City of Chicago
DISTRICT COUNCIL # 14
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE:	Regular	▪ Special	Closed
MEETING DATE	June 27, 2024		
MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS	Haas Park 2402 N Washtenaw		
MEETING START TIME	6:07 PM		

Attendance & Quorum
OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in-person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Chris Laurent	Present: ■ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Ashley Vargas	Present: ■ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
David Orlikoff	Present: ■ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: ■ No: ☐

Public Comment

Gil Jimenez – I'm a 50-year resident of Logan Square. This has gone through many days. As you may know, the vast majority of the good people, the 14th Police District. About crime, particularly violent crime, and which criminals betray on the innocents. We do represent the majority of voters in this area. Business owners, voters, property owners, residents and business. And we're not at all interested in defunding or eliminating police. Regardless of what any organization claims. Somewhere in Chicago a couple of days ago, A 7-year-old boy was shot dead. Couple of days before that, an 11-year-old boy, and it goes on and on. He seemed to average 50 or more shootings in Chicago. The murderers keep getting younger and younger, some as young as 13 now. Perhaps there is some way to programs and whatnot to intervene in the lives of those youngsters, the ones who are under 16 years old. But that will take years, and we simply cannot wait years for the bloodshed to end. The older killers must be stopped.

Faayani Mijana – a member of the Chicago Alliance Against Racism and Political Oppression, the organization that established these district councilors in their roles. And I want to get on the record that we're here today, not because the commander came here on her own volition. We're here because we forced it to happen. There have been organized neighbors in this district for the last three or four months that have been calling her, emailing her, asking the councilor in the middle, Councilor Laurent, to come. And all they've done is push this back. But thankfully, through our pressure and the help of Councilor Vargas, we were able to get the commander here today. So, we needed to be known that she's here because we demanded she be here. And secondarily, we're here first and foremost, because there's a white supremacist in the district on the police force, Sergeant Mike Nowaki. And there are people here who think that crime this, crime that. But as far as I'm concerned. A Police Department is not equipped to keep us safe so long as they have white supremacists serving on the force. Put on a badge in a gun, they are not equipped. And so we're here to demand justice. We're here to demand to be fired. We're here to demand that those pretextual stops be ended because they are racist. And anyone who thinks that a police force is capable of acting in the name of safety and keeping us safe while having while committing these racist things every day is, quite

frankly, racist.

Jeff Tischauser – I'm a resident of the 14th district. I also work as a researcher for Civil rights and nonprofit, and I focus on exposing far right extremists. Officer Nowacki has no business being a Sergeant in the 14th district. We deserve, we all here deserve better than this, and Nowacki is far from it. Why? Why is he still on our streets? This man signed off for the Oath Keepers when the group was among the most active and combative extremist groups in the United States. The Oath Keepers existed because they thought a black man could not uphold the oath of the Constitution as U.S. President. The Oath keepers website at the time he signed off at the time Nowacki signed off was full of extremist material and I can prove it because we have receipts. The BIA investigation into Nowacki 's association with the Oath Keepers is fundamentally flawed. I was an author to the letter that SPLC sent to the mayor and your boss, Superintendent Snelling, five alders and a community group signed off. In that letter we left several concerns about the BIA investigation, including…Several of the accused claim that they've signed up to the Oath Keepers after looking at the website. It does not appear that BIA ever looked at archive versions of that website. That's ridiculous. Other officers claim to have joined the group after learning about it from a fellow officer. BIA never contacted that officer who told him about the Oathkeepers. The BIA never contacted outside experts. Nobody at the ADL who found the list? Who found Nowacki. Nobody at any other community group. BIA's reports also appeared to ignore how the Oathkeepers associated with the groups. Which Nowacki admits to write and that includes in going out to gun shows, going out to shooting competitions and I, the SPLC and the Alders have signed our letter never heard back from the mayor, which is ridiculous. We never heard back from Superintendent Snelling, which is ridiculous. And the 14th district, the city deserves better than this. Thank you for listening.

