



COMMUNITY SAFETY TOWN HALL REPORT

Spring 2022

THANK YOU

Dear Chicagoans,

I want to thank the residents who participated in our recent series of Community Safety Town Halls where we were able to work together to identify and better understand community priorities for a safe and thriving city. I am so appreciative of your commitment and involvement. The feedback that you provided is invaluable and informs our overall community safety strategy.

Community safety is my top priority. I want nothing more than to create a city where everyone lives in peace and prosperity. Sitting at the table with you to hear your stories and insights is a critical component in building that city. With all of you working alongside us as partners, we can truly make a positive impact that ripples across Chicago.

The City's work to reduce violence is well underway and comprehensive. I am taking a three-pronged approach to violence that focuses on guns, gangs, and investing in our neighborhoods.

The Chicago Police Department works day in and day out with County, State, and Federal agencies to seize the flow of illegal guns and hold those who wield them accountable. We recognize the particularly dangerous role of criminal enterprises in our communities and understand that investments in law enforcement alone will not disrupt the violence impacting our city.

We must approach community safety holistically and address the underlying root causes. For this reason, I launched the Community Safety Coordination Center (CSCC) to lead a coordinated approach to confronting the root causes of violence, including poverty, trauma, neglect, and disinvestment.

In close coordination with all City departments and agencies, my administration has made unprecedented investments in the lives and livelihoods of residents to breathe new life into our communities. This year, we committed \$1.2 billion of our budget to create thriving and safe communities while bolstering an equitable economy. These efforts and strategies supplement one another, and over time will realize our shared vision of a safer city.

I thank you for attending our town halls and expressing your profound commitment to our city. I stand ready to work with you to ensure every resident of every ZIP code has the quality of life they expect and deserve.

Sincerely,



Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

TOWN HALL PROCESS

The Mayor's Office of Community Engagement in collaboration with the Community Safety Coordination Center (CSCC) hosted six Community Safety Town Halls to create an opportunity for an open dialogue between City officials and community residents to both share our current public safety strategy and hear ideas, suggestions, and concerns directly from community members.

While they were called town halls, these convenings were primarily facilitated as group discussion. At arrival, guests were randomly assigned to tables to create an opportunity for community members who may not know each other to work together and share opinions and ideas for making the community safer. In addition to taking a survey, we asked attendees at each table to work together and create a list of five programs, policies, or investments to promote public safety in our communities.

Residents were encouraged to attend any or all of the town halls; however, the events were grouped by five geographic regions with a special town hall dedicated to hearing from Chicago's youth ages 14-24.

Six Town Halls

WEST SIDE

Saturday, March 19, 2022
Garfield Park Gold Dome Field House

SOUTH SIDE

Wednesday, March 23, 2022
Chicago State University

CITY CENTER

Saturday, April 2, 2022
Harold Washington Library

YOUTH TOWN HALL

Saturday, April 2, 2022
Harold Washington Library

SOUTHWEST SIDE

Monday, April 4, 2022
Richard J. Daley College

NORTH AND NORTHWEST SIDE

Tuesday, April 5, 2022
Harry S. Truman College

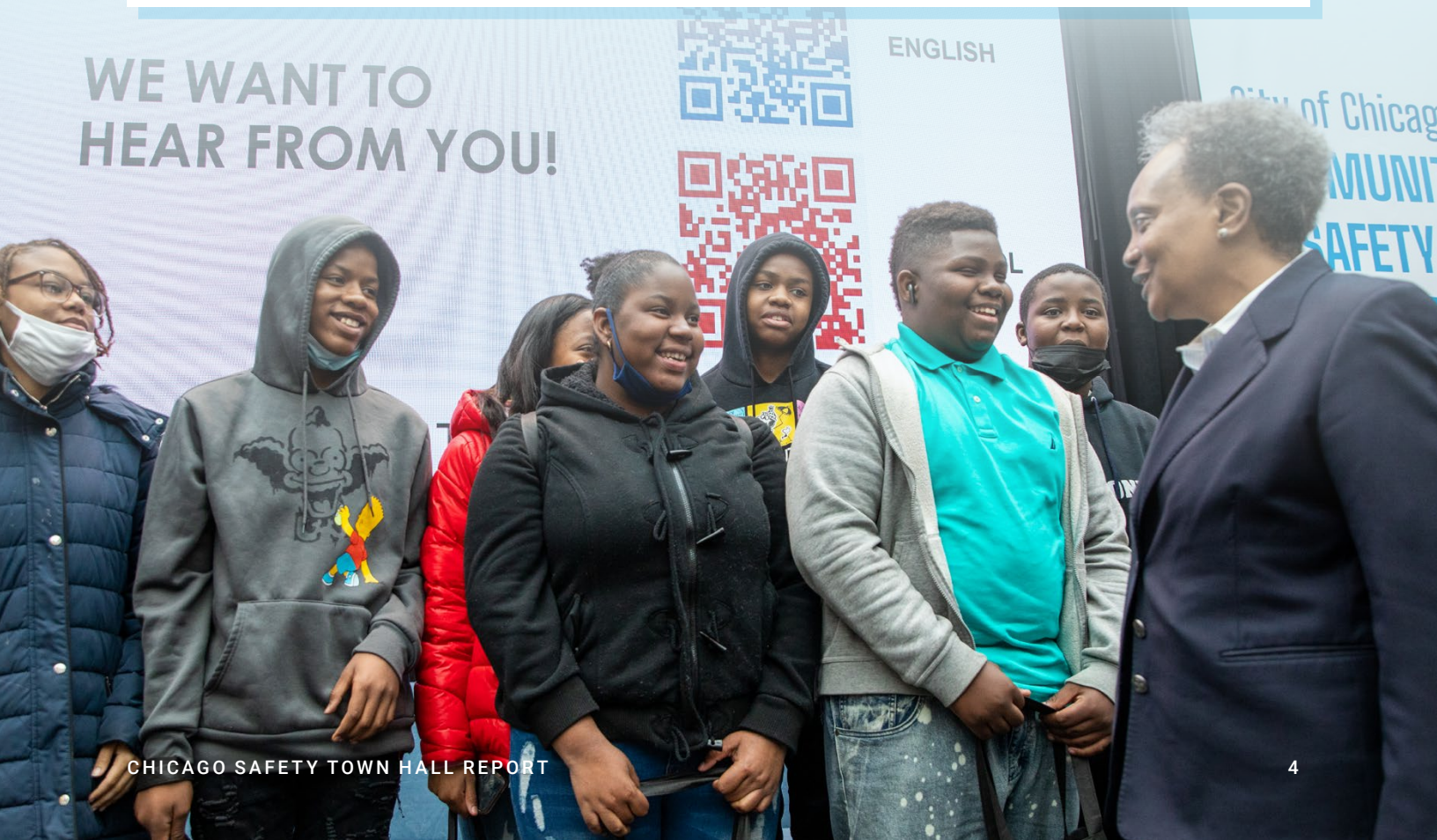
GOALS

The town halls had three main goals:

1 Create space for thought partnership between the City and the community on how to promote public safety and solve the most pressing issue of our time — gun violence.

2 Listen to community members and answer questions. This process provided valuable insights into the needs of their areas of the city, which are reflected in this report.

3 Share information on community resources and investments residents can access as we continue to work to address the root cause of the violence.



ATTENDEES

We welcomed nearly 1,000 community members across all six town halls.

Hosted by Mayor Lightfoot and moderated by Martina Hone, Chief Engagement Officer of the Mayor's Office of Community Engagement, City leadership from across departments and Sister Agencies participated in the town halls, including:



COMMISSIONER ALLISON ARWADY

Chicago Department of Public Health



SUPERINTENDENT DAVID BROWN

Chicago Police Department



COMMISSIONER CHRIS BROWN

Chicago Public Libraries



CEO PEDRO MARTINEZ

Chicago Public Schools



**CHIEF COORDINATION OFFICER
TAMARA MAHAL**

Community Safety Coordination Center



COMMISSIONER BRANDIE KNAZZE

Department of Family and Support Services



COMMISSIONER KEN MEYER

Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection



SYBIL MADISON

Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Additional leadership in attendance included:



COMMISSIONER GIA BIAGI

Chicago Department of Transportation



CHANCELLOR JUAN SALGADO

City Colleges of Chicago



COO PAUL GOODRICH

City of Chicago



COMMISSIONER COLE STALLARD

Department of Streets and Sanitation



DEPUTY MAYOR JOHN O'MALLEY

Mayor's Office, Public Safety

KEY TAKEAWAYS



CHICAGO

City of Chicago
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Questions and Answers

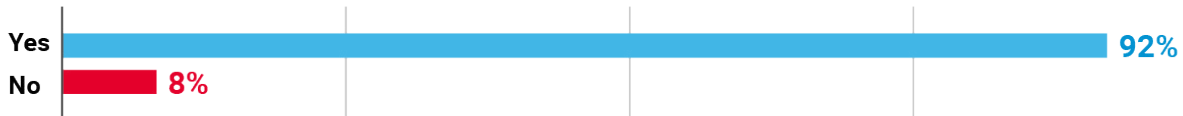
me my whole team is in the back. At a table.
Please stop my. Our

CHICAGO

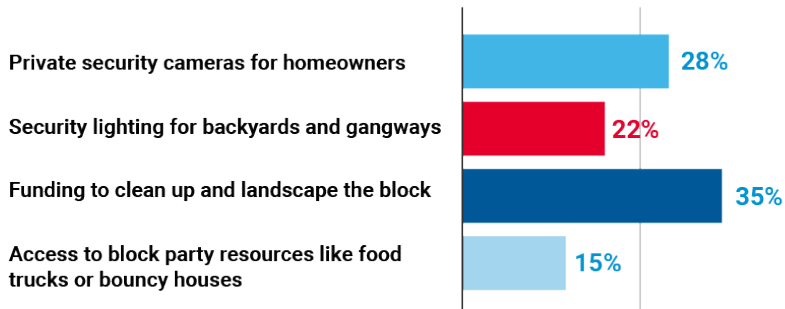
SURVEY RESULTS

During the town halls, community members were asked to fill out a brief survey and then work together to come up with their top five ideas to increase public safety. Below are the key takeaways from the survey and worksheets shared during the event, broken down by town hall.

