



CITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor’s Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Cost for events: City vs Private Events

ID#: 081-01

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department’s hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Waguespack asked for the cost for events outside of "normal" operations for CPD, DCASE, etc. breaking it down by City events vs private events.

Below is a sample comparison of costs for City-sponsored events versus private events, reflecting overtime worked outside of normal operations for CPD, DCASE, and other departments. The figures provided are for 2023 and 2024. We would be happy to discuss additional events or provide further clarification with Alderman Waguespack and/or City Council.

Sponsor	Events	2023	2024
City	Bud Billiken Parade	\$ 107,484.21	\$ 152,291.44
City	Pride Parade	\$ 166,215.92	\$ 136,351.90
City	Saint Patrick’s Day Parade	\$ 66,879.13	\$ 108,332.29
Private	Chicago Marathon	\$ 493,341.90	\$ 501,783.10
Private	Lollapalooza	\$ 174,746.98	\$ 201,979.87
Private	NASCAR	\$ 155,023.33	\$ 112,983.49

These figures provide a snapshot of the expenses incurred for events categorized as City-sponsored versus private. Please let us know if further details are required.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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From: Cole Stallard
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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Urban Forestry Grant

ID#: 081-02

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Dowell asked what the plan for the funds is budgeted as carryover for the federal Urban Forestry grant.

The Tree Inventory and Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) is being conducted with the support of The Morton Arboretum and the United States Forest Service (USFS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). A budget of \$2,763,950 has been allocated from a \$3 million grant provided by the USDA through the Inflation Reduction Act, administered under the direction of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Urban & Community Forestry Program. The Tree Inventory will capture critical data, including GPS coordinates, street address, land use, growing space, species, DBH (diameter at breast height) measurements, single or multi-stem designation, condition ratings, risk assessments, and general notes about each street tree. This information will proactively support our recently implemented cyclical tree pruning program, guide our ash tree treatment efforts, prioritize the removal of dead trees, and reduce tree risk by identifying high-risk trees for pruning or removal. This work is essential to advancing active and professional tree management for underserved communities, ensuring equitable access to the many benefits of a healthy tree canopy. The program covers approximately 590,000 trees located in the public right-of-way, including streets, medians, and boulevards.

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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor’s Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Vacant Lot Weed Cutting

ID#: 081-03

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department’s hearing on Nov 21, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Dowell/Mitchell asked for the amount of money collected from total tickets issued (\$16M) for unmaintained lot offenses.

The sum total paid is what’s been collected so far and the sum total fine amt is the total amount accrued but not collected.

MCCCAT	COUNT(*)	SUM(TOTAL_PAID)	SUM(TOTAL_FINE_AMT)
7-28-120(A)	12,215	\$ 1,484,070.47	\$ 16,038,920.00

Though DSS has the authority to issue fines, they do not have the enforcement arm to collect fines.

The typical process issuing and collecting fines is as follows:

- Refuse Collections Coordinators or Ward Superintendents in DSS receive reports from staff or community members of unmaintained lots. DSS will write a ticket for everyday the matter is not addressed; each day being marked as a separate incident and fine.
- DSS will pass the information of the infraction along to the Department of Law who will follow up on the status of the ticket along with DOF. These bodies are the enforcement arms for this fee.
- If the fees are contested, the entity that received the ticket has the ability to contest it with the Department of Administrative Hearings. This is often where issues of collection lie as frequent offenders don’t live at the property or dispute that it is their property (belongs to a

family member, outdated deeds, etc.). Entities can also plead out and clean up the lot and report back.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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From: Cole Stallard
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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor’s Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Waste Disposal Increases

ID#: 081-04

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department’s hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Dowell asked why waste disposal costs increased by \$10M since 2023.

From 2023 to 2025, the budget for Waste Disposal Services has increased by \$3,273,634, representing a 6% rise over the two years. The budget adjustment reflects our commitment to maintaining efficient and reliable waste disposal services.

- FY2023 to FY2024: \$1,588,982
- FY2024 to FY2025: \$1,684,652

FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
\$54,566,080	\$56,155,062	\$57,839,714

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Towing revenue

ID#: 081-05

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Dowell asked for the revenue difference between towing and writing ticket.

DSS collects \$150 for a vehicle towed by a DSS worker. If a ticket is issued, the fine for a parking ticket is \$75. DSS defers to the Department of Finance on parking tickets as they are collected through that department. The total FY24 to date revenue for cars towed, including the fee to reclaim one's car from the lot and the fees for holding the vehicles in the lot for multiple days is \$18,684,794.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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From: Cole Stallard
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Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: SAFER Program

ID#: 081-06

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Taylor asked why doesn't the SAFER program last longer and what would be the cost to expand the program year-round.

The SAFER program is contracted out of DFSS. There is \$2,365,760 assigned to this program, \$1,964,928 from DSS and the remainder was sourced by DFSS. We utilize this group as long as we have funding and ramp up shifts and team sizes to maximize workforce efficiencies based on the operational need. We focus their efforts during the warmer months when foliage has grown back, snow has melted, and dirt and debris are more visible, ensuring their work aligns with seasonal needs and maximizes impact. A year-round operation would depend on a number of factors including amount of people hired, shift hours shifted from warm months to cold, and on DFSS ability to negotiate the terms with SAFER.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor’s Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Resident Animal Clean up

ID#: 081-07

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department’s hearing on Nov 21, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Lee asked for a ward by ward breakdown of issued tickets for dog poop. Citations/Plead liable ratio.