Allison Schmidt – We actually had some correspondence a couple weeks ago. I'm really glad to see you here tonight. You might not be aware that we've actually many of us in this room have actually been asking our district councilors specifically Councilor Laurent, to organize a meeting with you for over a year and it was when that failed to materialize that I reached out to you personally. You sort of engaged a little bit in e-mail correspondence with me and then kind of reverted to you have to go through Councilor Laurent. So, I'm really glad tonight's meeting is happening. And I'm concerned about many things, I have several questions, but I will hold those. But I'm just going to start with some stats here. So based on impact for equities report on Chicago 2023 traffic stops, which were released a couple months ago, the data shows that pre-textual traffic stops are disproportionately affecting Black and brown drivers in Chicago. Black drivers are six times more likely to be pulled over in our city with Latino drivers being twice as likely to be pulled over for minor traffic violation. I strongly believe that pretextual stops lead to targeted harm and eroded trust between law enforcement and police communities. CPD's continued focus on minor traffic violations diverts resources away from addressing more pressing safety issues, such as responding to 911 calls, which probably most of us are aware of. If they're even answered, you might be waiting three hours. And ultimately, this is a waste of government resources and taxpayer dollars. And most tragically, it has resulted in the loss of life, as our city recently witnessed with the killing of Dexter Reed, who was shot 96 times by a tactical team, including after authority surrender. So, with that, I'm also going to say I'm completely disheartened to hear that we have an officer, a Sergeant no less, in the 14th District, who is a member of the Oath Keepers. For those of you who do not know the Oath Keepers, they led the January 6th insurrection on the Capitol. They led to 140 officers being injured and five officers being killed. A Sergeant is a source of authority, probably should be leading by example, and membership in the Oath Keepers is highly problematic.

Sally Hamman – I lived in Logan Square for over 40 years. I've been going to CAPS meetings since the 1990s and I have rarely missed a meeting. I was in beats 1431 and now 1414. So, I supported the department in many other ways, national night outs, a few other things. But I am also really concerned about an officer and I just wanted to let people know that I have filed a COPA complaint on January 20th, June 20th to reopen this case. And we look at it, it's in case you want it, it's complaint #2024, Dash 0005697. And since I did that, I've gotten a whole bunch more information about him. So I'm

going to see if I can add that to that. Thank you.

Adam Burck – I'm a resident of the First Ward and I also represent the 14th District Public Safety Committee, which is a group of volunteers who are interested in reducing crime in our area and finding ways to help police be more effective. Doing that, I wanted to set the record straight on a couple allegations that were made here about the commander, which I can speak to. The first one is that, yes, it's true that some people, including me, were asking as early as July last year to hear what the police are doing about reducing crime in our area. But it's very important for everybody to know that for six months the majority of the councilors on this committee prevented any uniformed officers from attending this meeting. You can check the minutes and reporting. Of those meetings, to hear that both those councilors say that starting in January, after pressure from me and other people for six months, the council did decide that they wanted to have the commander, but they couldn't agree on how to do that and when to do that. So, it's only about 3 months later, since three months ago that there was a consensus. And I know from meeting personally with the commander that she's always been interested in meeting with us on good terms. So, I'm here to hear what the commander has to say, both about police accountability and she has a background managing constitutional policing and trying to change the Police Department. So, I think we have an ally on that. And also, to hear the things that the police are doing to address crime, which has not gone down since last year, which was at a historically high level. And I think we're all interested, or most of us are interested in reducing violent crime in the area. I'm here to listen to that. Thank you very much.

Neil Rysdahl -I am concerned that when it comes to fighting hate crimes in the 14th district, the police have an ideological bias that tend to lean on left wing extremist groups and not lean so heavily on rightwing groups. I would I would like to see more of a balance there.

LINAS PRESENTATION

Hello everybody. So yes. A little bit about my career. I've been on the department for almost 25 years now. Most of my time was spent. I spent time on the West side and north side of the city, patrolling the streets. Never in the 14th District as a police officer, but I used to live in the 13th District, so I'm familiar with the area in that regard. I over the last few years that was mentioned, I was a commander in the community safety team, which was a citywide. That was built in response to the pandemic and civil unrest. I spent a couple years there and then the last year prior to coming here, I spent time in our office of Constitutional Policing and Reform. And within that office, my main focus, I, I had several focuses, but my main focus was on the, our course review unit and our 4th Amendment staff unit that we were building because as, as most of you know, 4th Amendment stops, as you brought up the traffic stops, pre-textural stops, that whole issue is under, it is very important obviously for everybody involved with public safety. And so, it's a big part of the consent decree. So, I spent a lot of time in negotiations and conversations creating policies, establishing policies and best practices that that we all can agree on that's safe for everybody.

