

City of Chicago
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, December 12, 2024
MEETING LOCATION	Irish American Heritage Center
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:36PM

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair	Present, In-Person
Aaron Gottlieb	Absent
Abierre Minor	Present, In-Person
Kelly Presley	Present, In-Person
Remel Terry – Vice President	Present, In-Person
Sandra Wortham	Present, In-Person

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes.

Acronyms:

BIA = Bureau of Internal Affairs

CCPSA = Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

COPA = Civilian Office of Police Accountability

CPD = Chicago Police Department

ECPS = Empowering Communities for Public Safety

IMT = Independent Monitoring Team

NAC = Noncitizen Advisory Council

OAG = Office of the Attorney General

OMA = Open Meetings Act

PB = Police Board

- I. President Driver called the meeting to order.
- II. President Driver called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Ten (10) speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes**

President Driver called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2024. Commissioner Rubi Navarijo seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 4-0.

V. New Business

Vote to Authorize Closed Meetings

President Driver explained that Section 2a of the Act authorizes the Commission to take a vote to hold a series of closed meetings over the course of not more than 3 months from today, and only for the purposes cited under Section 2(c)(3). Over the next few months, the Commission may need to meet in closed session for reasons that are allowed under the Open Meetings Act, including to discuss filling vacancies on the Police Board.

President Driver called for a motion to hold a series of closed meetings for the maximum period allowable, and only for the purposes cited under Section 2(c)(3) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Rubi Navarijo seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 4-0.

VI. Reports and Updates

Agency 2025 Goals:

Commissioner Driver provided an overview of the goal setting process for CPD, the Police Board, and COPA.

- Under the ECPS Ordinance, the Commission has the power to set yearly goals for the CPD Superintendent, COPA Chief Administrator, and the Police Board President.
- Each of these agencies has a working group that consists of two commissioners.
- Goals presented tonight are draft goals for each agency.
- Today's hearing will give all the Commissioners, including those not part of the working groups, a chance to ask questions and make recommendations to the agencies.
- The Commission will work on a formal response to each group's draft goals.
- The Commission will work over the next month to finalize these goals.
- The Commission plans to vote at our January meeting on whether to adopt these goals.

Commissioner Minor was added to the roll for quorum.

CPD Goal Setting:

President Driver introduced Superintendent Larry Snelling to present the 2025 goals for CPD. The Chicago Police Department has proposed the following goals:

1. Ensure that all officers have a strong foundation in constitutional policing based on impartial policing to guide their work every day.
2. Effectively and efficiently manage Department resources.
3. Ensure that department members understand and adhere to established guidelines relative to prohibiting Department members from active participation or membership in or affiliation with criminal or biased organizations, and from association with known members of criminal or biased organizations as set forth in department directive G08-03.
4. Build and foster a true collaborative partnership through engagements that result in greater public trust between the department and the community.
5. Ensure a healthy and resilient workforce.

6. Ensure that the department supports every victim of crime including referrals to other city agencies where appropriate.

Following Superintendent Snelling's presentation, the Commissioners were given a chance to ask follow-up questions and provide feedback. The full presentation and panel questions can be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa. The full meeting transcript can be viewed on the Commission's website: [City of Chicago :: Meeting Archive](#).

Police Board Goal Setting:

President Driver introduced Police Board President Kyle Cooper to present the 2025 goal for the Police Board. The Police Board proposed the following goal:

1. The Police Board president will:
 - a. (1) work with the Board to conduct a comprehensive review of the Rules and Regulations to determine which existing rules and regulations should be revised, modified or deleted, and to identify new rules and regulations that should be implemented to ensure that the Chicago Police Department's Rules and Regulations align with the principles of 21st-century constitutional policing, promote transparency and accountability, enhance community trust and foster equitable and effective law enforcement practices;
 - b. (2) develop a process to conduct the review and revision of the rules; and
 - c. (3) hold listening sessions with stakeholders to discuss their views on selected areas for proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations and a process for undertaking the review which will maximize public input and transparency

Following President Kyle Cooper's presentation, the Commissioners were given a chance to ask follow-up questions and provide feedback. The full presentation and panel questions can be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa. The full meeting transcript can be viewed on the Commission's website: [City of Chicago :: Meeting Archive](#).