Please see below to find the breakdown by ward in chronological order as it relates to tickets issued for Chicago Municipal Code 7-12-420 the ordinance that addresses the removal of pet excrement.

WARD	CREATED DATE	INCIDENT STATUS	INCIDENT STATE MODIFIED DATE	VIOLATION CODE	HEARING DATE	HEARING TIME
03	03-MAY-24 12:12:26753 PM	AWAITING HEARING	17-OCT-24 09:14:09 AM	7-12-420,7-28-060	28-JAN-25	11:30 AM
04	25-MAR-24 09:09:55154 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	17-JUL-24 10:01:18 AM	7-12-420	17-JUL-24	10:00 AM
04	29-MAR-24 11:05:04086 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	17-JUL-24 10:02:22 AM	7-28-450(a),7-12-420	17-JUL-24	10:00 AM
04	31-MAR-24 09:44:03617 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	17-JUL-24 10:03:14 AM	7-12-420	17-JUL-24	10:00 AM
05	18-MAR-24 10:57:51098 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	14-AUG-24 10:33:28 AM	7-12-420,7-28-720	14-AUG-24	10:00 AM
12	26-JAN-24 09:57:04914 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	13-AUG-24 03:09:29 PM	7-12-420	13-AUG-24	01:30 PM
12	10-SEP-24 01:10:48980 PM	AWAITING HEARING	04-NOV-24 10:24:28 AM	7-28-680,7-12-420,7-28-720,7-28-060	27-FEB-25	11:00 AM
12	23-SEP-24 09:47:33985 AM	AWAITING HEARING	17-OCT-24 09:42:42 AM	7-12-420	29-JAN-25	09:00 AM
12	03-OCT-24 10:19:46349 AM	AWAITING HEARING	04-NOV-24 10:25:37 AM	7-28-720,7-28-060,7-12-420	27-FEB-25	11:00 AM
14	03-JAN-24 10:20:18345 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	15-JUL-24 12:18:14 PM	7-12-420	15-JUL-24	09:30 AM
15	02-JUL-24 11:10:17232 AM	AWAITING HEARING	25-SEP-24 08:56:36 AM	7-12-420	19-DEC-24	11:30 AM

WARD	CREATED DATE	INCIDENT STATUS	INCIDENT STATE MODIFIED DATE	VIOLATION CODE	HEARING DATE	HEARING TIME
15	30-AUG-24 11:11:31171 AM	AWAITING HEARING	25-SEP-24 08:56:38 AM	7-12-420	19-DEC-24	11:30 AM
15	15-OCT-24 10:59:18131 AM	NEW	23-OCT-24 11:32:54 AM	7-12-420		
21	14-MAR-24 03:06:23937 PM	HEARING COMPLETE	04-SEP-24 11:01:38 AM	7-12-420	04-SEP-24	11:00 AM
21	12-APR-24 10:48:46110 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	04-SEP-24 11:01:39 AM	7-12-420	04-SEP-24	11:00 AM
24	08-JAN-24 11:58:44984 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	11-APR-24 10:45:15 AM	7-12-420	11-APR-24	10:30 AM
24	28-MAR-24 09:00:19711 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	04-NOV-24 10:39:12 AM	7-28-710,7-28-680,7-12-420	04-NOV-24	10:00 AM
24	28-MAR-24 11:13:29293 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	05-SEP-24 12:10:27 PM	7-12-420,7-28-680	05-SEP-24	10:30 AM
24	03-OCT-24 03:04:53886 PM	AWAITING HEARING	17-OCT-24 09:12:36 AM	7-28-120(a),7-12-420,7-28-060,7-28-720,7-28-680	28-JAN-25	10:30 AM
24	04-NOV-24 08:16:34204 AM	PACKET CREATION	05-NOV-24 11:54:36 AM	7-28-261(b),7-28-260(a),7-28-710,7-28-680,7-12-420		
30	05-JAN-24 01:15:35996 PM	HEARING COMPLETE	15-JUL-24 04:15:18 PM	7-28-710,7-12-420,7-28-680	15-JUL-24	03:00 PM
30	06-SEP-24 09:11:56752 AM	PACKET CREATION	15-OCT-24 09:50:50 AM	7-12-420		
31	24-APR-24 09:29:59535 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	03-OCT-24 04:17:28 PM	7-12-420,7-28-710,7-28-680	03-OCT-24	02:30 PM
35	25-JUN-24 11:43:22632 AM	AWAITING HEARING	19-SEP-24 09:49:10 AM	7-28-710,7-12-420	09-DEC-24	10:30 AM
35	22-JUL-24 12:39:36361 PM	CLOSED	17-OCT-24 12:24:05 AM	7-12-420		
35	07-AUG-24 01:40:42021 PM	AWAITING HEARING	19-SEP-24 09:49:10 AM	7-28-450(a),7-12-420	09-DEC-24	10:30 AM
35	27-AUG-24 10:54:31942 AM	CLOSED	17-OCT-24 12:24:05 AM	7-12-420		
35	27-AUG-24 11:07:20515 AM	PACKET CREATION	28-OCT-24 01:33:15 PM	7-12-420		
35	27-SEP-24 08:08:29298 AM	PACKET CREATION	25-OCT-24 02:26:53 PM	7-28-710,7-28-060,7-12-420		
36	03-JAN-24 08:34:44042 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	08-JUL-24 02:36:23 PM	7-28-710,7-12-420,7-28-680	08-JUL-24	01:30 PM
50	14-JUN-24 11:00:33554 AM	PACKET CREATION	06-SEP-24 09:12:31 AM	7-12-420,7-28-120(a)		
6	01-MAR-24 11:50:21119 AM	HEARING COMPLETE	02-AUG-24 01:42:15 PM	7-28-740,7-12-420	02-AUG-24	10:30 AM

