



**COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CCPSA) ORDINANCE**



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**I. PURPOSE**

This directive provides guidance on the powers and duties of the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA) as outlined in the Municipal Code of Chicago.

**II. GENERAL INFORMATION**

A. In July 2021, the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance establishing a new model for police oversight, accountability, and public safety. MCC 2-80, "[Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability](#)," creates:

1. a citywide Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (Commission), a public body of seven appointed commissioners with power to advance systemic reforms of the Chicago Police Department, Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA), and the Police Board, and
2. the local District Councils, three-member public bodies elected in each of the twenty-two police districts that work to improve policing and public safety on a local level in each district.

B. It is the responsibility of the Department and its members to cooperate and collaborate with the Commission and District Councils as they carry out their powers and duties under the Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC 2-80-140).

C. Department members will refer to the Department directive titled "**Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA): Commission and District Councils**" for the specific processes and responsibilities of the Department and its members to work and collaborate with the Commission and District Councils.

**III. COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (COMMISSION)**

A. The Commission:

1. is comprised of seven commissioners nominated by the elected District Council members, selected by the Mayor, and confirmed by the City Council.
2. focuses on improving policing and public safety citywide.

B. Per MCC 2-80-030, the purpose of the Commission is to:

1. increase public safety;
2. ensure that Department activities are directed toward maximizing public health and safety while minimizing any harm to City residents;
3. build trust and improve interactions between and among the Department and the people it serves;
4. ensure that Department policies and practices are rooted in community needs and public input;

5. increase public support for Department policies and practices;
  6. ensure that Department resources are not used inefficiently to address public health or safety issues that other professionals are better equipped to address;
  7. encourage preventative, proactive, community-based, and evidence-based approaches to public safety;
  8. increase transparency and public input into Department operations, policies, and performance;
  9. provide the residents of every Chicago community with meaningful opportunities to shape Department policies and practices that affect their lives;
  10. help to bring the City into compliance with the consent decree as soon as is practicable;
  11. increase efficiency in the use of public safety resources; and
  12. increase public accountability of the Department, COPA, and the Police Board.
- C. Per MCC 2-80-050, the Commission will have the following powers and duties:
1. respond to public-safety-related community needs and concerns through means including, but not limited to, the following:
    - a. engaging in community outreach to obtain the perspectives of community members and Department employees on police-community relations, Department policies and practices, and the police accountability system;
    - b. maintaining connections with representatives of disenfranchised communities and with other community groups throughout the City; and
    - c. providing the Department, Police Board, COPA, and Public Safety Inspector General with community feedback relevant to their operations received as a result of the Commission's public outreach activities.
  2. oversee the District Councils and delegate powers and duties to the District Councils at its discretion and consistent with applicable law;
  3. publish reports as required by this Chapter, and report to the public about matters related to policing that concern all Chicago communities;
  4. have access to information, documents, data, and records in order to carry out the Commission's powers and duties, as provided in Section 2-80-120;
  5. assess performance of and set goals for the Superintendent, Chief Administrator of COPA, and Police Board President;
  6. recommend to the Public Safety Inspector General to conduct research or audits on specific topics or issues, including emergent issues that, in the Commission's judgment, are needed to support public confidence in the Department and related criminal justice practices. If the Commission issues such a recommendation in writing, the Public Safety Inspector General shall respond in writing within ten business days;
  7. review and provide input to the Chief Administrator of COPA, Public Safety Inspector General, Superintendent, Police Board, and other City departments and offices, including the Mayor, City Council Committee on Police and Fire, or its successor committee, and Corporation Counsel on the police accountability system, police services, and Department policies and practices of significance to the public;
  8. collaborate with the Department, COPA, and the Police Board in the development of new or amended Policy;

9. draft, review, and approve by majority vote any proposed new or amended Department Policy.
 