COPA Goal Setting:

President Driver introduced Chief Administrator Kersten to present the 2025 goals for the Civilian Office of Police Accountability. COPA proposed the following goals:

1. Finalize and publish an updated policy in coordination with CCPSA that addresses COPA's communication with the media and other key-stakeholders about open cases.
2. Implement a robust pattern-and-practice investigation policy and mechanism that improves public safety outcomes in the City of Chicago.
3. Create a mediation policy built on community feedback and implement the Mediation program. Report on its progress to the Commission by the end of 2025.
4. Implement a finalized policy that defines and supports a collaborative relationship between COPA and CCPSA.

Following Chief Administrator Kersten's presentation, the Commissioners were given a chance to ask follow-up questions and provide feedback. The full presentation and panel questions can be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa. The full meeting transcript can be viewed on the Commission's website: [City of Chicago :: Meeting Archive](#).

Traffic Stops

Vice President Terry provided an update on traffic stops. CCPSA is hosting a series of listening sessions across Chicago to gather community input on Traffic Stops. The first meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 17, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at the JLM Center, 2622 W Jackson Blvd. For those who can't attend a listening session, we will also be launching a survey that day which will be posted on our website and social media.

Scan the QR code below to complete the survey.



Community Outreach Working Group

Commissioner Minor provided the update on the Community Outreach working group. She recognizes the attendance of district council members in the audience and encouraged the public to attend their local district council meetings. Visit the following site to determine which police district you reside in: [Find My District/Area](#) . Below is a QR code to view the district council meeting calendar on the CCPSA website.



CPD Budget Review

President Driver provided an update on the CPD Budget Review working group. Last month, the Commission submitted its report on the proposed 2025 Chicago Police Department budget to the City Council. The Commission is required by law to review the Police Department budget annually before the City Council votes on it. The report is available on our website for the public to read. One of the report's key findings is that the proposed elimination of numerous critical civilian and sworn positions threatens to undermine reform required under the federal Consent Decree. On November 25th, the mayor announced the decision to restore the vacant positions that will help Chicago meet its consent decree obligations. The Commission looks forward to reviewing the final budget that will be presented for a vote to the City Council.

Noncitizen Advisory Council

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo provided an update on the Noncitizen Advisory Council. The Commission is accepting applications for the Noncitizen Advisory Council through Monday, December 16th. The volunteer council advises the Commission on public safety matters and concerns in Chicago's noncitizen community. We encourage you to apply if you are a noncitizen living in Chicago or work directly with noncitizens. Please understand the Commission commits

to preserving the privacy of all applicants and at no time will applicants be asked to disclose their immigration status. Below is a QR code to view the NAC application.



Extremism within CPD

Commissioner Minor provided an update on Extremism within CPD. The Mayor's Office of Community Safety, the Office of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Services and the Office of Equity and Racial Justice are convening to discuss a taskforce to address the reports of extremism in the Chicago police department. Currently, the group is workshopping strategies, goals and identifying any barriers. Next week, the co-chairs will meet to decide on the scope, cadence and desired results of the taskforce. The group will also identify partners to engage in the task force. Updates of the progress of the taskforce will follow, in the new year.

President Driver provided follow up comments on this topic. He expressed his frustration with how slow this process has been since receiving information from the OAG in March 2024, and he believes there are steps that can be taken now. He mentioned that Superintendent Snelling mentioned in earlier remarks that BIA does not have subpoena power. President Driver explained that this is critical issue that needs to be examined to determine why that is the case, and how to fix it. Although President Driver would love the Commission to work with the Mayor's office on this subject, his personal opinion is that the Commission does not need to wait on them. If the taskforce is not created by the Commission's January meeting, he suggests the Commission takes a vote to do it themselves.