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From: Cole Stallard
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Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor’s Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Fleet Electrification
ID#: 081-08

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department’s hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Lawson asked for a breakdown of the 185 new pieces of equipment. How many are EV and what is the model makeup?

Please refer to the breakdown of all 194 new pieces of equipment below. Electric vehicles are highlighted in green for easy identification. Additionally, the specific models of the highlighted EVs are listed below for your reference.

Equipment Type	Total Purchased	Note
Refuse Trucks	42	
Mechanical Sweepers	14	
Salt Spreaders	30	25 Salt and 5 Anti-Icing Trucks
Tow Trucks	17	7 received - 10 in process
Traffic Services - Tractor	1	
Forestry - Arieal Towers	20	
Forestry - Clam Trucks	3	
Forestry - Chippers	6	
Forestry - Stump Cutter	1	

Equipment Type	Total Purchased	Note
Forestry EV - Pick Ups	5	
Forestry - SUV	3	
Forestry - Tractors	4	
Street Operations - Tractors	5	
Street Operations -Trailers	6	
Rodent Control - EV Cargo Van	3	
Box Trucks	4	
Stake Body	10	
Pick Up	20	
Total	194	

Make	Model	Description
FORD	F150	FORD F150 LIGHTNING CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK
FORD	F150	FORD F150 LIGHTNING CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK
FORD	F150	FORD F150 LIGHTNING CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK
FORD	F150	FORD F150 LIGHTNING CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK
FORD	F150	FORD F150 LIGHTNING CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK
FORD	TRANSIT 350 ELECTRIC	2023 FORD E-TRANSIT T350 ELECTRIC CARGO VAN - MEDIUM ROOF
FORD	TRANSIT 350 ELECTRIC	2023 FORD E-TRANSIT T350 ELECTRIC MID ROOF CARGO VAN
FORD	TRANSIT 350 ELECTRIC	2023 FORD E-TRANSIT T350 ELECTRIC MID ROOF CARGO VAN

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From: Cole Stallard
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Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Plowing the Sidewalks

ID#: 81-09

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Manaa-Hoppenworth asked for the cost breakdown for the plowing the sidewalks pilot program.

The cost of the Plow the Sidewalks Pilot Program is estimated to range between \$1.1 million and \$3.5 million. This estimate is based on the deployment of both contractor and in-house services for snow removal across four pilot zones. The budget assumes up to seven snow events per year with contractor services and up to four events utilizing in-house teams. Cost estimates draw on data from Chicago Public Schools' snow removal contracts and include expenses for labor, equipment, materials, and operational overhead.

For a full breakdown of the cost of the proposed program, please refer to pages 22 and 23 of the *Plow the Sidewalks Pilot Program: Report of Recommendations* released by the Administration on May 31, 2024 (<https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/sites/plow-the-sidewalk-pilot/pdfs/SnowPlow20240531.pdf>). An array of other municipalities both domestic and Canada were also referenced and examined in the City's study to determine best practices.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

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To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
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From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 12, 2024

Re: Fines and Fees

ID#: 81-10

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Taylor asked for the list of fees and fines within the department, specifically around businesses.

- Sidewalks and exterior areas must be kept clean, free of weed and all litter. Outside areas adjacent to the premises must be kept clean, neat, and monitored daily. (MCC 4-4-310)
 - Failure to maintain sidewalks as noted in MCC 4-4-310 will evoke MCC 8-4-120 leading to penalties between \$500 and \$1,000 for each offense
- Snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks in front of and adjacent to all buildings housing places of businesses. (MCC 4-4-310)
 - Failure to maintain sidewalks as noted in MCC 4-4-310 will evoke MCC 8-4-120 leading to penalties between \$500 and \$1,000 for each offense
- Arrange for refuse to be removed by a licensed scavenger service. (MCC 7-28-310)
 - Fines range from \$200-\$500 for the first offense and between \$400 and \$750 for subsequent infractions
- Arrange for separate recycling services with a licensed hauler. (MCC 11-5-030)
 - Fines range from \$500 to \$1,000 for first offenses, \$1,000 to \$2,500 for second offenses, and \$2,500 to \$5,000 for third and subsequent offenses. Fines are not accumulated through multiple years with the offense count resetting at the beginning of the year.
- Have sufficient containers to hold all garbage. All commercial dumpsters must have information prominently displayed on the exterior identifying the user of the dumpster and the scavenger company servicing it. (MCC 7-28-220)