1. Community members are often the best source of information regarding ongoing conflicts within their communities. **If there was a citywide community safety helpline that was staffed by community violence prevention organizations that you could call to assist or intervene in community conflicts, would you use it?**



2. Strong relationships between neighbors are key to preventing violence. **If you had to pick one resource the City could provide that would encourage you to get more involved on your block, what would it be?**



3. Video footage plays a key role in modern day policing, providing visual evidence of a crime being perpetrated. The Chicago Police Department often asks residents if they have video footage of a crime taking place to use in their case investigations. **If a website was available and you owned a doorbell or security camera, would you complete an online form with the location of your camera so they may request footage if a crime occurs outside your home or business?**



WEST SIDE

The West Side Community Safety Town Hall included participants with many similar concerns and a shared energy to serve their community. A majority of West Side attendees indicated a high need for the City to address the systemic disinvestment and blight on the West Side through community funding and development, while also prioritizing youth program opportunities.

Additionally, many expressed deep concerns about crime, gun violence, and drugs in their communities. While some participants stated that police budgets are inflated and should be reduced due to lack of effectiveness, many others expressed a need for the Chicago Police Department to develop deeper relationships with the community by improving policing strategies, decreasing response times, and building trust with neighbors.

Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Beautify the community and address blight
- ★ Make investments in mental health
- ★ Create community development
- ★ Increase funding for local organizations
- ★ Provide programming for youth
- ★ Increase access to workforce development and jobs
- ★ Increase police presence and improve strategies
- ★ Provide housing for vulnerable communities
- ★ Work with the community to address gun violence and drug dealing
- ★ Provide more early childhood programming
- ★ Ensure law enforcement transparency
- ★ Support parents and also hold them accountable

SOUTH SIDE

The South Side Community Safety Town Hall was attended by many residents who expressed a desire to better support youth through programming and employment opportunities. Members of the South Side community also largely agreed that they wanted investments to beautify their communities and were looking forward to more communication and collaboration among their neighbors.

South Side residents expressed frustration around inadequate policing – wanting to see more effective strategies and the securing of safe public spaces while also hoping to see an improvement to community and police relations. Overall, South Side community participants expressed a desire to have their neighbors supported by City initiatives focused on mental health, employment preparedness, and homeowner support that will keep people in their homes and support homebuyers from the neighborhood. Lastly, residents called for more grocery stores to come to the South Side, as well as support for small businesses and organizations to grow and increase their capacity.

Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Create more opportunities for and investment in youth
- ★ Improve community and police relations
- ★ Address blight and increase community beautification
- ★ Develop more effective policing strategies
- ★ Improve coordination and cooperation among community members
- ★ Support growth of small businesses and organizations
- ★ Provide job opportunities and training/education for adults
- ★ Make investments in mental health
- ★ Build closer relationship between City and communities
- ★ Increase safety of public spaces
- ★ Bring more grocery stores
- ★ Support home ownership

CITY CENTER

Residents from the city center, including the Near North, South Loop, and West Loop, voiced support for additional youth programming, such as life preparedness courses (i.e., financial literacy) at Chicago Public Schools. Attendees asked for increased funding and resources in their community and want to identify ways for residents to respond to and protect each other from crime.

Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Provide programs for youth, after-school programs, job support
- ★ Provide life preparedness programs for kids in school
- ★ Increase investments in long-term violence prevention plans
- ★ Create a method for the community to respond to violence (phone trees, an app, etc.)
- ★ Improve ways for the community to engage directly with City
- ★ Increase mental health resources
- ★ Create a strategy for folks to come back out to community post-COVID
- ★ Identify resources for returning residents
- ★ Improve police response times
- ★ Increase access to affordable housing

YOUTH

The Youth Community Safety Town Hall was attended by both youth (ages 14-24) and youth service providers who are deeply concerned with the impact of violence on youth's experiences and development. During the town hall, they advocated strongly for more resources for youth. They also called to increase the number of safe spaces in neighborhoods in which youth and other community members can congregate.

To accomplish this, youth participants prioritized strategies such as removing guns from the street, improving our parks, hosting more community events, reducing blight, and supporting more collaboration within communities. Attendees also discussed the need for increased mental health support – investing in more mental health facilities and increasing the number of mental health professionals in schools.

The group went on to advocate for better relationships with police and shared a variety of ways to accomplish this – increased transparency, accountability, and community involvement. They want not only a better relationship with the police, but also a better relationship with the City as a whole. Other ways to promote community safety that arose in the conversations were finding ways to intervene with social media posts that spur violence, improving the prevalence of public transit in neighborhoods with high levels of violence and working against poverty by supporting jobs, improving education, and providing financial incentives. Lastly, some of our participants emphasized ideas around how we can better allocate spending on the police budget and instead support early childhood education.

Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Add programming for youth (mentoring, sports, employment, etc.)
- ★ Create safe community spaces
- ★ Remove guns from the street
- ★ Provide mental health supports in schools and community
- ★ Increase community collaboration
- ★ Improve parks
- ★ Increase school funding
- ★ Establish more community events
- ★ Beautify neighborhoods and reduce blight
- ★ Develop better relationships with police and create more police accountability
- ★ Build trust and relationships with City
- ★ Intervene on social media interactions that could lead to violence
- ★ Combat poverty with jobs, education, and financial incentives
- ★ Improve public transit
- ★ Increase focus on early childhood
- ★ Reallocate police budget

SOUTHWEST SIDE

The Southwest Side Community Safety Town Hall brought together individuals with a wide range of concerns and with the desire to work with the City to address violence. People in this region were most interested in improving police strategies to increase safety. For example, neighbors wanted to know what was being done to tackle gang violence, carjackings, and police response times.

Equally important, participants want the City to make investments in youth and economic development to ensure that root causes of violence are addressed and community members can feel safe in their neighborhood.

Many participants identified a need for the City to come up with new solutions while enhancing the current systems such as lighting and cameras.

Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Invest in community development
- ★ Provide more programs and supports for youth
- ★ Increase community collaboration
- ★ Invest in infrastructure improvements and new infrastructure that will result in improved safety outcomes
- ★ Improve police strategies
- ★ Further coordinate and engage with local residents to be stewards in their communities
- ★ Invest in mental health supports and clinics
- ★ Improve police relationships with the community
- ★ Call for parent accountability
- ★ Improve the safety of public spaces and extend hours people can access them
- ★ Address environmental concerns that are disproportionately harming communities of color

NORTH & NORTHWEST SIDE

North Side and Northwest Side Community Safety Town Hall attendees expressed interest in increasing police presence and supporting a strong police force — this includes increasing beat officers and ensuring those police roles are filled. There was a strong interest in using substantive City resources to support youth and parents.

Attendees also referenced specific concerns to safety on the CTA, gun violence, drugs, and access to housing. There were many comments about repeat offenders and the need to hold them accountable while providing opportunities to support offenders who want to get back on track.

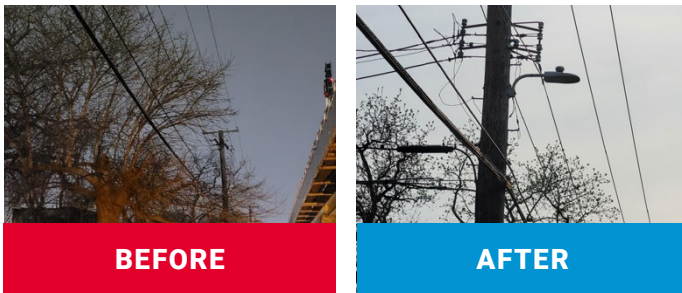
Community Priorities and Ideas

- ★ Increase police presence, including beat cops and response times
- ★ Provide programs that support youth in school and after school along with parent support
- ★ Invest in mental health care services
- ★ Address the growing gun problems
- ★ Improve relationship with police and community
- ★ Create a plan to address crime and homelessness on the CTA
- ★ Hold repeat offenders accountable but also provide opportunities for returning residents
- ★ Address carjackings
- ★ Create jobs with living wages

EXAMPLES OF REQUESTS FOR CITY SERVICES

Lighting at 63rd and Ashland

Residents said poor lighting around the CTA's Ashland/63rd Green Line station was contributing to higher crime and an unsafe environment. To alleviate this, we installed 14 new high-powered lights that run along several blocks near the station. The result: A more well-lit area and a safer environment for everyone.



Vacant lot on the West Side

West Side residents said a nearby vacant lot was being used as an illegal dumpsite and contributing to community blight. We sent in City crews to cut the rampant weeds, remove dead trees, and tow abandoned vehicles. We also identified that high rates of violence in the area could have a negative effect on local children, so we brought a mobile mental health support unit to offer counseling to youth in the area. The effort combined public safety, infrastructure, and social services, illustrating our holistic approach to City improvement.