So, like I said, the year prior to me coming here, that's where I spent most of my time and then I came here in September of last year. So, it's almost a year and. So yes, I've been here about a year. I'm still learning some of the ropes about these, the communities here in the 14th District. And we just had Puerto Rican Fest a couple weeks ago, which this is the first time I had to be a deputy incident commander for that, which was a big undertaking. But it was such a wonderful event that so many people came out to enjoy. But other than that, I'm happy to be here. I'm not going to talk about why I wasn't here sooner or. I don't think that's important, but it should be noted. I will say that you most, most of the time the meetings are on Saturday afternoons and my Saturdays usually are filled with other work engagements or conferences. That's when I take time to do career development because I am not at work. So that being said, I am happy to be here and my whole intention is to have a productive relationship with any community member or community member groups that want to make the district better, to make it safer, to make everybody feel safe where they live. So yes, I'm looking forward to these meetings. After speaking with Ashley a few weeks ago, we need to work together we

need to collaborate and we need to all, be willing to listen and hear one another and I truly believe that's the only way that we're going to move forward as a city. And I'm a resident of the city. I have children that live in the city so I have a vested interest. We all need to work together so I'm looking forward to doing that and. Reestablishing our communication as a council and myself and the district.

Presubmitted Questions

Jonathan Giuffrida submitted a question regarding reckless and dangerous driving in the 14th District, specifically right in front of the 14th Police District. What are you going to do to enforce the basic Traffic Safety laws to the degree before the pandemic, like ticketing and arresting or encountering the mostly reckless, dangerous drivers.

LINAS - One thing that we do, because traffic stops are a contentious issue, when I do meet with community groups, a lot of them will point out troubled areas in their community that they would like a little bit more focus and enforcement, whether it be people driving through stop signs near school. And then we will set up and we will do more enforcement there. You know, we are strapped for resources and we have calls to answer. So, we cannot focus on every single problem area, however, being that this problem area is pointed out and I'm assuming, If you're staying right in front of the station, I'm assuming it's the two crosswalks. One thing that is district wide, an issue district wide is people, most crosswalks have those yellow or greenish signs indicating that there's a crosswalk. But I think we've all, you know, we're immune to them because they've been there now for a while. So, I want to reach out to whether it be the other people's office or some other city service that is there something we could do if if we determine that that's a problem area, maybe we could create another, you know, either the lights around those signs, something to catch people's attention because, as we all know, when we drive to work the same route every single day, you're almost in a trance and you're not even thinking or seeing what's there. I'm thinking that might be one way that we can do that. But as far as enforcing the traffic laws, we'll, we'll do what we can. The thing is, I don't think that issuing tickets is necessarily the only way to gain compliance as far as traffic violations. I'd rather not put a ticket on somebody that now they have to go to court, they have to pay a fine. This might impede their ability to go to work. So the officers use their discretion when they do issue ticket citations or not. So again, we will do what we can, where we can, and knowing that we have a specific area, if anybody else has specific areas, please let us know. You can reach out to our CAPS office and we will determine how we can best focus on that.

Adam Burck can you provide an update on the clarification of the arrest data reported monthly by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office saying that there is a disparity of the robbery in the 14th District in the past three months arrests. I think what he's getting to here, and please correct me if I'm wrong, only 3% arrest.

LINAS - So this this is tricky because this is Cook County State's Attorney's office information and the way they're pulling numbers. Now, the question specifically asks you, are there arrests for armed robberies in the 14th District? Their data, I'm not sure if its including arrests made by the detective division. Or arrests made for somebody that may have committed a crime spree. So, let's say four robberies in a row, maybe two in the 14th District, two in the 25th District, and the only charges that they can approve are for the two in the 25th District. And maybe if I could take a moment to explain how charging actually works. If we arrest somebody, if somebody commits a crime and we arrest them, we take them into the station. We can't just say, OK, you're getting charged with armed robbery, we're going to put you in jail. It's a, there's a kind of a long process. We have to call the state's attorney's office for approval. Now armed robberies, the detective division handles. So, we hand over the arrestee to the detective division and they then work up a case and then ask the state's attorney for charges. Now that's kind of a simplified version. So, when it comes to arrest data and armed robberies, me as the 14th District commander, it's really not within my purview to, to analyze and talk about it and say exactly what's going on with it because we don't really handle that.

The detective division does the special units that have been put together to handle leave the robbery,

the robberies that are happening across the city, they handle that and in dealing with the state's attorney's office again, I don't I don't this doesn't include any juvenile information as well. And now a lot of the robberies are being committed by young people, juveniles and that for juveniles, you don't go through the Cook County state's attorneys. They'll be the review office, which I think this is where this information is coming from. So, I think out of I know they tried to provide or not that they tried, but they did provide context in here, but I think without. Really. Descript, context. I don't think I can answer really any of your questions about that data. I don't want to mislead anybody. I just want to say that you know, I know in the 14th District.