- Failure to maintain sidewalks as noted in MCC 7-28-220 will likely evoke MCC 7-28-261 for garbage overfill which ranges from \$200 to \$500 for each offense, each day.
- Check the dumpster area often. Dumpsters must be in good condition, property sealed and not leaking. Garbage must be contained with lids closed and locked. (MCC 7-28-210)
 - Failure to maintain sidewalks as noted in MCC 7-28-210 will likely evoke MCC 7-28-261 for garbage overfill which ranges from \$200 to \$500 for each offense, each day.
- Use and maintain a clean grease box. Grease must be properly contained and the walls and ground around the container must always be clean. (MCC 7-28-302)
 - Failure to properly maintain a proper clean grease box results in fines between \$250 to \$500 for each offense. Each day the offense is not addressed and corrected will be treated as a separate and distinct offense.
- Burrows and openings must be sealed, and dock areas must be well baited to promote rodent control. (MCC 7-28-660)
 - Failure to comply with these requirements is considered a public nuisance and can result in fines ranging from \$300 to \$1,000 for each offense. Each day the violation continues is treated as a separate offense, potentially leading to additional fines.

Though some of these ordinances do not have a specific fine tied to them, it should be noted that negligence to these ordinances is likely to accumulate into other municipal offenses with monetary punishments. For example, MCC 7-28-220 does not have a specific fee assigned to it, but will likely evoke MCC 7-28-261 which creates a ticketed offense for garbage overfill. We welcome any further discussion around the nuisances of these fees and how they may affect constituents.

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From: Cole Stallard
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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Vacant Lot Fee

ID#: 81-11

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Mitchell asked for the tickets for vacant lots, # over the last ten years, and the outcome.

Please see the next page for ticket data.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	As of 10/31/2024
New Cases Filed	24,532	20,773	18,525	29,797	40,616	46,558	18,455	48,290	27,541	41,665	46,194
# of Hearings conducted	38,089	27,729	25,474	34,716	55,244	60,110	31,277	57,618	37,843	48,622	59,905
Liable	11,053	8,505	8,496	11,575	17,357	14,751	6,679	13,556	7,764	9,127	8,657
Not Liable	860	315	371	297	436	465	270	1,796	1,147	2,442	1,731
Non Suits	4,453	3,371	2,924	4,153	7,928	6,864	4,257	7,041	5,199	6,427	6,298
Defaults	16,462	12,033	10,306	14,712	22,474	27,948	11,315	27,188	18,000	21,166	20,028
Amount Assessed	\$4,686,710	\$3,093,299	\$2,952,337	\$4,132,020	\$5,827,139	\$5,581,107	\$2,310,202	\$5,138,730	\$2,691,538	\$3,206,251	\$2,998,375
Default Amount	\$21,459,779	\$15,131,520	\$13,089,514	\$20,206,885	\$28,593,981	\$37,487,119	\$14,140,720	\$35,803,801	\$24,070,034	\$28,882,741	\$29,446,460
Total Assessed	\$26,146,489	\$18,224,819	\$16,041,851	\$24,338,905	\$34,421,120	\$43,068,226	\$16,450,922	\$40,942,531	\$26,761,572	\$32,088,992	\$32,444,835



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From: Cole Stallard
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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Private Haul License

ID#: 81-12

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Vazquez asked for a spreadsheet of private haul licenses, units they serve, and cost.

The Department of Streets and Sanitation does not issue or regulate private haul licenses. This responsibility falls under the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP). We recommend contacting BACP for detailed information regarding private haul licenses, the units they serve, and associated costs. Their team will be best equipped to provide the requested data.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Rat Abatement

ID#: 81-13

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Vazquez asked for a list of different practices and locations of rat control pilots.

The Department of Streets and Sanitation is exploring the use of Carbon Dioxide as a new method for rat abatement. While the specific location for this pilot program has not been determined, we plan to collaborate with interested alderpersons to implement it in Q1 of 2025.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing
ID#: 81-14 Quality of Life Rotation

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Vazquez asked for the Quality of Life rotation broken down by ward and frequency.

The Quality of Life program has been a resounding success, with a total of 2,058 deep cleanings completed across the city. This significant achievement demonstrates our commitment to improving neighborhoods and enhancing the overall quality of life for Chicago residents.

Please see a breakdown of the Quality of Life program frequency by ward below.

WARD	QOL APP TOTAL
1	23
2	2
3	13
4	12
5	27
6	201
7	59
8	45
9	144
10	24
11	19
12	15

WARD	QOL APP TOTAL
13	2
14	1
15	22
16	157
17	62
18	20
19	9
20	71
21	75
22	4
23	4
24	306
25	5
26	11
27	125
28	188
29	61
30	0
31	0
32	12
33	0
34	208
35	2
36	3
37	82
38	1
39	9
40	1
41	0
42	0
43	0
44	1
45	0
46	0
47	1
48	0
49	12
50	19
TOTAL	2058

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID#: 81-15 Tree's Trimmed Map

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Vazquez asked for the number of trees trimmed and a map of areas of completed.

Since the launch of the department's new tree trimming program, the Bureau of Forestry has successfully trimmed 134,371 trees and will continue to perform regular maintenance as weather conditions permit.