Get the Chi 311 App

The free CHI 311 mobile app is available for both iOS and Android devices and may be downloaded in the Apple App Store or Google Play. With the new CHI 311 website and mobile app, you can:

- ★ Create new service requests
- ★ Check the status of existing requests and the time it will take to resolve
- ★ Snap a photo and submit it with a request to improve accuracy
- ★ Map requests to help pinpoint a location
- ★ Create an account to track service requests and get local, relevant information
- ★ Provide feedback upon completion
- ★ Find helpful knowledge articles
- ★ Search for other requests in your neighborhood



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

particularly here on the west side is we have got to root out poverty and we do that by bringing

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SAFETY
TOWN HALL
CHICAGO

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Attendees wrote questions on cards at the event and shared them with City leaders. While there was not enough time to answer all questions at the event, this report shares the commonly asked questions at each town hall with corresponding answers. Below is a breakdown of the most commonly asked questions at all six town halls, broken down by topic, geographic location, and how many times they were asked.

QUESTION CATEGORIES	WEST	SOUTH	CITY CENTER	YOUTH	SOUTHWEST	NORTH/NORTHWEST	TOTALS:
Police Strategy/Parent Responsibility	15	15	3	7	7	14	61
Youth/School Investments	10	9	1	25	8	3	56
Police Budget & Reform	5	4		16	1	14	40
Community Development	8	13		1	3	5	30
Blight	1	6		10	5	3	25
Community Collaboration	5	4	1	3		4	17
Guns	2	7		5	1	1	16
Violence Prevention & Funding		5		4	6		15
Mental Health	4	4		4			12
Drugs	8	1		2			11
Homelessness	2	1		2	2	1	8
CBO/Small Business Funding	5	2				1	8
Ambiguous	2	1		5			8
Returning Citizens	1	2		1	1	1	6
Budget & Investments				1		5	6
CTA Safety			1	1		3	5
Jobs & Professional Readiness		3			1	1	5
Gender-Based Violence		1		1	1	2	5
Critique of Process	1		1	1		1	4
Root Cause & Reparations	1	1	1			1	4
Traffic Safety	3						3
School Safety				2		1	3
Infrastructure					3		3
Housing		1				1	2
Business Safety						2	2
COVID & Vaccines				1		1	2
Victims' Memorial		1		1			2
Climate Change		1					1
Totals:	73	82	8	93	39	65	360

WEST SIDE

Community Support

Can residents/nonprofits have access to vacant lots to create community spaces?

- ★ Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is launching new land sale procedures this fall that will facilitate the purchase and repurposing of vacant City lots.
-

How can we develop the West Side without property taxes going up and people being displaced?

- ★ Department of Housing (DOH) is committed to ensuring that existing residents are able to remain in their homes and benefit from development in their neighborhood of choice. For example, in response to concerns of displacement by the Obama Presidential Center, the department worked with the community to draft the Woodlawn Housing Preservation Ordinance with the goals of helping protect existing residents from displacement and creating new rental and for-sale housing opportunities that are affordable to households at a range of incomes, in addition to other goals.
 - ★ We also operate programs like City Lots for Working Families, which provides vacant, City-owned lots to developers of affordable single-family homes and two flats for \$1 each. In North Lawndale, we are providing 250 City-owned lots for \$1 each to the Reclaiming Chicago Communities campaign, which will build affordable single-family homes. These programs and initiatives are tailored to each community and we will continue our commitment to ensuring access and choice of affordable housing in developing neighborhoods.
-

How are we ensuring that resources are properly invested in the West Side – for example, more grocery stores, access to community services, etc.?

- ★ DPD allocates public resources for community improvement projects through a variety of community-driven methods, including Tax Increment Financing, the Neighborhood Opportunity Fund, the Chicago Recovery Plan, and other financial resources. All public investments are evaluated and monitored for compliance to ensure resources are equitably allocated for the intended purposes.
- ★ For example, in 2021, Aldi announced that they were closing their 3835 W. Madison Street location with little notice. In response, DPD sought and required acquisition authority to purchase the site, demonstrating that the City is not only committed to maintaining the short-term tenancy of the site, but also the long-term economic development of the Madison Street commercial corridor. By taking control of the site, the City can ensure that local voices stay at the center of the process for how City resources will be deployed in their community.

WEST SIDE

How is the City working to bring out the best in all of our neighbors? We need to invest in the people.

- ★ DPD provides workforce development grants for employee training and also provides grants for businesses that hire from local neighborhoods. Major construction projects are also monitored for local hiring and M/WBE participation.
- ★ Throughout the summer, the city will be hosting the Summer Kickback Series to connect Chicago's youth with safe and engaging spaces throughout 15 communities across the south and west sides. These weekly teen hangouts will happen every Friday from 5-8PM and include various activities, games, food, and more. Learn more: chicagoparkdistrict.com/summer-kickback.
- ★ The city also participates in the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership – the largest publicly-funded workforce development system in the nation, serving Chicago and Cook County. Residents can use it as a resource for job opportunities and free occupational training. Visit chicookworks.org to learn more or text “careers” to 474747 to be added to text alerts.

How can my program/organization receive funding? Who decides who receives this funding?

- ★ The Chicago Recovery Plan is providing multiple opportunities to receive grant funding for community-oriented improvements. Applications are subject to a City review and approval process. You can learn more here: chicago.gov/city/en/sites/chicago-recovery-plan.

Why do we continue to increase police budgets when crime rates are not decreasing and we aren't seeing this as a strategy that is deterring crime?

- ★ Well over 90% of CPD's budget is allocated to personnel/payroll. Cutting CPD's budget would result in fewer officers on the streets, and would specifically reduce the amount of younger and more diverse officers, as they on average have fewer years on the job.

Youth & Schools

What is being done to empower youth on the West Side to see they have options for success?

- ★ DFSS Youth Services Division provides positive programs offered citywide for any youth in any community area to participate in – and all of these programs are expanding to serve even more young people. This summer, we are thrilled to have over 15,000 paid opportunities available for youth ages 14 to 24 through One Summer Chicago. Similarly, other popular youth programming like The Chicago Youth Service Corps and the Summer Kickback Series will now provide opportunity to youth year-round. Thanks to Mayor Lightfoot's \$24.2 million investment in youth programming, these opportunities will further provide increased wages of \$15 an hour. You can visit onesummerchicago.org or explore.mychimyfuture.org to learn more.
- ★ The One Summer Chicago job applications are still open at www.onesummerchicago.org and the Chicago Park District is hiring at www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/jobs. Youth can learn about other out-of-school experiences by downloading the My CHI. My Future. app [here](#).

WEST SIDE

- ★ CPS partners with many community organizations to provide youth services. The comprehensive and intense [Choose to Change program](#) pairs students with advocates who provide intense daily support.
- ★ Supporting our city's youth is the cornerstone of the Chicago Park District's mission. From early childhood programs to teen clubs and camps, parks provide endless opportunities for young people to discover, engage, and grow through recreation.
- ★ Chicago Public Library (CPL) offers the YOUmedia initiative to engage young people in arts and cultural activities. Legler Regional Library is available for youth and offers a new computer lab for classes and a Maker Lab, along with the first-ever Artist-in-Residence, to provide art-related programming on West Side for the next two years. Teen services staff has been added to multiple library locations on the West Side, along with YOUmedia mentors. CPL's Summer Teen Challenge Initiative, along with summer jobs and a junior volunteer program, is available to youth on the West Side. We also focus page hiring to bring in more staff from the neighborhood being served.

How are we addressing youth homicides?

- ★ Our most important strategy is to keep our young people in school, where they are safest and where they can get their education to achieve a promising future. CPS has implemented progressive policies that work to mitigate the school-to-prison pipeline to help keep children in the classroom. CPS is a part of a larger ecosystem that works with community members and stakeholders to address this concern. Initiatives such as Safe Passage help to employ community residents to support students as they travel to and from school safely.
- ★ Chicago Public Schools has made significant progress in improving the outcomes for all students across the City of Chicago. Unfortunately, the recent closing of in-person learning caused by the pandemic has set back these efforts, resulting in high levels of students becoming disconnected from their school communities. CPS and the City are responding to this need with an unprecedented 9–12-month programmatic solution called “Back to Our Future”. This high-need intervention program will seek to connect with 1000 school-aged youth (14–19 years old) who have not been enrolled or are inactive in school for 18+ months or more. Participants will be offered wraparound supports to support academic achievement while also engaging them with a paid work experience.
- ★ Violence prevention is a multi-faceted effort that seeks to identify and address root causes. In partnership with other City of Chicago agencies, CPS works to identify and engage young people from highest-risk situations to offer programming such as Choose to Change and youth employment.

What is being done to invest in community resources and hubs for youth and families?

- ★ There is a library in every community that provides free access to information, programs, resources, books, and other learning tools. CPL continually enhances our YOUmedia and children spaces, and CPL will add a \$2M investment in children and juvenile books and resources. All libraries offer children and teen programs. Visit CPL's website to learn more at chipublib.org.

WEST SIDE

- ★ DFSS Youth Services Division provides positive programs offered citywide for any youth in any community area to participate in – and all of these programs are expanding to serve even more young people.
- ★ Rolling Rec brings fun, enriching activities to unstaffed parks throughout the summer months. The RR van, stocked with arts and crafts materials, games, and sports equipment, pulls up at its scheduled location and brings the fun. All residents have to do is show up! Rolling Rec will start July 5th.
- ★ In addition to thousands of programs and other opportunities offered in our parks throughout the year, the District will launch its 10th Night Out in the Park series, bringing more than 750 cultural events to neighborhood parks across the city. Night Out events include movies, dances, and world-class music and theatrical performance for residents.

Mental Health

Will there be additional mental health resources? Can we work with churches to bring these resources to the community?

- ★ The CDPH Mental Health team is building a network of Trauma-Informed Centers of Care to expand behavioral health services in Chicago's 77 communities, including extended evening hours and increased psychiatric and children & adolescent services in CDPH's 5 City-run mental health centers. The team is actively working on adding more resources to the resource finder on the Unspoken mental health awareness campaign. You can find your neighborhood mental health care center here: mentalhealth.chicago.gov
- ★ As part of the City's healing-centered approach to trauma, the City hosts health skill-building trainings and convenings to provide resources and help traditional and nontraditional healers such as community and faith leaders implement trauma-informed approaches in their work.

