



CITY OF CHICAGO

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL-ROOM 200  
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ALDERMAN JASON C. ERVIN  
CHAIRMAN

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

**Date, Time & Location of Meeting:** On October 3, 2023, at 12:00 P.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), Ramirez (12), Quinn (13), Lopez (15), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Mosley (21), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Cardona (31), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Conway (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Knudsen (43), Martin (47), Hadden (49) and Silverstein (50).

The following member was present virtually: O'Shea (19).

The following members were absent: Taliaferro (29), Napolitano (41) and Reilly (42).

The following non-members were present: Gutierrez (14), Coleman (16), Gardiner (45) and Hoppenworth (48).

Internal witnesses present were: Mike Webber, Assistant Commissioner, Willie Edwards, Assistant Commissioner, Daniel Cassell, Program Director, Mathew Schmitz, Deputy Commissioner of Finance, Department of Housing (DOH); Alfonso Martel, Policy Analyst, Mary Townsend-Baldwin, Finance Officer, Antonio King, Public Health Administrator III, Keyoka Parks, Projects Administrator, Maribel Chavez-Torres, Deputy Commissioner, Jacqueline Tiema, Director of Public Health Operations, Karen Cobb, Senior Services, Department of Public Health (CDPH); Mark Sanders, Deputy Commissioner, Raymond Barrett, Deputy Commissioner, Andriana Camarda, Supervisor, Karen Flude, Manager, Department of Family and Support Services; Tomas Maulawin, Chicago Police Department (CPD); Aaron Lee, Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP); Robert Bumpers, Financial Planning Analyst,

Department of Planning and Development; Chloe Belczak, Deputy Budget Director, Joshua Watson, Budget Analyst, Office of Budget Management (OBM); Natalie Gutierrez, Managing Deputy Director, Office of Public Safety Administration.

External witnesses present were: Jeffery Head, Vice President of Development, The Habitat Company

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

- 1. Approval of September 2023 Monthly Rule 45 Report for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations**
- 2. A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 amendment within Fund 925. (O2023- 0004144)**
- 3. Amendment of 2019 Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Grant (NOF) awarded to Ogden Washtenaw JV LLC, and Redevelopment Agreement for commercial project known as Ogden Commons. (O2023-0004454)**

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

Chairman Ervin 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 # 2 of the agenda, an amendment of 2019 Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Grant (NOF) awarded to Ogden Washtenaw JV LLC, and Redevelopment Agreement for commercial project known as Ogden Commons. The Chair recognized Robert Bumpers, Financial Planning Analyst (DPD) who provided testimony on the ordinance and acknowledged Jeffery Head from The Habitat Company presence. The Chairman then opened the floor for questions and comments.

Alderman Burnett was recognized and asked if the project was all commercial? Bumpers responded, this is Phase 1 which is retail on the bottom floor and Mount Sinai Surgical Center on the top 2 floors. Ald. Burnett requested through the chair the total number of NOF funds. Bumpers stated he will provide. Ald. Burnett asked if this is the largest amount of NOF Funds (\$2.4million) used so far on one property. Bumpers replied, this is probably the largest NOF grant approved, it represents 11% of the total project cost of 21.7million. Chairman Ervin added, this is phase I, the housing is currently under construction, there is a five-story residential building going up on the same site. Ald. Burnett asked if it's partial CHA? Jeffery Head replied, 40% are CHA and the other 50% is affordable housing.

Alderman Cardona expressed his support of the project. Chairman Ervin closed the questions/comments segment and acknowledged a moved do pass by Alderman Scott on Item No. 2 on the agenda. The item passed and will be reported out at the October 4, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Chairman Ervin moved to the approval of the Rule 45 Report of the Committee on Budget and Government Operations meeting held September 12, 2023, which report was transmitted electronically to the Membership. The Chair asked if there were any requests for discussion. Hearing no such requests, Alderman Mitts moved to approve the report. A vote was taken, and the report was approved.

The Chair then moved to Item #1 of the agenda, a communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 amendment within Fund 925. Chairman Ervin made a motion to accept a substitute ordinance on item #1, Alderman Yancy so moved, hearing no objection, the item was adopted.

The Chair recognized Chloe Belczak, Deputy Budget Director who provided testimony on the substitute ordinance. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments.