Vice President Terry responded to President Driver's comments expressing that the Commission has never internally discussed taking on the responsibility of forming the taskforce. It is important that the public understands the current work of the Commission and the capacity of the Commission as a unit. Decisions do not fall solely on President Driver, and the responsibility to receive community input is not only his weight to carry. She encouraged the public to get to know the entire Commission body and develop relationships with them so that each of the Commissioners can have meaningful conversations about what is needed and how it can be achieved in a realistic way. If the Commission takes a vote in January to take on this taskforce, the fruits of that labor will not realistically be a quick turnaround.

Commissioner Minor expressed the passion of the Commission with this work. She detailed that she and Vice President Terry went into the community to gather perspectives on this topic and shared the information with the rest of the Commission. This helped them to come prepared to discuss the topic with the Mayor's office. Commissioner Minor reiterated that through her experience with creating task forces, it takes time. Some of the actions that are required when creating a task force are identifying the stakeholders, convening the meeting, defining the scope, developing recommendations, and more. These actions are essential for creating a sustainable body with a solid foundation.

Commissioner Wortham added to the discussion. She expressed that although an official vote was not taken last meeting, the rest of the Commission shared they are interested in creating a taskforce, whereas Commissioner Wortham did not agree with that approach. She recommends the Commission determine what is the key problem that needs to be solved. If the problem is that CPD/BIA do not have subpoena power to conduct investigations, the solution could be to find out how to give them subpoena power so they have the tools to complete thorough investigations. If the problem is that CPD/BIA do not conduct investigations thoroughly and with integrity, then the solution could be for the Mayor's office to create a taskforce to investigate CPD/BIA. This is a discussion the Commission needs to have to determine the appropriate solution based off the identified problem.

Public Safety Working Group

Commissioner Wortham provided the Public Safety work group update. The work group's main goal is to research and recommend public safety solutions to City Council as directed by our ordinance. These recommendations can include ways to increase the effectiveness and efficiency in the use of public safety resources, ways to ensure CPD's resources are used appropriately while taking into account issues that other service professionals could address, and solutions to violence that are preventative, proactive, community-based, and evidence-based. Commissioner Minor and I look forward to updating the community on the work we're doing at future Commission meetings.

Policy Working Group

Vice President Terry provided the Policy work group update. In mid-November, the Policy work group received a revised policy called G01-11. Once finalized and implemented, this policy will address how CPD is expected to work with the Commission and District Councils. In this new version of the policy, CPD incorporated many of the Commission's recommended additions and clarifications. Last week, the CPD Policy Working Group met with members of CPD's Research and Policy unit to review several outstanding points of feedback including input from District Councilors. District Council input is invaluable as we work to finalize this policy and turn to planning for roll out and implementation.

The Policy work group also received an update from CPD about the implementation of the Associations order or G08-03: Prohibitions on Criminal and Biased Organizations. This policy has been in effect for the Department as of April 2024, and CPD rolled out an online or e-learning training on this policy in June 2024. To date, 99.2% of Sworn and Civilian members have completed their June E-learning Directives, that includes this policy. CPD is also planning on a joint training for CPD members on this policy and their Social Media Use policy in 2025.

CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs or BIA is working on ensuring regular quarterly reporting in 2025 that summarize violations of this policy. Investigations of violations of this order would include an analysis of organization activity and/or crime pattern information, witness and admitted criminal or biased organization member interviews, and Department member observations. The investigation will also include a review of the organizations' stated or published mission, goals, or values.

The Policy work group also spoke with CPD about the current policies governing traffic stops and other police encounters. CPD also discussed existing and pending policies, including a group of policies that were posted for community comment in August 2024 entitled, "Police Encounters and the Fourth Amendment". CPD anticipates rolling out these new policies in response to related to investigatory stops consent decree requirements in 2025.

VII. Miscellaneous Business

Commissioner Wortham encouraged all members of the community to participate in our traffic stops survey and listening sessions. This includes people that have seen traffic stops be a useful tool for police in their communities.

VIII. Announcement of the Next Meeting

President Driver announced that the next meeting will be Thursday, January 30, 2025 6:30pm at Malcolm X College.

IX. Close

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39PM