Policing Strategies

What is being done to improve police response times in this district?

- ★ We are constantly monitoring and adjusting resources across the city to ensure the appropriate staffing is in place to best serve our residents and maintain public safety in every neighborhood.

There are instances of loitering that lead to violence across the region. What are the police doing to ensure those who live in these areas are safe?

- ★ CPD is enhancing public safety through visibility, engagement, and collaboration with community and law enforcement partners. We are working together to ensure each community and neighborhood has sufficient resources in place to prevent violence.

How is lack of trust of CPD within the community being addressed?

- ★ CPD's Office of Constitutional Policing and Reform is working to implement transformative reforms that touch every corner of the department. These reforms are aimed at building and strengthening trust in our communities. A large part of this effort is also ensuring we are working alongside our residents to address their needs and implement policies and practices that include their input.

What is being done to address the drug dealing and open drug market? Why is this allowed in our communities?

- ★ The CSCC is collaborating with Community Policing officers to identify issues contributing to violence in the top 5% most violent areas within the 15 communities identified in *Our City, Our Safety*. We also realize the connections between city services, infrastructure, and crime, so we are also working with relevant City departments to improve the built environment and create safe spaces on 659 Census blocks in these areas.
- ★ For example, a recent takedown by law enforcement in West Garfield Park resulted in the arrests of 31 narcotics and illegal cannabis dealers that made up the open-air drug market on the Jackson and Pulaski Corridor. CPD worked side by side with the Department of Homeland Security Investigations. The Department made more than 30 arrests and successfully shut down a hot spot for gang activity and illicit drug sales. The CSCC mobilized a coordinated response to ensure that the area is kept safe and residents needs were addressed. This included deployment mobile substance use disorder treatment, checking on all senior citizens in the area, street cleaning and debris removal, troubled buildings visits, and new activations to reclaim the corridor as safe space. CPD is continuing to work in the community to offer comprehensive support and services ranging from access to city services to treatment for substance use disorder. In addition to community outreach, including "Meet the Block" walks, the Department is also increasing foot patrols and conducting regular outdoor roll calls.

SOUTH SIDE

Community Support

How can small businesses and organizations get support from the City?

- ★ Small businesses and organizations are an important part of Chicago, and they can get support through multiple city programs including through the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) and the Department of Planning and Development (DPD).
- ★ Small businesses can get help starting, operating, and expanding through Neighborhood Business Development Centers and other small business support programs. They can also apply for funding to support community development projects through multiple DPD economic development initiatives such as the Small Business Improvement Fund (SBIF) in which small businesses can apply for grant funding for permanent building improvements and repairs and the Chicago Recovery Grants for Community Development, that go towards local commercial, mixed-use, and light manufacturing development. City staff will prioritize projects in areas of Chicago where there is a history of disinvestment or limited private investment.

What supports are there to help those doing good work become an official organization?

- ★ There is no official organization designation in the city. However, organizations can become “delegate agencies” if they receive funding from the city to assist in program delivery. Organizations must meet minimum requirements to be a delegate agency. For more information visit: www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dps/isupplier/online-training-materials.html

How can the City support community organizing like block clubs?

- ★ Partnering with community leaders is key to our success to create and implement equitable and efficient violence reduction programs. We are taking a holistic and community-driven approach that will help establish, maintain, and expand block clubs and neighborhood associations. In the coming months, the City’s Community Safety Coordination Center will be launching various efforts to ensure that residents have access to the tools needed to protect their homes and blocks, including coordination to make sure block clubs talk to each other, resources to help people build and expand block clubs, and pathways to ensure that the services that they need are being addressed from the infrastructure side.
- ★ This includes Community Action Kick-Offs taking place on the South Side – Block club and neighborhood association leaders will gather to discuss their successful strategies, get support for their needs by City services representatives on site, and learning more about how to access resources from the City.

SOUTH SIDE

How can we get more grocery stores and businesses in our neighborhoods?

- ★ DPD is in constant discussions with grocery store operators for new food-related stores citywide. DPD also helps new and expanding businesses with a variety of programs and incentives.
-

How can we increase and support home ownership?

- ★ DOH uses programs like City Lots for Working Families, which provides vacant, City-owned lots to developers of affordable single-family homes and two flats for \$1 each to promote affordable homeownership development. This program incentivizes home builders to purchase vacant, City-owned property to construct affordable housing and helps to repurpose vacant land, create local employment, and expand homeownership opportunities. DOH can work with developers to construct affordable homes on lots owned by the City. Learn more on DOH's website at www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/doh.html
-

What are ways to utilize vacant lots and buildings to do something positive in communities?

- ★ DPD allocates public resources for community improvement projects through a variety of community-driven methods, including Tax Increment Financing, the Neighborhood Opportunity Fund, the Chicago Recovery Plan, and other financial resources. All public investments are evaluated and monitored for compliance to ensure resources are equitably allocated for the intended purposes.

Police Strategies & Reform

How will police improve trust, involvement, and representation within communities?

- ★ CPD deeply understands how important it is for the police force to be reflective of the communities our officers serve. We've doubled down on our recruitment and retention efforts as we strive to continue diversifying the Department. We are also working to build trust in our communities through our reform efforts, with community partnership and involvement being woven into the foundation of our reform efforts.
-

What are strategies to ensure that violent areas are policed adequately and that target areas get the right attention?

- ★ CPD identified the top 55 police beats responsible for 50% of the City's violence. We want to ensure these communities hit hardest by violence have the policing resources they need as we work to improve public safety in every area across the city. Through strategic review and deployments, we have seen a 41% reduction in shootings and 29% reduction in homicides in these beats.
-

What can be done so that more crimes are actually solved?

- ★ The Bureau of Detectives is working around the clock to solve crimes and bring justice to victims and their families. We have added more detectives and increase the number of homicide detectives as we work to solve more crimes. We have also invested in smart policing technology like the Area Tech Centers, which will support these homicide and violence-crime investigations.

SOUTH SIDE

Why are police budgets increasing when they are not stopping crime? Community should be supported to police itself.

- ★ Law enforcement initiatives and violence prevention/intervention must complement one another. It cannot be one or the other, it must be both. Law enforcement is an important tool but policing alone can never bring the kind of safety and holistic approach that we as a city require and deserve. The Mayor and her administration understand the critical importance of non-law-enforcement-based responses to emergencies, particularly those related to mental health and substance abuse disorders. That is why the City has led the way on alternate and “co-response” programs such as the Crisis Assistance, Response, and Engagement pilot program (CARE Teams), as well as CPD/CDPH’s Narcotics Arrest Diversion Program (NADP). Both the CARE teams and the NADP program have already begun to yield incredible results.

Youth & Schools

Can we get more youth programs, youth jobs, and safe spaces for youth in our communities?

- ★ This summer, we are thrilled to have over 15,000 paid opportunities available for youth ages 14 to 24 through One Summer Chicago. Similarly, other popular youth programming like The Chicago Youth Service Corps and the Summer Kickback Series will now provide opportunity to youth year-round. Thanks to Mayor Lightfoot’s \$24.2 million investment in youth programming, these opportunities will further provide increased wages of \$15 an hour. Visit onesummerchicago.org or explore.mychimifuture.org to learn more.
- ★ The Chicago Park District has more than 250 park fieldhouses across the city that serves as safe spaces for our city’s youth. We also offer a menu of affordable programs that meet the specific needs and interests of each community. The Chicago Park District offers teen clubs across the city where teens meet regularly to engage with their peers. In the past few years, we have created ten teen lounges located within park fieldhouses. These teen-dedicated spaces offer wifi access, comfy chairs, video games, computers, and other activities. Teen lounges are currently available at these South Side parks: Archer, Carver, Hamilton, Robichaux, and Washington.
- ★ This summer we will offer Cultural, Leadership and Teen Camps for youth ages 13 to 15 at 13 locations throughout the South Side. Youth develop leadership skills, while having fun with engaging activities. Parks include Avalon, Brainerd, Carver, Gately, Tuley, Palmer, Sherwood, Hamilton Rainbow, and South Shore Cultural Center.
- ★ Since 2015, the Chicago Park District has hosted and coordinated Teens in the Park (TIP) Fest, where teens showcase their talents in a safe and celebratory environment. Auditions take place in various parks of the West and South of the city throughout the summer months. TIP Fest provides a platform for our up-and-coming youth to perform at a mainstream venue. YOUmedia is a dedicated safe space in libraries solely for teens to make music, learn graphic design, make art, and hang out with friends. Visit chipublib.org to learn more and find a location for you.

SOUTH SIDE

What is being done for our most vulnerable youth — those who are affected by homelessness and mental health issues, and require trauma services?

- ★ Students in temporary living situations (STLS) are prioritized for supports in every CPS school. We have invested in placing full-or part-time staff members at every school who are dedicated to enrolling students in our STLS program, where families are eligible for financial supports such as transportation, no-cost school uniforms and supplies, and access to technology for remote learning.
- ★ We have also partnered with the City of Chicago in its mini-grant process for disbursing \$500 to families for each STLS student enrolled in our schools. We have multiple initiatives to help students who have endured trauma, including plans to expand a Behavioral Health Team model at every school by 2023. We have tested this model in 200 schools to date in collaboration with Lurie Children’s Hospital and found great success.

Gun Safety

How can we enforce harsher penalties for gun crimes and work to keep guns out of our communities?

- ★ CPD launched the Gun Investigations Team in 2021 to investigate gun trafficking and hold accountable those responsible for bringing guns into Chicago. Our officers are also working to recover illegally possessed firearms from the streets of Chicago to prevent further violent incidents involving these guns. Last year, officers recovered more than 12,000 guns. So far this year, our officers have recovered 3,550 guns.