Alderman Dowell was acknowledged and asked if a person can reapply for the emergency rental assistance program (ERAP) and if there is a map of where assistance has already gone, by community area, by wards? How many people have taken advantage of this program and is the limit six months or nine months? Daniel Cassell responded, if a person has already accessed emergency rental assistance they wouldn't be able to reapply due to the treasury guidelines. We have a database set up of everyone who received rental assistance, DFSS can check to see if a person has received funding from previous rounds of COVID assistance. The treasury guidelines it's up to 12 months of rental assistance but for DFSS it's 6 months. In addition, I have a map of everyone who has received rental assistance, I will be sure everyone receives it. Ald. Dowell asked when does the contract for OnCorp, the manager of the ERAP end. Cassell stated that it expired a couple of months ago and needs to be renewed. Dowell asked if we are going to re-up the contract and can this be done via RFP? Cassell replied, yes it will be re-upped, and I will have to get back to you regarding the RFP. Dowell inquired about the RFP on the Build Illinois Bond Fund and asked when it will be released. Willie Edwards (DOH), responded, we are putting the RFP out within the next month, month in a half. Dowell asked if this could go to first time developers. Edwards stated, this is operated under the rebuild program, targeted to developers who have demonstrated capacity in the community and have done some work. If they can put together a team working under the rebuild structure, they can apply. Dowell referenced Body Art & Tanning inspections and asked how many complaints or citations we received in 2022 and 2023? Have we shut down any locations? Maribel Chavez-Torres replied, the information will be provided through the chair. Dowell inquired about the Local Health Protection Program and asked for clarity on the two contracts for language line solutions and R4 Services. Chavez-Torres replied, language line vendor we use for translation services when doing case investigations. Dowell asked if there is translation services for French and Yoruba speaking people. Chavez-Torres replied, yes. Ald. Dowell inquired about the tick surveillance and asked if they are working with hospitals and clinics and what locations are being tested? Chavez-Torres responded, this is a new pilot program from the State of Illinois, when we get reports of cases, we are going to collect the ticks and send them to a laboratory for IDPH. Ald. Dowell requested a list of senior centers taking advantage of the senior program and who the network providers are. Karen Cobb replied, the information will be submitted through the chair. Ald. Dowell inquired about the abrupt loss of a delegate agency as it relates to ERAP, how did we lose them and were they paid? Cassell replied, we lost the delegate agency due to issues with processing applications and a situation with some staff that had some improprieties, their contract was cancelled May 31<sup>st</sup>. Ald. Dowell asked what the general categories are of how the \$50 million will be allocated for the BGA presidential nominating convention. Natalie Gutierrez replied, we have been in conversation with BGA and went through eligible categories, largely overtime for law enforcement, equipment training in advance of event, and with proper justification, support from the Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management. Ald. Dowell requested a breakdown from the last Democratic National Convention, how much was provided and how that money was spent. Natalie Gutierrez replied, we have been in conversation with Milwaukee, they have been showing us the ropes on what they received for their RNC, I will give you a high-level overview of what they had through the chair.

The Vice Chair recognized Alderman La Spata who referenced the Build Illinois Bond Fund and asked if this is for large developers or individuals and what part of the work is financed. Willie Edwards responded, this grant is from IDA for vacant/abandoned homes, it offers a subsidy between \$120,000 to

\$300,000 and focuses on developers who have demonstrated that they are doing work in the communities, the general idea is reinvesting, building local wealth, rehabilitation and creating new housing units for single family. Ald. LaSpata inquired on the geographical areas for this grant. Edwards replied, the dollars can be used city-wide, but it's generally for the south and west side communities, it focuses on areas where development wouldn't happen otherwise. Ald. LaSpata stated that he would like to see how a program like this can incentivize preservation in areas with strong market interest. Edwards stated that the focus for this particular pot of dollars is to create community where you have a lot of vacancy and abandonment and I would like to further discuss the other side you referenced. Ald. La Spata inquired about a program ending on the BACP side, where 60% of the dollars went unused and asked what happened or did not happen with this program? Jackie Tiema replied, the COVID-19 Outreach for Employers Program, we received an additional supplement that allowed us to award BACP \$5million, an RFP was put out, the goal was to seek 5 agencies that could support outreach and engagement among the business community, only 2 agencies were awarded \$1million each, \$1.8million was spent, and \$3.2million was unspent. Ald. La Spata asked is there currently a design on what we will do with the \$3.2million and if there are any restrictions from the federal agencies as to where those funds can go. Jackie all those dollars are being allocated to current COVID related priorities, such as the at home program where we bring vaccines to homebound persons, mobile providers, and city college events. Vice Chair Lee asked of the 2 agencies that were awarded how many businesses did they reach. Jackie replied that will be provided through the chair.

Alderman Robinson was acknowledged and inquired about the 25 grantees in the Department of Public Health, organizations that are doing work around HIV, out of the 25 only 2-3 stand out as African American led. Why, when we have such high rates of HIV in this particular community? Antonio King responded that the bulk of funding received from the CDC is for direct clinical services, there are not many African American led organizations that offer direct services. Ald. Robinson asked how do we get them the capacity to be at that level. King replied, in the last couple of years we have implemented capacity building programs where we are able to provide money, non-competitive funds to agencies especially those that are black led or those who serve people of color to shore up their infrastructure. Ald. Robinson asked how much money do you have in a line item specifically for these programs? King replied that I will get that information to you through the chair. Ald. Robinson also asked if it is enough funding to do that work? Through your experience over the years how many did we have at one point, ½, did we have 10? King answered, since the eligibility for direct clinical services was not met, we looked at ways to allocate other funding, such as prevention programming, intervention programming, substance and mental health programming. In addition, I have been in this industry for over 25yrs and I'm not sure if CDPH has ever had a robust direct clinical services program where we allocated funds for agencies serving people of color that are black led. Ald. Robinson asked, how many organizations do the department works with the supports that are black led. King replied, 10-15 individual agencies and programs that are black led. Ald. Robinson asked how many in that capacity count that you're trying to get to scale? King answered, at least six of those organizations under two different programs and initiatives to shore up their infrastructure, meaning we are advancing money to help them hire a consultants to look at their agencies to see where there may be are deficits to put them at another level so they can apply for funds. Ald. Robinson requested a breakdown through the chair of the dollar amount each of the 25 organizations are getting.

Vice Chair Lee referenced the local health protection and asked what does a sanitarian do? Maribel Chavez-Torres replied, food inspection for retail establishments. Vice Chair inquired about the air pollution control program, stating that the \$819,000 increase is to cover the 5 positions, the salaries add up to \$1.5million, what will the other \$300,000 be spent on. Maribel answered, the funds will be used to purchase vehicles for the inspectors and to work with a consultant for air monitoring, air sampling, air modeling, reporting and review.

Chairman Ervin closed the questions/comments segment. Alderman Harris moved do pass, Item No. 1 on the agenda, 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 October 4, 2023, City Council Meeting.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Alderman Mitts 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 October 3rd.)*

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