In the last 28 days we had 14th District personnel have not had a robbery arrest. However, I can't say that the detectives didn't pick somebody up that committed a robbery, you know, two months ago and they're seeking charges so. I'm sorry I don't have a very good succinct answer as far as why the data says that, but that kind of gives you an idea of what we're dealing with, I'll make sure.

Adam Burck - Right. Second question for Mr. Burke, looking for an update on CPD and specifically the 14th District efforts, to address the high rate of robberies in our area.

LINAS - Briefly I'll say for beyond the regular like what we've been doing is poolling our resources in the area and being data-driven. Saturation of certain areas where we think they're going to hit the department itself has created two different. Robbery teams, I'll call them, and they're focusing citywide so whoever kind of needs them can use them, and they are making great strides. There are newer units, I don't have specific numbers, one of those out of the detective division and ones out of control from what I understand. But so that's something that the department as a whole has put together to help the district personnel make some headway with, with these armed robberies. But, locally in the district, like I said, we share resources with the surrounding districts and we try to focus our efforts where the data shows that we're most needed.

Councilor Orlikoff - We've heard officers in the 14th District say that changes to the pursuit policies now prevent them from intervening in or attempting to apprehend individuals witness engaging and sometimes violent activity, including those continuing oppose and act as public danger. So, this is definitely been concerning for people to see it here. The current pursuit policies developed by CPD are metric prioritized the responsibility to uphold public safety, my understanding, but there should be no ban to addressing active threats for CPD officers. So, the question, how do you understand CPD split and vehicle pursuit policies and how do you ensure that understanding extends to the worst of the officers on your plan?

LINAS -So our vehicle policy, this is one of the things that I think there's most misinformation given people say, well, you have a no chase policy, you can't chase anybody That's not accurate. And it's very, very. It's, it's very limited and far more constraining than the the state law. So, I have the order here because I wanted to read certain things directly out of the town. In order to pursue a vehicle, the initiation or continuation of motor vehicle pursuit must conform to a balancing test. So, the officers have to perform this balancing test to determine if they can pursue a flea vehicle. And that test the officer will make a determination whether the speeds involved in the maneuvering practices engaged do not create an unwarranted danger to drivers or others. So, speed and the driving if they're driving erratic or they're maneuvering practices, the volume of pedestrian and vehicle traffic at your reasonable reasonably permits initiating or continuing the pursuit and weather and road conditions have to be considered.

Also, the officer must consider not initiating a motor vehicle pursuit whenever the suspects identity has clearly been established to the point that later apprehension can be accomplished without the risk of pursuit. Now that also means that if we have pod cameras in the city. The city has cameras everywhere. If and if we can identify that vehicle and we could go back later and get that vehicle or the owner of that vehicle. That right there is that we've identified the suspect. From there we can work a case to see who was actually driving it. They also must consider terminating a pursuit whenever a pursuit vehicle or pursuing department vehicle is involved in any property damage traffic crash. That's anything. So, if a mirror hits another mirror, that's a property damage crash that they have to

terminate that chase. They also must consider every other relevant information so that's the balancing test that has to be done. Now the other thing is members will not engage in a motor vehicle pursuit. When the most serious offense wanted is a traffic offense or a theft, which includes possession of stolen motor vehicle. So, a lot of traffic pursuits are a result of stolen vehicles or armed robberies. And I think that's what maybe you're getting into. The armed robbery is the act of violence and then they flee in a vehicle, you know, and work leak.

You know that the perception is that we can't chase that vehicle for that reason. Now again, we have to, if property was taken off of the person and they get in a car and flee and we can identify that vehicle, the balancing test leans towards you shouldn't pursue that vehicle for the safety of everybody. And the other thing in this district, as you know, many of our main thoroughfares like Milwaukee Ave. or, you know, California, it's very congested. It's very congested. It's very dangerous. There's a lot of people on bicycles, on skateboards, on other, I don't know, those crazy things with the two wheels and they're standing up like unicycles, the scooters or yeah, even the ones without any handles. I don't know how they do it, but it's. Very dangerous to drive at a high rate of speed and maneuver. So, safety is the main concern. Safety of the community and the officers and the people driving that community is the main concern. So again, Another thing to note is that our, all of our policies are available online to everybody. So if you, if you want to pick apart our eleven page vehicle pursuit policy, you know. It's very helpful because it does clear up some misconceptions.

Councilor Orlikoff - This question stands out. And it's about officer behavior and district culture. So how do you go about correcting behavior when there are complaints and issues with offices?