Employment & Professional Readiness

Can we invest in more education and job training opportunities for adults in our communities?

- ★ DFSS designates resources for workforce development initiatives to meet the unique needs of disadvantaged Chicago residents, including employment preparation and placement, industry-specific training, subsidized work experience, and four Community Re-Entry Support Centers that provide a central location where any Chicago resident who has served time for a felony conviction can receive the support services needed to transition back into their communities and the workforce.
- ★ To speak with a counselor, or to schedule an appointment at one of our Community Re-Entry Support Centers, contact 311 or the nearest facility directly. You can also enroll at any one of the DFSS partner agencies who provide these services. Go to cityofchicago.org/fss for a complete list or enroll online at risekit.com/dfss.

Returning Citizens

How are we going to provide more resources for returning citizens so we can utilize their potential to contribute positively to our communities?

- ★ The City has convened a multi-sector Returning Residents Working Group made up of community leaders, advocates, and residents with lived experience, to shape the City's policy and programmatic agenda around health care, workforce development, housing access, and how a municipal government can best support returning residents.
- ★ The "Roadmap for a Second Chance City" is the culmination of the recommendations made by the Returning Residents Working Group and serves as the cornerstone for the new Reentry Council's work. The report touches dozens of critically important topics, with a specific focus on recommendations for employment opportunities, health care, and housing, all of which will be utilized in the Council's work.

YOUTH

Youth & Schools

Can more money be invested in programming and safe spaces for youth?

- ★ Youth programming and providing safe park and recreation experiences for youth is one of the core values of the Chicago Park District. The District routinely works to develop new opportunities for youth throughout the city and to do so in an affordable manner. Families in need will have access to more than \$2.8 million in financial assistance in 2022, on top of the built-in discounts of our tiered pricing structure, which takes into account the socio-economic indicators of each community. As always, no child will be turned away from a program for an inability to pay.
 - ★ CPL works in partnership with the Chicago Public Library Foundation to dedicate resources annually to programs and services to continue to positively serve teens.
 - ★ DFSS Youth Services Division provides positive programs offered citywide for any youth in any community area to participate in – and all of these programs are expanding to serve even more young people.
-

What funding is available for youth organizations and programming?

- ★ CPS manages one of the largest community schools systems in the nation, known as the Community Schools Initiative (CSI).
 - ★ The Chicago Park District's 2022 budget allocates more than \$126 million in operating expenses toward recreation & programming, 65% of the District's staffing expense goes toward recreation and programming. The District has worked to grow programming in parks throughout the city and increase programs offered apart from school time, including Day Camp, Park Kids, and extended camp programs to reach and engage more youth. The District is also excited to return to play all of our youth sports leagues such as Inner City Hoops, Girls Fast Pitch Softball, and Junior Bears.
-

Why are schools losing funding?

- ★ This will be one of the most equitable CPS budgets in history, with resources aimed at keeping class sizes reasonable, increased access to PE and arts classes, and more intervenists, counselors, nurses, and social workers. The only adjustments being made are due to enrollment declines but overall 90% of our schools are seeing an increase in the amount of money we spend on each student. You can learn more here: [cps.edu/about/finance/budget/budget-2023](https://www.cps.edu/about/finance/budget/budget-2023).

YOUTH

What is being done to make schools more equitable?

- ★ Equity is a priority for every aspect of CPS academics and operations. At the macro level, we take equity into consideration when we fund schools and spend more per pupil to educate Black and LatinX students based on a higher level of needs. Many more initiatives are underway to increase opportunities for children in poverty and children of color.

Can we provide more jobs for youth?

- ★ Each summer, the Chicago Park District hires Chicago residents, ages 16 and older, for seasonal jobs including Recreation Leaders, Lifeguards, and Junior Laborers. This year, the District will fill 2,100 seasonal openings. These jobs provide great experience for those entering the workforce.
- ★ Most positions don't require previous experience or special skill and provide the invaluable rewards of civic engagement. All seasonal jobs pay a minimum of \$15/hour. For more information on summer jobs, check out the Chicago Park District Seasonal Jobs Flyer.
- ★ DFSS Youth Services Division provides positive programs offered citywide for any youth in any community area to participate in – and all of these programs are expanding to serve even more young people. This summer, we are thrilled to have over 15,000 paid opportunities available for youth ages 14 to 24 through One Summer Chicago. Similarly, other popular youth programming like The Chicago Youth Service Corps and the Summer Kickback Series will now provide opportunity to youth year-round. Thanks to Mayor Lightfoot's \$24.2 million investment in youth programming, these opportunities will further provide increased wages of \$15 an hour. You can visit onesummerchicago.org or explore.mychimyfuture.org to learn more.

Police Strategies & Reform

What is the plan to improve community and police relations?

- ★ CPD considers every officer to be a community policing officer. No matter what unit, our officers are expected to engage the residents they serve. We've launched programs like the Neighborhood Policing Initiative to build direct relationships in the community. Officers are also expected to be visible in their communities. This means not just showing up when something bad happens, but being in our neighborhoods every day.

Can money from the police budget be used to address root causes of violence?

- ★ Law enforcement initiatives and violence prevention/intervention must complement one another. It cannot be one or the other, it must be both. Law enforcement is an important tool but policing alone can never bring the kind of safety and holistic approach that we as a city require and deserve. The Mayor and her administration understand the critical importance of non-law-enforcement-based responses to emergencies, particularly those related to mental health and substance abuse disorders. That is why the City has led the way on alternate and “co-response” programs such as the Crisis Assistance, Response, and Engagement pilot program (CARE Teams), as well as CPD/CDPH's Narcotics Arrest Diversion Program (NADP). Both the CARE teams and the NADP program have already begun to yield incredible results.

How can we hold police more accountable?

- ★ The CPD is committed to constitutional and lawful policing. We have substantially increased compliance with consent decree requirements, which focus on implementing policies and practices aimed at building and strengthening trust within every community across the City. This includes enhanced accountability structures to identify and prevent officer misconduct.

Why were charges not brought against Officer Evan Solano for the killing of Anthony Alvarez?

- ★ These investigations are led by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) with full cooperation from CPD. COPA is an independent investigative entity that investigates all officer-involved shootings involving CPD. Questions about the Cook County State's Attorney's decision not to bring criminal charges should be directed to the CCSAO.

Community Support

What investments are being made in communities with high levels of violence to make them more attractive and safer so that people will take pride in where they live?

- ★ The Chicago Recovery Plan will make \$1.2B in new investments in Chicago's residents and their futures, including nearly \$800M to support thriving and safe communities and \$450M to drive equitable economic recovery. These investments include, amongst other investments, multiple programs to support safe and affordable housing, neighborhood corridors and parks, small businesses and workers, and arts and culture.
- ★ This work builds upon INVEST South/West – an unprecedented South/West is an unprecedented community development initiative to marshal the resources of multiple City departments, community organizations, and corporate and philanthropic partners toward 12 commercial corridors within 10 South and West Side community areas.
- ★ Through this collaboration, the City has aligned more than \$1.4 billion in public and private investment. The initiative is providing support for small businesses, creating public realm improvements, restoring historic buildings, and fostering equity and resilience where it's needed most.

Can we use assets like vacant buildings and schools to do community programming, stand up shelters, etc.?

- ★ Vacant buildings and schools can potentially be used for community programming, pending specifics involving their ownership, condition, and proposed programmatic uses. People with ideas to reuse vacant buildings should reach out to their owners. City-owned buildings are maintained by the City's Department of Assets, Information and Services. Schools are typically owned by Chicago Public Schools. Privately owned buildings can potentially be used through the consent of their owners or managers.

YOUTH

- ★ Per CPS, the closed school buildings would need to be assessed for work that needs to be completed in order to make them operable. Some buildings require extensive work upwards of millions of dollars; however, they can be used if the work is completed prior to occupancy to ensure safety, accessibility, and usability.

Public Health & Safety

What are we doing about the prevalence of guns in certain communities and how do we keep guns out of the hands of our youth?

- ★ CPD launched the Gun Investigations Team in 2021 to investigate gun trafficking and hold accountable those responsible for bringing guns into Chicago. Our officers are also working to recover illegally possessed firearms from the streets of Chicago to prevent further violent incidents involving these guns. Last year, officers recovered more than 12,000 guns. So far this year, our officers have recovered 3,550 guns. It's also important to CPD that we prevent our youth from engaging in criminal activity. To do this, we need to engage our youth through programs like the Police Athletic and Arts League and Cops & Chess.

How can organizations doing violence prevention work get funding?

- ★ The city has devoted significant percentages of its ARPA dollars to programs designed to address the root causes of violence. These funds will be distributed through grants and other contracting opportunities. The list of funding opportunities can be found on the Chicago Recovery website at [Chicago.gov/recoveryplan](https://chicago.gov/recoveryplan). In addition, you can sign up for periodic emails at ARPAreadiness@cityofchicago.org.

Can we have more mental health resources and facilities in our neighborhoods?

- ★ The CDPH Mental Health team is building a network of Trauma-Informed Centers of Care to expand behavioral health services in Chicago's 77 communities, including extended evening hours and increased psychiatric and children & adolescent services in CDPH's 5 City-run mental health centers. The team is actively working on adding more resources to the resource finder on the Unspoken mental health awareness campaign.

City Collaboration

What can we do to increase collaboration between City and community entities so that we are aware of and can contribute to each other's work?

- ★ Chicagoans who are interested in collaborating with the City and community entities are encouraged to engage with CPD at beat meetings, talk to their aldermen, or look for engagement opportunities provided by the CSCC across the 15 focus communities.

CITY CENTER

Public Safety

How are you addressing safety on CTA?