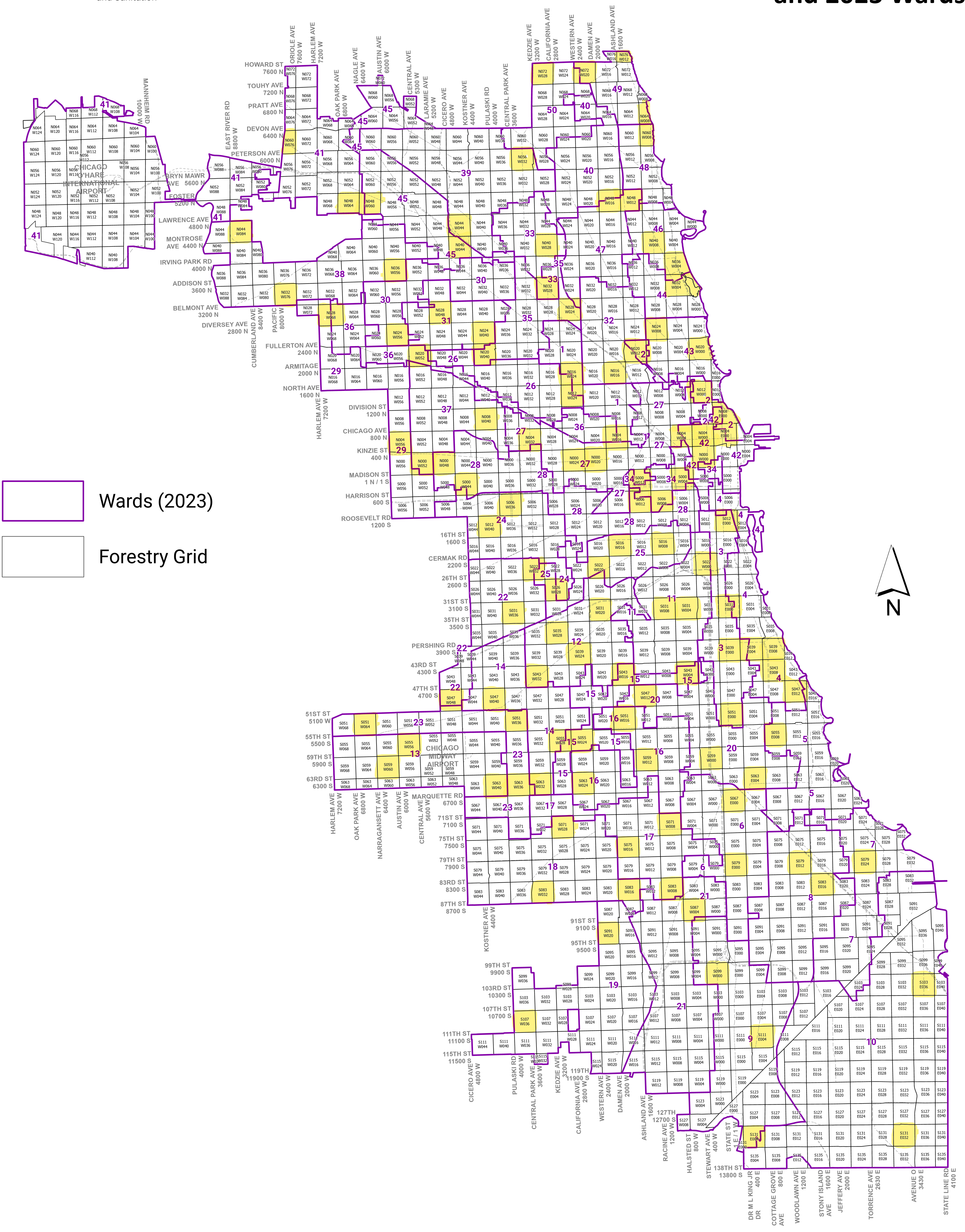
Please see the attachments for the number of trees trimmed by ward and a map of areas completed.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.

TOTAL GRID TRIM PRODUCTION

Date Field: End Date equals Custom (4/17/2023 to 11/18/2024)

	2023	2024	Total
Ward ↑	Tree Trimmed	Tree Trimmed	Trims
1	1782	897	2773
2	1280	1446	2805
3	2127	1387	3637
4	2135	2116	4395
5	1256	978	2277
6	1014	814	1926
7	1056	1206	2348
8	1164	809	2057
9	1253	953	2271
10	1433	955	2438
11	1686	1487	3232
12	1454	1538	3053
13	1120	1553	2778
14	1599	1347	2995
15	993	1959	3062
16	1654	1433	3139
17	1066	710	1884
18	1206	1166	2462
19	1617	1126	2789
20	1448	1790	3304
21	1339	807	2182
22	1147	1189	2686
23	1407	1599	3130
24	1583	1609	3294
25	2144	1511	3711
26	1544	1180	2765
27	2153	2118	4478
28	2212	2248	4520
29	1889	1232	3173
30	1016	819	1884
31	945	568	1540
32	1503	1011	2600
33	1013	1353	2496
34	1843	1667	3642
35	760	997	1841
36	769	996	1870
37	1078	855	1979
38	1065	917	2020
39	1374	1113	2568
40	1247	917	2274
41	1023	972	2077
42	1759	1026	2810
43	1363	965	2456
44	1105	796	1948
45	899	851	1773
46	1788	1479	3363
47	1466	1245	2780
48	1444	964	2468
49	1012	795	1844
50	1215	906	2179
Total	69448	60375	133976





CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: 311 Study

ID#: 81-16

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Vazquez asked for the findings that came from the 3-1-1 study.

The Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) reviewed several 3-1-1 requests submitted by aldermen to better understand the specific needs of each individual ward. This analysis allowed DSS to identify patterns, deploy assets more effectively, address pain points, and determine necessary improvements to the 3-1-1 system. The goal is to ensure information is properly input by DSS staff as well as making sure the system captures accurate and actionable data to better serve the needs of residents citywide.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Vehicle Capacity

ID#: 81-17

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman Clay asked to provide a general estimate of how many refuse trucks are down right now.

The number of refuse trucks down and being serviced is 18 as of 7am November 21, 2024.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Private Hauler Franchises

ID#: 81-18

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked what are the legal steps that would be required to implement a private hauler franchise system for the City.

Implementing a private hauler franchise system for the City would involve several steps, including possible legislative action by City Council to establish the framework, a competitive bidding process to select qualified haulers, and ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. These steps would require detailed coordination and oversight, with key roles likely falling to the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) and the Law Department, as they are better suited to address the legal and regulatory aspects of such a system. The Department of Streets and Sanitation would be happy to participate in these discussions and provide input to ensure the system aligns with operational and community needs.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Private Hauler Franchises Admin

ID#: 81-19

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked what the expected costs associated with administering a private hauler franchise system for the City.

At this time, we cannot estimate the potential costs associated with administering a private hauler franchise system for the City. Further analysis and discussions would be required to determine the financial implications of such a system.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Private Hauler Revenue

ID#: 81-20

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked if there is a potential revenue range expected to be collected from a private hauler franchise system.

At this time, we cannot estimate the potential revenue associated with administering a private hauler franchise system for the City. Further analysis and discussions would be required to determine the financial implications of such a system.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Grid Based Street Cleaning

ID#: 81-21

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked if the department considered changing street cleaning schedules to be grid-based rather than based on the ward, for efficiency purposes.

The department works closely with Ward Superintendents to plan and develop street cleaning schedules tailored to the needs of each ward. Street cleaning operations are conducted year-round, weather permitting, to ensure the best possible service for residents.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID#: 81-22 10-8-180 Violations

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked for the number of violations between 2021 and YTD 2024 for section 10-8-180 of the municipal code that have been issued, by year and by ward.

See below for the breakdown of section 10-8-180 violations.

YEAR	10-8-180 COUNT
2021	99
2022	229
2023	14
2024	18
Grand Total	360

WARD	10-8-180 COUNT
01	1
03	1
04	11
05	1
06	60
11	1

WARD	10-8-180 COUNT
12	1
13	2
14	3
15	86
16	89
17	10
20	1
21	1
22	2
25	13
26	1
28	14
30	12
31	3
32	1
33	4
34	1
36	1
37	1
38	2
40	15
44	3
45	3
49	9
5	1
6	5
9	1
Grand Total	360

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID#: 81-23 General Laborer Hour Reductions

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata noted that Section 4021 (Supervisory and Clerical) demonstrates an increase in 70 positions on page 410, while Section 4025 (Refuse Collection) on page 411 demonstrates a decrease in 100 positions. In addition, General Laborer Hours (Line 6329, page 411) are cut from 28,000 to 14,000. The alderman asking what about the expected service impact of this shift in services.

We moved various positions between Fund 100 and 0B32 to better align our budget and ensure operational efficiency. Additionally, General Laborer Hours were adjusted from 28,000 hours to 14,000 hours to support the continuation of our General Laborer Trainee Program. These hours were reallocated to fund and sustain the program for 2025, reflecting our commitment to workforce development while maintaining service levels.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID#: 81-24 Winter Ops Fund Location

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder La Spata asked in the 2024 Budget (page 325), winter operations demonstrate 54,000 hours under the Motor Fuel Tax Fund, but these operations are moved to the Corporate Fund in 2025 Budget (page 411). Why are these services moved from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund?

The 54,000 hours were moved from the Corporate Fund to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund in 2024 for fund balancing and are to be moved back to the Corporate Fund in FY 2025 based on the expected revenue for the Motor Fuel Tax Fund in 2025.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Excess Snow Events FG

ID#: 81-25

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked on page 538, Line 9281, the 2024 budget has \$500,000 for "Reserved for Excess Expenses Related to Snow Events" under Finance General, while the 2025 recommendations do not. What explains this shift?

The "Reserved for Excess Expenses Related to Snow Events" line in Finance General has historically gone unspent in prior years and was reduced as a cost saving measure in the Vehicle Fund. Additionally, there is historic salvage actualized in Winter Operations in the departmental budget. This cushion is well researched and accounts for outlier snow events in which there is significantly more snow than expected.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Forestry Contracting Reductions

ID#: 81-26

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked on page 416, Line 0140, what explains the cut in Technical Services and Other Third Party Benefits Agreements in the Bureau of Forestry.

The department had to make tough decisions for the 2025 budget to ensure the continued funding of other critical operations within the Bureau of Forestry. As a result, we reduced \$2.8 million allocated for stump removals and \$1 million for Emerald Ash Borer treatment to balance the budget while prioritizing essential services.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: In-House Traffic Services Cost Out

ID#: 81-27

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked on page 421, Line 0140, what are the professional and technical services and other third-party benefit agreements that cost \$9,443,144 in the Bureau of Traffic Services and what would it cost to roll those operations into DSS.