LINAS - So, our complaint policy, there's a protocol that we follow. So, if somebody comes into the station or on the street makes a complaint against the behavior or actions of one of my officers, there's a protocol that we follow. We initiate a complete register investigation - a complaint register. Now that summary then gets forwarded to COPA and then from there, they handle the investigation, whether it goes to our Bureau of Internal Affairs or if they do the investigation themselves. So that's the investigatory portion of it at that point. I'm not involved at that point, right? I, I'm notified that this, this, this complaint has been made, but I don't know all the facts at that point. But when I am notified, what I do, when I am notified that a complaint is made, I further investigate myself just to see what was the situation, what's going on here. Depending on the actions or the, or the allegation, I can't investigate it myself. There are other entities that do that now as far as you mentioned, like the culture and of the of the district personnel. I mean, that's something that, we have roll calls every day before every watch. And that's something that if I'm not there, I expect and encourage the lieutenants that run those roll calls every day. There's always something to talk about at roll call and the underlying thing is that, professionalism is important. If we adhere to professionalism and treat everybody with dignity and respect, you know, we shouldn't be getting a lot of complaints, right? Not everybody's going to be happy with our service and not everybody's going to be happy with the outcome of a meeting with us. And I understand that. But bottom line is professionalism and I preach that. I try to emulate that all the time because I am a reflection of what I want our community to see and I want my officers to be a reflection of that. So, that is my style of leadership and my communication with my officers. I hope that in my conversations with them, I'm always encouraging, the almost professionalism, even if it's you're having your worst day - utmost professionalism at all times.

Councilor Orlikoff - About driving stuff, you started telling us that you know that he doesn't want them to be used as a pretext to search for something else. You know that they should target if they're doing a traffic stop, there should be something on a graphics driving or serious issue. So I'm just I'm curious if he [Snelling] has said or done anything to change the practice of using traffic stops as a way to conduct unrelated searches.

LINAS - So I'll preface this by saying that the topic of traffic stops is pending litigation, so I can't comment on pending litigation. However, what I can say is that the Superintendent has repeatedly said publicly that traffic stops and investigative stops should be conducted in a in a constitutional

manner. Fair enough. The Superintendent has also made clear that our efforts to reduce violent crimes do not center around traffic stops. CPD has seen a significant reduction in traffic stops over the past year, this year versus last year. Our officers, it's important to note that our officers continually receive 4th Amendment training. To emphasize constitutional policing and all of our law enforcement actions. So, I unfortunately cannot speak anything more specific about traffic stops because of the pending litigation.

Open Q&A

Neil Rysdahl - You got a law degree, right? Yes. How is that impacting you in your everyday activities? Do you find that to have been a benefit to you?

LINAS - I think yes, definitely. I think it's a benefit, because, I, for one, I'm not afraid to research and read and learn from various literature, whether it be statutes, whether it be our general orders. Like I said, this is this is one general order on vehicle pursuit. So, this this doesn't scare me. You know, I have no problem taking that apart. I also think that just be being a lawyer, it, it allows it, it's afforded me a diversity of perspective. A way to think about things and look at things from various positions. So yeah, I think it helps me in my day-to-day, just in my position, you know, whether I'm dealing with complex policies, whether I'm dealing with complex issues within our discipline system or whatever. Yeah, I, I do plug it like that. I have that experience and that education.

Hamman - I want to follow up on that pretextual stops just a minute. Some more questions regarding the 14th District and how you're implementing those now. How many officers are doing those traffic stops? Is there a quota? I keep hearing that there is a quota that the officers have to meet on pretextual stops. Are the tactical teams involved in these pretextual stops? And going forward we would really like to see. Workforce allocations and how officers are allocated in the 14th District.

LINAS - As far as workforce allocations, I cannot discuss that publicly. It's just a department policy and safety issue. But back to the pretextual stops again, because of that whole topic is part of pending litigation. I'm not allowed to comment on that. Without my, my general counsel here, I can't, I mean, I will say that, you know, it's hard to say what you know. You say that those that are performing pretextual stuff, I don't know. I don't even know how to answer that because. Just because you stopped someone for what would be considered a petty offense doesn't make a pretextual stop.

Hamman - Can you comment on where the tactical teams are operating in our district?