- ★ The safety and security of public transit riders is the top priority for both the CTA and the Chicago Police Department, which provides law enforcement for CTA. That commitment has never wavered, and is stronger than ever. Though crime is about half of the pre-pandemic levels, to address a recent uptick in crime incidents both CPD and CTA have increased resources related to crime prevention. In March, CPD announced more strategic deployment of officers from its Counterterrorism Unit, focused on gangs and narcotics. The CTA doubled the number of unarmed CTA security guards, as a complement to CPD officers. Guards are tasked with educating and informing riders of CTA's Rules of Conduct, are trained in de-escalation techniques, and are an added layer of trained eyes/ears out on the system for addressing incidents and reporting to police when needed.

City Collaboration

How can we better engage with CPD?

- ★ CPD considers every officer to be a community policing officer. No matter what unit, our officers are expected to engage the residents they serve. We've launched programs like the Neighborhood Policing Initiative to build direct relationships in the community. Officers are also expected to be visible in their communities. This means not just showing up when something bad happens, but being in our neighborhoods every day.

SOUTHWEST SIDE

Community Development

There is a high concentration of industry on the Southwest Side that is leading to severe truck traffic and pollution. How can we ensure certain communities are not overburdened?

- ★ The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) developed a Strategic Plan for Transportation in 2021 to work with and empower our communities. One goal directly addressing truck traffic was to mitigate community impacts of movement of freight through Chicago by improving safety and efficiency. To reach that goal we have established a citywide truck route network, developed a comprehensive CDOT freight plan, convened a working group of public and private freight stakeholders with regular meetings, and more.

Neighborhood Development

Why can't we use abandoned public buildings and lots for programming and community centers? Why are they underutilized?

- ★ Vacant buildings and schools can potentially be used for community programming, pending specifics involving their ownership, condition, and proposed programmatic uses. People with ideas to reuse vacant buildings should reach out to their owners. City-owned buildings are maintained by the City's Department of Assets, Information and Services. Privately owned buildings can potentially be used through the consent of their owners or managers.

Do we need to report abandoned buildings/vehicles and potholes in order for the city to address it? How?

- ★ The City is working to proactively address these issues, but we always need the support of the community to help us identify where services are needed. We strongly encourage Chicagoans to submit a request via 311.

Violence Prevention

How can small organizations get money upfront to lead violence prevention work?

- ★ The City of Chicago will be putting out seed grants but there will be other funding opportunities through the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

SOUTHWEST SIDE

What kind of programs and grants are being invested in communities to combat violence such as gang violence?

- ★ The City is funding street outreach teams that work in our communities experiencing the highest rates of violence to negotiate peace agreements and provide supportive services for those who want to get out of gangs. We have allocated historic levels of public funding to grow our street outreach infrastructure and to fund victim service teams for the first time in our city's history. Mayor Lightfoot has increased funding for direct violence intervention more than 10x since she came into office. The total investment for direct violence intervention was \$2 million in 2019 compared to \$25 million in 2022.
 - ★ Because we also understand that more opportunity is needed for youth and adults so they don't have to choose that pathway, the City is investing in more education and job training opportunities. Some examples of these efforts include: Choose to Change (C2C), You Are Not Alone (YANA), and One Summer Chicago.
-

Will there be added lights in alleys and side streets to stop violence?

- ★ To ensure that Chicagoans have access to the tools needed to protect their property, the City of Chicago will soon launch a Home and Business Protection Rebate program that will provide rebates up to certain limits to cover the costs of outdoor security cameras, one year of cloud storage for video footage, outdoor motion sensor lighting, and vehicle GPS trackers. Additional details on eligibility and reimbursement will become available when the program launches.
-

What is the City's strategy to keep communities safe and address violence?

- ★ The City is implementing a public health approach that acknowledges that we have systemic policies and reforms need to occur. We're investing in infrastructure to address community blight, expand access to mental health care to address community-level trauma, and provide programming and supports that people need to stay safe like housing and food security. We're increasing funding for critical violence prevention programs like victim services to ensure that the thousands of people in the city impacted by violence have the supportive services they need to recover. The City is also investing in the development of antiviolence marketing campaigns to change behavior and increase individual and collective responsibility for violence.

Youth & Schools

Can more be invested in year-round programs for youth like arts programming, STEM, jobs, etc.?

- ★ CPS continues to look to expand programming and pathways for youth. Our Career Launch program, for example, is giving high school seniors real-world experience in apprenticeships during the last few months of their senior year. Chicago Public Library is working with the Department of Cultural Affairs to bring more art, music, theater, and dance to every neighborhood this year and next year. Visit CPL's website to learn more about their offerings for teens: www.chipublib.org/youmedia-teens/

Can we integrate courses in schools to teach children consequences of crime and values/principles?

- ★ Many of our social studies courses, particularly our civic life work, touch on both positive civic values and contributions as well as the ravages of poverty and crime. Parks are a hub for cultural programming. There are 15 designated Cultural Centers in parks across the city where families can access an array of cultural programming. The District also works with Arts Partners to expand cultural offerings in these locations.
- ★ In addition to thousands of programs and other opportunities offered in our parks throughout the year, the District will launch its 10th Night Out in the Park series, bringing more than 750 cultural events to neighborhood parks across the city. Night Out events include movies, dances, and world-class music and theatrical performance for residents.
- ★ Other youth/teen opportunities include:
 - TRACE (Teens Re-imagining Arts Community & Environment) is a job readiness and civic leadership program that cultivates creative activism in youth (ages 14-19). Based in the Englewood and Austin communities, TRACE uses curatorial practices to commission teens as artists re-imagining their roles as cultural producers and community builders, and youth receive honoraria for their work.
 - Queering the Parks is a youth-led initiative that creates uncontested public space by and for BIPOC & LGBTQIA+ youth ages 14-25. Founded in 2019, Queering the Parks has engaged over 1,500 queer youth in community organizing, public programming, cultural production, and education.
 - ArtSeed is a summer pop-up program that engages youth ages 5-15 across parks and community gardens through art-making, storytelling, and nature-based play. In 2022, ArtSeed themes will include: environmental justice, climate resiliency, reciprocity, and community safety.
 - Inferno Mobile Recording & Media engages youth (ages 6-18) across 80 parks to create participatory music, produce documentaries, and practice therapeutic sound recreation. Led by experimental musicians and media artists, Inferno facilitates opportunities for young people to tell their own stories.
- ★ Each summer, the Chicago Park District hires Chicago residents, ages 16 and older, for seasonal jobs including Recreation Leaders, Lifeguards and Junior Laborers. This year, the District will fill 2,100 seasonal openings. These jobs provide great experience for those entering the workforce. Most positions don't require previous experience or special skill and provide the invaluable rewards of civic engagement. All seasonal jobs pay a minimum of \$15/hour. For more information on summer jobs, check out the Chicago Park District Seasonal Jobs Flyer.

Public Safety

What is being done to address carjackings?

- ★ CPD established the Vehicular Hijacking Task Force to investigate and track vehicular hijacking offenders. This task force works to hold these offenders accountable and also recover stolen vehicles. By apprehending those responsible for carjacking in Chicago, the task force is preventing further incidents from happening.

SOUTHWEST SIDE

How will the security camera program work? We need more security cameras in neighborhoods.

- ★ The City of Chicago has launched a free and voluntary camera registration program open to anyone who lives or operates a business in Chicago. Starting April 4, individuals who have a private security camera that captures the public way can register its location with the Chicago Police Department to help solve crime faster.
 - ★ Signing up for the City's camera program holds a number of benefits, including:
 - Strengthening communication between residents and detectives
 - Streamlining data and evidence collection in the event of a crime
 - Identifying suspects when there are no witnesses
 - ★ When you register the location of your camera, you simply allow the Chicago Police Department to contact you if a crime occurs on your block. CPD will not have direct access to your camera system. CPD cannot access camera footage without your consent. There is no requirement to provide footage to CPD at any time.
 - ★ To ensure that Chicagoans have access to the tools needed to protect their property, the City of Chicago will soon launch a Home and Business Protection Rebate program that will provide rebates up to certain limits to cover the costs of outdoor security cameras, one year of cloud storage for video footage, outdoor motion sensor lighting, and vehicle GPS trackers. Additional details on eligibility and reimbursement will become available when the program launches. To learn more and register the location of any existing cameras, please visit chicagopolice.org/cameraregistration.
-

What are the improvements to police response times?

- ★ We are constantly monitoring and adjusting resources across the city to ensure the appropriate staffing is in place to best serve our residents and maintain public safety in every neighborhood.

Homelessness

How are we supporting the homeless population and ensuring our viaducts are clean to attract business and development to our communities?

- ★ As part of the City's broader encampment strategy, DFSS works with a number of City agencies, including the Department of Streets and Sanitation, Chicago Department of Transportation, and the Chicago Police Department to better serve our fellow residents experiencing homelessness in and around viaducts. DFSS coordinates multi-day service events at encampments with the mobile health unit, outreach providers, substance abuse providers, and mental health providers. Teams engage, assess, and offer services including shelter and housing assessments. For encampment cleanings, DSS provides notification seven days in advance, while DFSS makes regular outreach to the individuals in these encampments to connect them with shelter, housing, and other services. It is not illegal to be homeless in the City of Chicago, and so we keep the rights of these individuals top of mind while balancing safety needs of the entire community.
- ★ Housing is the ultimate goal and pathway out of homelessness. Since 2020, DFSS has invested \$35 million to launch the Expedited Housing Initiative (EHI), which has moved over 1,600 households into housing from shelters or encampments, and DFSS will continue to invest in rapid rehousing in 2022.

City Collaboration

What civic engagement opportunities exist for adults?

