

City of Chicago's Approach to Reparations

On June 17, 2024, Mayor Brandon Johnson signed a historic Executive Order to establish a Reparations Task Force to support the strategy, implementation, and engagement of reparations for Black Chicagoans.

The Office of Equity and Racial Justice and the Aldermanic Black Caucus were charged by Mayor Brandon Johnson to carry out the activities listed in Executive Order 2024-1.



What is [Executive Order 2024-1](#)?

- **[Executive Order 2024-1](#) is a commitment for the City of Chicago to address the historical harms committed against Black Chicagoans and their ancestors through the form of reparations.**

Why are reparations necessary?

- **Reparations are necessary in America** because the institution and legacy of slavery and Jim Crow laws, have created a pervasive culture that dehumanizes Black Americans and has denied Black Americans liberty, citizenship, rights, and the ability to benefit from the wealth generated from their labor.
- **Reparations are necessary in Chicago** because the City has a responsibility to address the historic and present-day racial inequities by reflecting on laws, policies, and procedures that have systemically contributed to and exacerbated racial inequalities and by identifying the appropriate remedies.

What is the City of Chicago's strategy to approach reparations?

- **Chicago plans to leverage the collective power of the City of Chicago, City Council, and a Community Task Force** to conduct a study of historic inequities Black Chicagoans face and identify appropriate remedies to address harm.

What is the long-term impact of reparations?

- **Reparations represent a transformative plan of action that aims to repair generational harm faced by Black Chicagoans**, providing the tools to build wealth, access opportunities, and reclaim agency in their own futures, positioning them to thrive.
- **This empowerment isn't just vital for Black communities—it is foundational for our city's success.** When Black Chicagoans can build wealth, access opportunities, and reclaim agency in their own futures, we create a ripple effect that benefits all of Chicago and foster a more just, equitable, and prosperous city for everyone.