LINAS - Where the Tac teams, so I could generally comment on a lot of all of our deployment of resources is based on data-driven analysis. We have a lot of data that we pulled that we then use to. Allocate our resources to deploy our resources to. So, it changes day-to-day, that's the thing. It changes day-to-day depending on what's going on in the district, what events are going on, what if we have, we haven't had robbery sprees lately, in the last several weeks or months. And but when we were, we would analyze that data and that of the surrounding districts and we would kind of analyze where we think those sprees are going to happen. And our data analysts would let us know and they we deployed to those boxes based on. Based on the need or the perceived needs Based on the data that is. I'm not a data person, but these analysts are so skillful at looking at every little aspect of these crimes that are occurring and then they tell us where we think we should go.

Allison Schmidt - So it's based on historical data? You just said it's based on, you look at like a history of like maybe where crimes have occurred and then you would say, OK, it looks like we've got maybe a hot spot here or we know that something's going on.

LINAS - So we're going to deploy based on whatever data is available.

Schmidt - I'd love to know more about the data, but you did say that's your method, which I understand. Is there any Is there anywhere where citizens can find this data? My question wasn't fully answered so I'm just which I understand why.

LINAS - Initiatives division that puts all our data out there and dashboards there's several dashboards that is available for public access. Yes, I would I would play around with those because you could put in different variables.

Councilor Laurent – You can also get citywide here to follow up on that so you just get the 14th to 12th or the city.

Feeyani - My question is about Nowacki. I don't know if people know the investigation into these officers with Oath keeper ties. Only the officers were interviewed and the longest interview was 45 minutes and then the BIA shot the investigation. So, commander, can we can we get you to commit to firing Nowacki? Like do you take issue with the fact that there are people on the force in this very district who applaud the Oath keepers?

LINAS - So I can't commit to firing an officer that's not within my job description. That's a completely different Bureau, which would be the Bureau of Internal Affairs and with COPA. So, I could commit to bringing your concerns to the right people. Yes, absolutely. And from my position, that's really all I can commit to.

David - So do you think, generally speaking, members of extremist organizations should be allowed on the police force?

LINAS - Well, I can I can speak to what our policies and in general orders state and allow. So, you know, if they're in conformance with our rules, regulations, in general orders, then, you know, I would say that yes, they could be on our Police Department. But that's all I can speak to as far as who can and can't be on our department? You know, we follow our rules, regulations and department orders.

Raven - So this is a Facebook post. In November 14th, 2020, Mike Nowacki wrote 2020 Sucked for everyone. But in addition to that, on May 26th, my alcoholism and poor decision making led to me being removed from the SWAT team. So, Oath Keeper ties aside, there's a Facebook post like that written by an officer under your command is concerning to you.

LINAS – Yes. I do think like that is concerning and again, things like that go through a specific. Procedure. That's already established and that would be through our Bureau of Internal Affairs.

Raven - So it's admittedly poor decision making. You just you don't have any control over, sort of what happens with that as far as the support decision making an admitted. But he's making more decisions and so as his commander. I would think there would be sort of an extra level of scrutiny.

LINAS - I mean, I've never seen that post, but if that's something that if, you know, you're bringing to my attention, I will have. I'm going to let our Bureau of Internal Affairs know that that's been brought to my attention because that's the next step that I would take. If somebody brings something to my attention that one of my officers is doing something that is concerning or, illegal, that's what I do, but I don't know if that's already been part of that investigation, if it's been, I don't know. I'm not familiar with that investigation. I have nothing to do with it this. That was before my time here in the 14th District as well, so I apologize. I have no background to it, but I will bring your concern to BIA in the event that that was missed.

Tischauser - Thank you for joining us. I get a little heated when I talk about this. So, you know, I have law enforcement in my family. I know we know that Nowacki is a outlier, right? We know that the majority, vast majority of CPD officers want to do the best for the city of Chicago. Right. So there's still like that decision by BIA to like, like this guy off kind of that breaks down trust between, you know, your work in the office of the Constitutional Policing and communities like ours, right? So can you explain why we should trust any person in your position when an officer like Nowacki is allowed to control our streets?

LINAS - Well, I mean, that's completely up to you whether you want to trust someone or not.