- ★ There are many civic engagement opportunities that exist in the city of Chicago – for example, get involved in school councils, aldermanic offices, or CPD civilian opportunities; take the citizens academy; form a block club and advocate for your friends and neighbors; get involved in your community organization.

NORTH & NORTHWEST SIDE

Public Safety

Why aren't there more beat cops in our neighborhoods?

- ★ The Chicago Police Department is consistently reviewing and adjusting resources in each police district across the city. CPD will ensure there are sufficient resources devoted to each community area.
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How can you make CTA safer?

- ★ CTA and the Chicago Police Department, which provides law enforcement for CTA, are fully committed to that goal. Both CPD and CTA have increased resources related to crime prevention. In March, Chicago Police announced more-strategic deployment of CPD officers from its Counterterrorism Unit, focused on gangs and narcotics.
 - ★ The CTA doubled the number of unarmed CTA security guards, as a complement to CPD officers. Guards are tasked with educating and informing riders of CTA's Rules of Conduct, are trained in de-escalation techniques and are an added layer of trained eyes/ears out on the system for addressing incidents and reporting to police when needed.
 - ★ The CTA is a safe system in terms of overall ridership. Currently, we carry roughly 800,000 passengers a day – more than the entire population of Denver – and nearly 4.5 million people each week, and incidents of crime are very low. In fact, crime on CTA is only a small fraction of overall crime citywide. The overwhelming majority of rides on CTA are without incident and safe. That said, one crime is one too many, and the CTA recognizes that a recent uptick in crime across the city – including on and near the CTA – requires a stepped-up approach. Crime is not isolated to CTA, nor is it unique to us: It is a broader issue affecting cities across the nation as well as every major transit system in the United States.
-

What are you going to do about carjackings?

- ★ The City is firmly committed to ensuring that non-law-enforcement-based and violence reduction-based solutions are at the forefront of all public safety work, including reducing and preventing carjackings.
- ★ Many of Chicago's carjackings are committed by teenagers or even children, and as such our efforts to prevent carjackings or other violent crimes have entailed getting involved in these young people's lives and showing them that there are other ways. These young men and women's destinies are not and must not be preordained, which is why last year, we committed over \$400 million to the *Our City, Our Safety* violence reduction plan, aimed at reducing violence in all of Chicago's 77 diverse communities through holistic and data-driven violence reduction methods.

NORTH & NORTHWEST SIDE

- ★ Through the Community Safety and Coordination Center, along with dozens and dozens of our nonprofit partners, we are funding programs that show our young people just how rich, vibrant, and meaningful their lives can be. Programs like Choose to Change, or C2C, engage youth heavily impacted by violence and trauma by connecting them with intensive advocate and wraparound supports along with trauma-informed therapy to help them live safe and successful lives. These programs are part of this solution – and must continue to be a part of all public safety issues as we move forward.

City Collaboration

How can smaller organizations help with violence prevention?

- ★ Everyone has a role to play in violence prevention. Small organizations can promote City funding opportunities, can identify supports, and can help build block clubs. It's been smaller organizations for a long time that have really been helping to support violence prevention opportunities. We're trying to build better coordination and we work with the community to ensure not only that small organizations have a seat at the table but that their voices are heard.

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

We are making historic investments in our communities – both immediate and long-term. A successful and thriving community has quality and affordable housing, stable homeownership, excellent schools, easy access to quality health care, readily available healthy food access, and a booming local economy – and we’re working to bring that vision to all 77 neighborhoods.

The City of Chicago is working to build a better Chicago by prioritizing the following strategic investments focused in three main areas:



THRIVING & SAFE COMMUNITIES

- Violence prevention
- Affordable housing
- Homeless support services
- Youth opportunities
- Assistance to families
- City priorities for health and wellness
- Environmental justice



EQUITABLE ECONOMIC RECOVERY

- Arts and culture
- Community climate investments
- Community development
- Parks and infrastructure
- Small business and workforce support
- Tourism and industry support



ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

- Maintaining and enhancing essential government services
- Reducing burden on taxpayers

Specifically, in 2022 the City of Chicago will invest \$1.9 billion in:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING*	\$635 MILLION
Maintain and expand affordable housing	
ARTS AND CULTURE*	\$26 MILLION
Expand place-based arts and events opportunities	
ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES	\$144 MILLION
Connect families with critical resources to improve health outcomes and increase opportunity	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$166 MILLION
Drive equitable growth and job creation	
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND CLIMATE INVESTMENTS	\$188 MILLION
Invest in climate mitigation, adaptation, and environmental justice priorities	
HOMELESSNESS*	\$202 MILLION
Expand services and housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness	
MENTAL HEALTH*	\$86 MILLION
Increase access to mental health services	
VIOLENCE PREVENTION*	\$135 MILLION
Increase community safety	
WORKFORCE AND SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT	\$87 MILLION
Expand economic opportunities	
YOUTH SERVICES AND JOBS*	\$150 MILLION
Expand opportunity for youth to access employment and out-of-school programming	
OTHER KEY INITIATIVES	\$143.6 MILLION
Including parks and infrastructure, food equity, COVID emergency response, tourism and industry support, and maternal health	

*Chicago Recovery Plan investments, as well as local fund and other grant fund resources (mental health, violence prevention, affordable housing, youth, homelessness services, and arts and culture).

AVAILABLE CITY RESOURCES



Gun violence is a public health crisis that must be fought with the same vigor as the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working with the community and using data to increase public safety, solve the root causes of violence, and bring resources to those who need them the most. If you or someone you know needs support, please know these resources are available:

Mental Health

Chicago Public Health Department mental health centers (MHCs) provide support for emotional, traumatic, or behavioral difficulties. Visit mentalhealth.chicago.gov for more information on available Mental Health services near you.

Local Clinics

Clinics are located across the city and open Mon - Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

★ **ENGLEWOOD MHC**

641 W 63rd Street
Phone: 312-747-7496

★ **GREATER GRAND/MID-SOUTH MHC**

4314 S Cottage Grove
Phone: 312-747-0036

★ **GREATER LAWN MHC**

4150 W 55th Street
Phone: 312-747-1020

★ **LAWNDALE MHC**

1201 S Campbell Street
Phone: 312-746-5905

★ **NORTH RIVER MHC**

5801 N Pulaski Road
Phone: 312-744-1906

Confidential Hotlines

Confidential hotlines are also available if you or someone you know needs help. Please don't hesitate to reach out:

★ **ILLINOIS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE**

1-877-TO END DV

★ **ILLINOIS OPIOIDS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**

1-833-2FINDHELP

★ **NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS**

1-800-950-NAMI
(Mon. - Fri.: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm)

★ **NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE**

1-800-273-TALK

Food Assistance

Working through the Greater Chicago Food Depository, more than 700 partners across Cook County ensure that nutritious food is available all year. To find a food pantry, soup kitchen, shelter, or mobile program in your community, visit: chicagosfoodbank.org/find-food

Housing & Utilities

Rental and Homeowner Resources

Chicago's Department of Housing (DOH) expands access and choice for residents and protects their right to quality homes that are affordable, safe, and healthy. You can view DOH's resource page for renters and homeowners at: chicago.gov/city/en/sites/housing-showcase.

Rental and Mortgage Assistance

Rental assistance applications through the Department of Family Support Services are open now. For help with your application, or to apply in person, call or visit any of the City of Chicago Community Service Centers. Community service centers are open Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Learn more at: <https://bit.ly/3wv3dPa>.

★ **ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

1140 West 79th Street, Chicago, IL 60620
312-747-0200

★ **NORTH AREA COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

845 West Wilson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60640
312-744-2580

★ **SOUTH CHICAGO COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

8650 S Commercial Ave, Chicago, IL 60617
312-747-0500

★ **SOUTH CHICAGO COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

8650 South Commercial Avenue, Chicago, IL 60617
312-747-0500

★ **GARFIELD COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

10 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60612
312-746-5400

★ **TRINA DAVILA COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

4312 West North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60639
312-744-2014

★ **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER**

4314 South Cottage Grove, Chicago, IL 60653
312-747-2300

Internet Access

- ★ Qualifying Chicago Public Schools families are eligible to receive FREE internet through Chicago Connected. To check if you're eligible and learn more, visit cps.edu/getconnected, contact your local school, or call 773-417-1060.
- ★ Looking to build computer skills? To start learning for FREE, visit cps.edu/digitallearning.

Legal Supports for Eviction

- ★ **LEGAL AID CHICAGO**
312-341-1070
- ★ **LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR BETTER HOUSING**
312-347-7600

Utilities

For financial assistance on your gas or electric bill, contact ComEd and People's Gas regarding payment options or to be reconnected if your service is disconnected. CEDA may also be able to provide additional assistance.

- ★ **COMED**
800-334-7661
- ★ **PEOPLE'S GAS**
866-556-6001
- ★ **CEDA**
800-571-2332
cedaorg.net

Public Health

COVID-19 Resources

- ★ **VACCINES**
COVID-19 vaccines are available free of charge to all Chicagoans 12+. For more information, visit: chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid19-vaccine/home
- ★ **TESTING**
To find a Chicago community-based testing site, visit: chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/testing
- ★ **OTHER QUESTIONS**
Call the COVID-19 hotline at 312-746-4835 Monday through Friday during business hours or email coronavirus@chicago.gov.
- ★ **ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE**
Don't see the resource you need? Call 311 for guidance.

Health Centers

Health centers can provide services, including COVID-19 screening and testing, regardless of a patient's ability to pay. The charge for services on a sliding fee scale. However, please note many school-based health centers may not be operating because of school closings and local mandates. findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov

Employment Opportunities

Youth Summer Employment Opportunities

ONE SUMMER CHICAGO

One Summer Chicago brings together government institutions, community-based organizations, and companies to offer paid employment and internship opportunities to youth and young adults ages 16-24. Internships last six weeks and are 20 hours/week. Application is open until June 10 at onesummerchicago.org.