**NOTE:** "Department policy" is defined as any Department General Order, to the extent that the General Order is not covered by or in the jurisdiction of the consent decree or otherwise identified by the U.S. District Court as falling within the scope of the Independent Monitor's mandate. "Policy" does not include the allocation or deployment of Department personnel or resources to address public safety or other matters affecting the day-to-day operation of the Department.
10. by majority vote and subject to applicable law and reasonable scheduling accommodation, require the attendance of the Superintendent, the Public Safety Inspector General, the Chief Administrator of COPA, and the President of the Police Board, or their designees, at any regular or special meeting of the Commission in order to provide updates on matters as requested by the Commission, and to answer questions from the Commission and hear public comments;
11. in the event of a vacancy, interview, assess the qualifications of, and recommend to the Mayor candidates having appropriate qualifications for the positions of Superintendent and Police Board member, as provided in Section 2-80-080;
12. introduce and, by two-thirds majority vote, adopt a resolution of no confidence in the Superintendent or a Police Board member;
13. appoint the Chief Administrator of COPA with the advice and consent of the City Council, as provided in Section 2-80-080;
14. remove the Chief Administrator of COPA, as provided in Section 2-80-090;
15. before a City Council vote on the annual budget, review and, if warranted, recommend changes to the proposed Department budget appropriation;
16. identify and recommend to the City Council:
  - a. ways to increase effectiveness and efficiency in the use of public safety resources;
  - b. ways to ensure that Department resources are used appropriately, taking into account issues that other professionals could adequately address; and
  - c. preventative, proactive, community-based, and evidence-based solutions to violence.
17. appoint a Noncitizen Advisory Council, which shall include Chicago residents who are not United States citizens and Chicago residents who are undocumented, and may include people who work on behalf of Chicago residents who are not United States citizens; the Noncitizen Advisory Council shall advise the Commission to ensure that the perspectives and experiences of Chicago residents who are not United States citizens are reflected and incorporated in the Commission's work;
18. collaborate with the Department regarding community policing and other existing or future Department-led community policing programs;
19. create operational policies and procedures for the Commission; and
20. monitor the Department's compliance with its policies.

#### **IV. DISTRICT COUNCILS**

- A. The District Councils:
  1. are comprised of three District Council members elected in each police district during municipal elections.

- a. Members must be residents of the police district they represent and cannot be employees of the City or any law enforcement agency.
  - b. One member of the District Council serves as Council Chair, one member serves as Community Engagement Coordinator, and one member serves on the Nominating Committee.
2. focus on improving policing and public safety in each district, and helping to set priorities for the Commission.
- B. Per MCC 2-80-070, the purpose of the District Councils is to:
1. build connections between the police and the community;
  2. collaborate in the development and implementation of community policing initiatives;
  3. ensure regular community input for Commission efforts;
  4. ensure that within each district there is a forum where District residents can raise and work to address any concerns about policing in the district, including but not limited to police interactions with youth and people of all immigration statuses;
  5. ensure the independence and increase the legitimacy of the Commission by participating in the selection of its members;
  6. participate in the selection of commissioners who will fulfill the purposes listed in Section 2-80-030 of this Chapter; and
  7. assist the Commission in fulfilling the purposes listed in Section 2-80-030.
- C. Per MCC 2-80-070, each District Council will:
1. hold public meetings at least monthly to discuss policing issues;
  2. work with the police district commander and community members to help develop and implement community policing initiatives;
  3. delegate one or more District Council members to attend quarterly meetings with representatives from each District Council to identify trends and concerns;
  4. delegate one or more District Council members to attend annual meetings with representatives from each District Council to propose priorities for the Commission;
  5. work to develop and expand restorative justice and similar programs in the district;
  6. encourage Department members to facilitate access to community resources;
  7. assist and engage with members of the public, including gathering input from the public regarding public safety and policing in their districts;
  8. report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Commission as requested; and
  9. exercise any other powers delegated to it by the Commission.
- D. District Council members may make policy recommendations to the Commission; respond to community members' questions and concerns by requesting information related to investigations from the Department or COPA, subject to applicable law and Department or COPA policy; and provide information to Department members and community groups on the work of the Commission and District Councils.
- E. District Councils may enlist qualified volunteers to assist them in carrying out their duties, including but not limited to serving on committees, pursuant to this section. For example, District Councils may enlist volunteers to ensure that the perspectives and experiences of district residents who are not United States citizens are reflected and incorporated in the District Council's work.

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