However, I again, I have nothing to do with that investigation. I am one member of a larger department. I have rules, regulations, general orders that I must follow, right? And then on top of that, I have my own personal style of leadership, of management and, and everything else. So, I would hope that you can find, you can trust me that. I'm being honest with you and I will do what I can within the rules and regulations of the Chicago Police Department. Now, I'm not here as the private citizen, Melinda Linus. I'm here as the commander of the 14th District that was given this authority by the Superintendent. And he trusts me enough to sit here and speak to all of you on his behalf, on the behalf of the city. Now, again, it's completely up to you whether or not to trust me as the commander, as one person that's a big part of a bigger organization. And you know, in any big organization, any big company, obviously there's going to be outliers. There's going to be, you know, decisions made that not everybody agrees with. And, we do our best to navigate that because each community is different as well, even within the 14th district. So, I have to keep that in mind and, how can I get the best productivity and the best efficiency and effectiveness? Out of the group that I'm speaking with and want to engage with and want to go forward with. So again, I hope you trust that I'd be honest and open and 100% true to myself and also true to the department and the rules of rights that I've sworn to follow.

Marlowe - Hi, I just want to also speak to this on Sergeant Nowacki because I heard of some of these concerns. I've come to probably one of two of the District Council meetings, but I'm hearing even more which makes me further concerned by coming here. You know, I was I came here to hear your responses and I'm hearing from my fellow neighbors' issues that are causing even more alarm. Like many districts in the city, we have a very diverse. District and that is obviously not only racial but also sexual orientation, ability, religion, every area of identity that someone from the Oath Keepers would have caused to treat unfairly and discriminate against, discriminate to the point that could be violence or death, which is really very concerning. And I understand, I mean I understand within the confines of the police system that you're not able to share more information or that it has to go to BIA or COPA? So, my question is within asking another question around what you are able to do within your role, is this something that you are talking about? If you are also concerned about it, are you bringing this to meetings with other commanders, with the Superintendent and so on? So that. There are probably others and if something were done, someone shouldn't just be transferred to a different district to continue to police.

LINAS - To answer your question, am I discussing this or bringing this other? Today is the first day I'm hearing this. The entire story of this is this being a concern to this group? So I say that meaning.

Marlowe - You haven't had other concerns brought to you by residents of the 14th district about.

LINAS - This issue. You know, this hell happened before I came to the 14th District, so maybe that's why. Once an investigation is being handled, I'm not handling that. I don't see anything about it. You know, I'm not part of it. So, even prior to me coming here, I knew there was something about an officer, but I didn't know their name - nothing. So, I didn't know what this was about. So again. Yes, but like I have said, I'm going to bring that Facebook post that you mentioned. To my chain of command but and beyond that, yes, obviously this is a a big topic of concern. So, what I'm going to do because it's what I do professionally in my role. I am just going to forward this information down the line to see OK, where do we go from here? What can we do to answer some of the questions that the community has? Because I can't answer them.

Raven - A point to clarify. It's not about the Facebook post. It's the fact that he was removed from SWAT for alcohol

LINAS - See, I don't know if any, I don't know if that's where we posted it on that. I mean, yeah, I don't know if it's true. So I really can't speak to it.

Daniel - Been a resident of 14th District for more than ten years. I work with data professionally and often see how misunderstanding data points will affect policy decision making. Insufficient data is

equally as problematic. Last year, the Office of the Inspector General released a report examined unwilling response times by CPD. It alleges systemic failure of officers to mark themselves on scene when responding to calls. Quote, in more than half of the instances, the police are not reporting the time that they arrived on the scene of the emergency. And that means that we cannot adequately assess response times because CPS data is incomplete. So, given that, I'm wondering what data do you use to ensure you are allocating your officers where and when they will be most impactful?

LINAS - What data are we using to allocate our officers basically? I'm not a data analyst, so I can't give you a good succinct answer on that. I could find an answer for you from our data personnel.

Daniel - I suppose that you think the process, it seems like maybe there aren't sufficient processes.

LINAS - I mean, I can talk about the process from me as the district commander in general, let's speak generally. I manage all of the manpower within the district. So, each watch is broken into a certain number of officers. We have beat cars, we have response cars, we have other cars that focus on other specific things. So, first and foremost, we like to have our beat cars covered because they answer the calls. They're the ones spread out amongst the entire district. Now beyond that, as far as like where we focus our tactical teams and things of that nature. That's dead to take it from. Crime that's happening again, I'm not a data analyst, so I not going to give you the answer that you're searching for and I'm not going to pretend and fumble through it any longer because I think it's wasting everybody's time. However, if you wanted to give me a nice question typed out, I will give it to a data analyst and get you something reasonably soon.

David - Can I ask a follow up to that question with that. That that would be available for us to review as well?

LINAS – Yes. And this may be online as well on the CPD website as far as. You could pull up all the data portals and it probably tells you exactly where the data is being pulled from. So yeah, all that would be public because.

David – Because we collected that as well. But it seems to me that the commanders have more rich data. The general public.