Youth Out of School Programs

DOWNLOAD THE MY CHI. MY FUTURE. APP

My CHI. My Future. has launched a mobile app designed to connect teens to out of school programs. The app is available on iOS and Android stores today. Visit mychimyfuture.org to view links to download.

Youth Service Corps

APPLY TODAY FOR THE CHICAGO YOUTH SERVICE CORPS

Chicago Youth Service Corps is a year-round paid service-learning opportunity for youth ages 16- 24. Participants can make \$15/hour while making a positive impact in their community. Programs begins July 5th. Apply today at cysc.mychimyfuture.org

Adult Employment Opportunities

CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

Whether you're starting a job search, or looking to get back to work or learn new skills, The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership can help! All of the services are free and offered virtually. Visit chicookworks.org to learn more or text "WORKNOW" to 474747 for updates regarding job opportunities, career workshops, and tips on virtually accessing employment resources.

GreenCorps Chicago

Greencorps Chicago is the City of Chicago's green industry job training program for individuals with barriers to employment. Greencorps' mission is to promote environmental stewardship and improve the quality of life in Chicago by establishing, maintaining, and restoring natural and public spaces that are safe, healthy, and sustainable through hands-on involvement with trainees. For more information, visit greencorpschicago.org

GET ENGAGED



Community Safety Coordination Center

The Community Safety Coordination Center leads a coordinated approach to confronting the root causes of violence, including poverty, trauma, neglect, and disinvestment.



Have additional questions not answered in this report?
Email csc@cityofchicago.org to learn more.



Join a Block Club Near You

In the coming months, the City's Community Safety Coordination Center will launch a new coordinated effort to support and expand block clubs in our communities.



Visit chi.gov/CSCC for more information.



Request Other Services

The new CHI 311 system brings unprecedented levels of openness, innovation, and accountability to the delivery of City services. Call 311 for assistance with non-emergency City Services and for information on events, programs, and agencies within the City of Chicago.



Call 311 or visit 311.chicago.gov to make a request.

Chicago Police Department

District Commanders

DISTRICT	COMMANDER	EMAIL	PHONE
1 Central	Patricia O. Zuber	CAPS001District@chicagopolice.org	312-745-4290
2 Wentworth	Joshua D. Wallace	CAPS002District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8366
3 Grand Crossing	Roderick S. Watson	CAPS003District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8201
4 South Chicago	Keith Milmine	CAPS.004district@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8205
5 Calumet	Glenn White	CAPS005District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8210
6 Gresham	Senora Ben	CAPS006District@chicagopolice.org	312-745-3610
7 Englewood	Rodney G. Hill	CAPS007District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8220
8 Chicago Lawn	Bryan Spreyne	CAPS008District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8730
9 Deering	Don. J. Jerome	CAPS.009district@chicagopolice.org	312-747-8227
10 Ogden	William Betancourt	CAPS010District@chicagopolice.org	312-747-7511
11 Harrison	Davina F. Ward	CAPS.011District@chicagopolice.org	312-746-8386
12 Near West	Beth Giltmier	CAPS012District@chicagopolice.org	312-746-8396
14 Shakespeare	Elizabeth Collazo	CAPS.014District@chicagopolice.org	312-744-8290
15 Austin	Andre Parham	CAPS015District@chicagopolice.org	312-743-1440
16 Jefferson Park	Maureen C. Biggane	CAPS016District@chicagopolice.org	312-742-4480
17 Albany Park	Michelene A. Alexa	CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org	312-742-4410
18 Near North	Jon Hein	CAPS018District@chicagopolice.org	312-742-5870
19 Town Hall	Amin Jessani	CAPS019District@chicagopolice.org	312-744-8320
20 Lincoln	Brendan McCrudden	CAPS020District@chicagopolice.org	312-742-8714
22 Morgan Park	Sean Joyce	CAPS022District@chicagopolice.org	312-745-0570
24 Rogers Park	Joseph Brennan	CAPS.024District@chicagopolice.org	312-744-5907
25 Grand Central	Adnardo Gutierrez	CAPS025District@chicagopolice.org	312-746-8605

Chicago Alderman

To find your alderman, visit: chicago.gov/city/en/depts/mayor/provdrs/your_ward_and_alderman/svcs/find_my_alderman.html

ALDERMAN	PHONE	EMAIL
1 Daniel La Spata	872-206-2685 312-448-8829	info@the1stward.com
2 Brian Hopkins	312-643-2299 773-270-4688	Ward02@cityofchicago.org
3 Pat Dowell	773-373-9273 773-373-6852	Ward03@cityofchicago.org
4 Sophia D. King	773-536-8103 773-536-7296	Ward04@cityofchicago.org
5 Leslie A. Hairston	773-324-5555 773-324-1585	Ward05@cityofchicago.org
6 Roderick T. Sawyer	773-635-0006 773-891-5679	Ward06@cityofchicago.org
7 Gregory I. Mitchell	773-731-7777 877-961-4426	Alderman@gregmitchell7thward.org
8 Michelle A. Harris	773-874-3300 773-224-2425	Ward08@cityofchicago.org
9 Anthony Beale	773-785-1100 773-785-2900	Ward09@cityofchicago.org
10 Susan Sadlowski Garza	773-768-8138 773-368-8176	Ward10@cityofchicago.org
11 Nicole T. Lee	773-254-6677	Ward11@cityofchicago.org
12 George A. Cardenas	773-523-8250 773-523-8440	Ward12@cityofchicago.org
13 Marty Quinn	773-581-8000 773-581-9414	Ward13@cityofchicago.org
14 Edward M. Burke	773-471-1414 773-471-1648	Ward14@cityofchicago.org
15 Raymond A. Lopez	773-823-1539 773-424-8720	Ward15@cityofchicago.org
16 Stephanie D. Coleman	773-306-1981	Info@16thward.org
17 David H. Moore	773-783-3672 773-783-3878	David.Moore@cityofchicago.org
18 Derrick G. Curtis	773-284-5057 773-284-5956	Ward18@cityofchicago.org
19 Matthew J. O'Shea	773-238-8766 773-672-5133	Ward19@cityofchicago.org
20 Jeanette B. Taylor	773-966-5336 312-744-6840	Ward20@cityofchicago.org
21 Howard Brookins, Jr.	773-881-9300 773-881-2152	Ward21@cityofchicago.org
22 Michael D. Rodriguez	773-762-1771 773-762-1825	Ward22@cityofchicago.org
23 Silvana Tabares	773-582-4444 773-582-3332	Ward23@cityofchicago.org

24	Michael Scott, Jr.	773-533-2400	773-722-2400	Ward24@cityofchicago.org
25	Byron Sigcho-Lopez	773-523-4100		Ward25@cityofchicago.org
26	Roberto Maldonado	773-395-0143	773-395-0146	Ward26@cityofchicago.org
27	Walter Burnett, Jr.	312-432-1995	312-432-1049	Ward27@cityofchicago.org
28	Jason C. Ervin	773-533-0900	773-522-9842	Ward28@cityofchicago.org
29	Chris Taliaferro	773-417-3302	773-237-6418	Ward29@cityofchicago.org
30	Ariel Reboyras	773-794-3095	773-794-8576	Ward30@cityofchicago.org
31	Felix Cardona, Jr.	773-824-2000	773-826-2006	Ward31@cityofchicago.org
32	Scott Waguespack	773-248-1330	773-248-1360	Ward32@cityofchicago.org
33	Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez	773-840-7880		Info@33rdward.org
34	Carrie M. Austin	773-928-6961	773-928-8562	Ward34@cityofchicago.org
35	Carlos Ramirez-Rosa	773-887-3772	773-887-5739	Ward35@cityofchicago.org
36	Gilbert Villegas	773-745-4636	773-745-4638	Ward36@cityofchicago.org
37	Emma Mitts	773-379-0960	773-773-0966	Ward37@cityofchicago.org
38	Nicholas Sposato	773-283-3838	773-283-3235	Ward38@cityofchicago.org
39	Samantha Nugent	773-736-5594		Ward39@cityofchicago.org
40	Andre Vasquez, Jr.	773-654-1867		Info@40thward.org
41	Anthony V. Napolitano	773-631-2241	773-631-2479	Ward41@cityofchicago.org
42	Brendan Reilly	312-744-3062		Ward42@cityofchicago.org
43	Michele Smith	773-348-9500	773-348-9594	Ward43@cityofchicago.org
44	Thomas Tunney	773-525-6034	773-525-5058	Ward44@cityofchicago.org
45	James M. Gardiner	773-853-0799	312- 642-4242	ward45@cityofchicago.org
46	James Cappleman	773-878-4646	773-878-4920	Ward46@cityofchicago.org
47	Matthew J. Martin	773-868-4747		Info@aldermanmartin.com
48	Harry Osterman	773-784-5277	773-784-6630	Ward48@cityofchicago.org
49	Maria E. Hadden	773-338-5796		Office@49thward.org
50	Debra L. Silverstein	773-262-1050	773-381-2970	Ward50@cityofchicago.org

SPREAD THE WORD

Thank you for for being an engaged and thoughtful member of our city. We listened and we heard your concerns about public safety in our city. The feedback has been very valuable to us and we're grateful for those who took the time to participate. We look forward to working together to solve the challenges that face our city. Chicagoans deserve to feel safe and secure, and we will be relentless in our pursuit of that goal.



If you have questions or want to learn more, please scan the QR code above or visit us at www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/public-safety-and-violence-reduction/home/CSCC.html

Download the social media graphics below to share this report and help spread the word on available community resources.



[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS GRAPHICS](#)

THANK YOU!