This line is used to fund our DSS towing services. The department pays an external towing vendor, currently United Road Towing, to manage certain auto pound lots and provide towing services for both the Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) and the Chicago Police Department.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Sidewalk Snow Removal Violations

ID#: 81-28

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alderman La Spata asked what the protocol for Ward Superintendents is to issue violations for section 10-8-180 of the municipal code (Snow and ice removal).

Ward Superintendents have the discretion to issue violations for section 10-8-180 of the municipal code, which pertains to snow and ice removal. They assess compliance within their assigned areas and can issue tickets as needed to address unsafe conditions or ensure adherence to City regulations. This discretion allows them to prioritize enforcement based on local circumstances and community needs.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 11, 2024

Re: Grid Garbage Efficiencies

ID#: 81-29

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how in the south/west side wards has there been any increase in services, what is exactly more efficient, how is the crews more productive by using a grid garbage system.

The implementation of Chicago's grid-based garbage collection system in 2013 has significantly enhanced efficiency and productivity, particularly benefiting South and West Side wards. By reorganizing collection routes from ward boundaries to a grid system defined by main streets and natural landmarks, the Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) optimized routes, reduced overlap, and cut travel time, while lowering the daily deployment of refuse trucks from nearly 360 to approximately 291 saving \$18 million annually.

The grid system ensures consistent and equitable service delivery, allowing crews to service more households efficiently while reducing fuel consumption. This approach has also led to balanced workloads across neighborhoods, improved reliability in garbage pickup schedules, and enhanced resource allocation citywide, making waste management operations more efficient and productive in every area, including historically underserved South and West Side wards.

Please see the table below that showcases that South/West Side wards have a significant higher level of service for operations that are most visible and impactful in a community. Grids have proven to be easier to monitor, evaluate, and optimize. The city benefits from consistent coverage and accountability.

Service Request: Type Name →	Clean Lot HiLift	QOL	Neighborhood Service Jobs	Total
Ward ↑	Record Count	Record Count	Record Count	Record Count
28	356	36	782	1174
24	592	21	321	934
16	580	10	321	911
27	87	24	798	909
6	372	8	378	758
9	362	8	382	752
17	261	5	419	685
21	406	5	183	594
8	289	3	289	581
3	52	2	505	559
29	46	11	294	351
37	131	12	196	339
20	182	4	137	323
19	21	1	244	266
7	148	2	114	264
10	121	0	139	260
18	33	5	186	224
11	34	3	167	204
25	23	1	178	202
34	5	1	157	163
26	20	2	132	154
22	33	1	116	150
5	47	2	99	148
44	0	0	102	102
15	79	3	16	98
13	2	0	93	95
23	7	2	81	90
4	13	0	66	79
36	27	1	47	75
46	0	0	74	74
1	6	1	41	48
45	1	0	46	47
38	2	1	44	47
42	1	0	37	38
30	5	0	31	36
14	8	1	20	29

Service Request: Type Name →	Clean Lot HiLift	QOL	Neighborhood Service Jobs	Total
Ward ↑	Record Count	Record Count	Record Count	Record Count
31	0	0	25	25
41	0	0	24	24
12	9	8	7	24
32	1	0	19	20
50	0	10	3	13
49	0	3	9	12
39	3	0	7	10
35	4	0	5	9
2	1	0	8	9
48	0	0	8	8
43	0	0	6	6
40	4	0	1	5
47	1	0	3	4
33	1	0	2	3
TOTAL	4376	197	7362	11935

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: SAFER Program Operations

ID#: 81-30

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how many groups are there, how are they allocated to the wards, at the end of their operation is there something that is sent out to the wards/alderman showing the work that was done in their perspective ward vs the work that was requested by the ward superintendents for the SAFER Program.

We have eight SAFER crews working throughout various communities, and their allocation is based on requests submitted by ward superintendents or aldermanic offices. DSS aims to distribute resources fairly across all wards, adjustments are sometimes necessary based on citywide priorities. Currently, requests are submitted via email, as we do not have a dedicated 3-1-1 system for the SAFER program. However, we are working on implementing an app next year to track requests and assignments, similar to the Quality of Life program. We do track the work performed and can provide reports detailing the completed tasks in any specific ward, including a comparison of the work requested versus what was completed upon request.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 11, 2024

Re: Code Violation Punishment

ID#: 81-31

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked if the same deals are being done with everyone in regard to law and administrative hearings in processing traffic violations and weed cutting infractions.

We are not aware of any "deals" being made in the processing of traffic violations or weed-cutting infractions. This question would be better addressed by the Department of Administrative Hearings, as they oversee these matters.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Leaf/Yard Clipping Equity

ID#: 81-32

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked why are there only a couple of wards that are afforded with hylifts and dump trucks for the influx of leaves during the fall.

DSS works with all of its ward superintendents, and we allocate resources based on need. It is the goal of the department to pick up as much foliage as possible. We welcome further discussion on how the department can better meet the needs of your ward's residents in preparation for next leaf season.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Abatement Frequency

ID#: 81-33

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how often alleys are being baited, and are the alleys being baited just on citizen requests or is this a grid-based operation.