LINAS - I'm not sure about that. I mean, I don't know. The data I'm given is from our Compstat unit and our strategic initiatives division. So, I'm not sure, if we have any more or not. I can look into that.

Adam Burck - We know that the consent decree was put in place because of bad behavior by CPD and past unconstitutional policing. So, since that was your responsibility immediately before coming to the 14th District, could you give us more detailed understanding of what does the Office of Constitutional Policing reform focus on? What are what are the challenges that you were facing and why have we only achieved 5% of the consent decrease so far?

LINAS - OK so I've been out of the game for now almost a year but but the consent decree is a large document requiring many, many, many things for the department to do. We're a very large department. So, I think one of the and there's a whole process to get things done as well, which is slow moving. For example, to to change one of our department policies. It takes quite a long time use a lot of people are saying, well, why can't you change that policy? It's not that we consider around the table and say, OK, let's change it to XY and Z and here we go. We're done and proofread it and let's get it done. It goes through many, many, many levels of review, including public review. Everybody has. The chance to comment on any of our new policies, which is very important I think and I think a lot of community members don't realize how easy it is. You just go online and you type in what your comments are, all that gets looked at and then read. You then, you look at the draft policy again and put in the context of all the communities' responses and the interest groups and now all that has to then be reviewed not only internally but externally through the independent monitoring team, which is that the team that monitors us to make sure that we are following the consent decree and trying to get compliance with consent. So there's a lot of hoops to jump through. And I think that it's hard for an

agency this large. It was my focus was on 4th Amendment and course review. So that was my own focus. Now there's many different focuses that other people. People are focusing on as well within the Office of Constitutional Policing. So, all I can really speak to is the force review and the 4th Amendment and we have a lot of issues, but it's a lot of it is negotiations and, I was doing that for months. We were negotiating 4th Amendment stops and. It's still going on.

David - Back to the data question. Are you saying that you assign officers to certain locations based on data, but you don't know where the data is coming from?

LINAS – No. So we have a data analyst in the assigned to us, right? So, they are taking that data. This is not my question to answer. I don't want to fumble through this and waste everyone's time. So when you say where the data is coming from, like…

David - I guess another way of saying it is, is someone just handing you this data and you're making decisions based on what's handed to you from the person?

LINAS - No, it's all being explained to us. We, we have briefings, full briefings now twice a week within my district. And then we have area wide briefings as well. And then we have a citywide briefing on Wednesdays. So all of this data is being compiled by the statisticians and the data analysts and then it's being explained in these meetings by various people. So, every Wednesday is our comp stat inspection meeting. So, what that is, is they go through all the data from your district, the crimes, the you'll compare the last year compared to the seven-day to 28-day. And that's where you look to see if there's trends and issues, problems, maybe we're missing something. So, when you see it all out there and you start discussing it and then collaborating, that's when you kind of make your plans as to what you can do.

So, you know, somebody's not handing me this big book saying here you go, make your decision. We have briefings and we have these meetings to decipher what what's best and now I report to a deputy chief who's in charge of… so, these four districts, and he's very involved in looking at all this and Young, we discuss it all because just because something's happening in the 25th District doesn't mean it doesn't affect us. So, it's important that we share our data and share our strategies and policies because that's how we actually get better.

Claire - I just want to add to that this may help for those of you have questions about how data is used for resource allocation. My name is Claire. I live in the 47th Ward. Matt Martin is my Alderman. He wrote the ordinance for the workforce allocation study, and that's there is a data analysis group called Matrix Consulting who was hired by CPD to conduct the study. It's going to take about a year, but the CPD is required to provide quarterly updates on the allocation study and how the resources are being deployed so I suggest if anyone has questions about resources and how they're being allocated, contact Matt Martin's office because he wrote the ordinance to get that allocation study passed and so we need to hold him accountable too for keeping us updated. So he might be a good resource as well as my 19th District Council, they worked with him to get that ordinance passed. So those are some people who might be able to answer those questions.

LINAS - And I'd be happy if there's another meeting, I could bring an analyst or somebody that can speak.

Feeyani – So, you know we had to fight to get to this meeting. Can you commit to meeting with these district councilors upon request so long as we give you adequate notice? Because I think this sort of dialogue is really important for transparency and accountability. Can you commit to that?

LINAS - I will commit to, yes, the communication opening is opening up between the councilors and myself, yes. I'll commit to that and commit to future meetings.

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE:	July 6, 2024
NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available):	Chicago Public Library Logan Square 3030 W Fullerton

District Council ended the meeting at: 7:09 PM