided testimony on the substitute ordinance. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments.

The Chair recognized Alderman Dowell, who referenced the license plate readers and asked how many would the \$10 Million cover and what is the process by which the locations will be selected. Daniel Casey, we are going to have to do a back call on this significant number, close to 400 to 500, we will have regular cameras in this as well, the process will be both CPD priorities and the Aldermanic request portal, this will help with this back log. Alderman Dowell asked what is the backlog in numbers? Daniel replied, we will get that through the chair. Alderman Conway referenced the \$3.5million to DFSS for emergency transitional housing and asked for information on locations and number of beds? Christine Riley replied, currently we have one location at 100 East Chestnut and exploring additional locations throughout the city and there are 116 beds. Alderman Moore inquired about the theater innovation fund, a competitive application process to be administered by the Department of Cultural Affairs? Tahira Baig replied, yes, it's for the performing arts. Alderman Moore asked how the information will get to the Alderman. Tahira replied, once the Grant Initiative Program is fully scoped, we will send notifications to all Aldermanic Wards. Alderman La Spata references the \$10 Million going to CPD for the IDOT license plate reader expansion program, where will they be placed? Daniel Casey replied, they will all be on the city of Chicago's public way, we will have traffic options to view, watch and analyze traffic. Alderman La Spata asked, who would be the best point of contact for understanding potential placement? Daniel answered, me and then the team's Public Safety Administration. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The item passed and was to be reported out for the December 13, 2023, City Council Meeting.

The Chairman proceeded to Item #3, a transfer of funds within Committee on Public Safety for Year 2023, Item #4, a transfer of funds within Committee on Economic Capital and Technology Development for Year 2023, and Item #5, a transfer of funds within Committee on Workforce Development for Year 2023.

Chairman Ervin closed the questions/comments segment. Alderman Dowell moved do pass, Item No. 3, 4, & 5 on the agenda, hearing no objections, the items were approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The items passed and were to be reported out for the December 13, 2023, City Council Meeting.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Alderman Burnett for adjournment, meeting was adjourned.

*(A video recording of the full meeting with committee members, internal and external experts, as well as any/all public speaking content can be reviewed on the Chicago City Clerk website under Committee Meeting Web Stream Archive dated December 8th.)*

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ervin', written over a horizontal line.

Jason C. Ervin, Chairman  
Committee on the Budget and Government Operations