The alleys are baited based on citizen requests and internal City crews. If an alley shows a heavy amount of rodent activity, it is scheduled for repeated baiting. This approach is not part of a grid-based system but rather responds to specific needs as they arise.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Black Cart Durability

ID#: 81-34

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked why the regular black carts are not made of the same material as the green compost carts which appear to be stronger and more durable than the black carts.

The black, blue, and green carts are all made from the same high-quality materials. However, the black carts may experience more wear and tear because they are picked up once a week, whereas blue and green carts are typically picked up less frequently, which can result in less stress on those carts over time.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Tree Trimming Tracking

ID#: 81-35

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked if a grid is marked complete for tree trimming, why are there homeowners still having issues with overgrown trees damaging their properties.

The trimming of a tree reduces the chances of it sustaining damage during an extreme storm but does not completely eliminate that chance. Please notify us of any specific issues, and we will have the Ward Superintendent inspect the properties in question to determine the appropriate next steps. This will help us address any concerns effectively and ensure all residents receive proper service.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: SAFER Program Schedule

ID#: 81-36

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked why the SAFER groups are not working past October.

SAFER crews currently operate during the warmer months when their work aligns with seasonal demands like landscaping and debris removal.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 12, 2024

Re: Towing Near Abandoned Properties

ID#: 81-37

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked if it is clear that a home is abandoned, and the owner is not responsive then what is the reason why traffic can't tow abandoned/derelict cars that are in the rear of abandoned homes.

We are not permitted to enter private property to tow vehicles; the only exception is vacant lots, and even then, only after the lot has been adjudicated.

However, if an address is provided and the rear of the property is open and accessible, we can inspect the vehicle to determine if it is hazardous. If the vehicle is deemed hazardous, we are authorized to tow it. A hazardous vehicle is a vehicle dilapidated beyond drivable condition.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Vacant Lot Adjacent Maintenance

ID#: 81-38

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked who is responsible for trimming, cleaning, and edging vacant lots/abandoned homes/parkways.

The department assigns trimming, cleaning, and parkway maintenance to a contracted vendor. For abandoned homes, ward superintendents are responsible for coordinating with the department to develop strategies to help mitigate any safety concerns.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Weed Cutting by City Programs

ID#: 81-39

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked if it is possible for the city to work with other groups that will be able to handle the number of lots that are cut (some wards are cutting 100+ lots daily), if not additional SAFER groups.

As a city, we are committed to maintaining and improving our community spaces, DSS recognizes the importance of engaging local groups in cleanup efforts. For work that is contracted out, there is a formal procurement process in place to ensure transparency and fairness in selecting vendors. In addition, we are always willing to support community groups by providing the necessary tools and equipment for cleanup initiatives. If you are aware of a group that is interested in organizing a cleanup, we are happy to collaborate and offer rakes, shovels, brooms and black bags to make the effort a success.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 11, 2024

Re: IDOT Road Cleaning

ID#: 81-40

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how is there such a disparity from Cermak north and Cermak south as far as the cleaning is done.

Cleanliness on the expressway falls under the jurisdiction of Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). DSS assists with cleaning the frontage road. DSS can use any and all support in holding IDOT accountable for the cleanliness of their roads.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Quality of Life Schedule

ID#: 81-41

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how Quality of Life cleaning is allocated among the wards, and why does it seem that only towards budget season that locations are being cleaned.

Quality of Life cleaning operates year-round and is allocated based on requests made by the ward superintendent or an Aldermanic office. These requests drive the cleaning efforts, and if we are not notified about specific issues, we may not be aware of them. Continuous communication ensures that resources are deployed effectively to address concerns as they arise.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Replacement Cart Turnaround

ID#: 81-42

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked can the turn around time for cart replacement be shortened.

The turnaround time for cart replacement currently varies between 21 and 30 days, depending on the volume of requests and resource availability. While we strive to address replacements as quickly as possible, improving efficiency in this area remains a priority, and we continue to explore ways to expedite the process.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 4, 2024

Re: Refuse Cart Quality

ID#: 81-43

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked if having carts with tightly fitted lids is the reason for the decline of rats in the city then why are there thousands of carts in the alleys with missing lids, holes in bottom/top of the cart, and when ward superintendents put in for a total alley baiting/carting what is the turnaround time for this.

We inspect carts and either replace or refurbish them as needed to ensure they are in proper condition. Alley baiting requests are addressed within 5 business days from the time they are received. Re-carting requests are addressed within 10 business days.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



CITY OF CHICAGO



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jason Ervin
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Cole Stallard
Commissioner
Department of Streets and Sanitation

CC: Kennedy Bartley
Chief External Affairs Officer, Mayor's Office

Date: December 11, 2024

Re: Vacant Lot Tree Trimming

ID#: 81-44

The following information is provided in response to questions posed via email on Nov 20, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2025 budget.

Alder Taylor asked how we are addressing city vacant lots with overgrown trees that have never been trimmed now that trimming is done via a grid-based system on city parkways.

Forestry operations now follow a grid-based system to ensure all city parkway trees are trimmed on schedule. For overgrown trees on City-owned vacant lots, we encourage working with your ward superintendent to identify and schedule specific trees that require attention outside of the regular grid-based trimming cycle.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.