

**CITY OF CHICAGO  
DISTRICT COUNCIL 002  
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Type:** ☒ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

**Meeting Date:** June 12, 2025

**Location:** Washington Park Fieldhouse, 5531 S. Martin Luther King Dr.

**Start Time:** 6:03 PM

**Adjourned:** 7:15 PM

**Next Meeting:** July 29, 2025 – Washington Park Fieldhouse, 5531 S. Martin Luther King Dr.

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### **Attendance & Quorum**

Per the Open Meetings Act, a minimum of two out of three council members must be physically present.

<b>District Council Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Chair: Ephraim Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Nominator: Marquinn McDonald	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Community Engagement: Alexander Perez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present

**Quorum Established:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

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### **Public Comment Highlights**

#### **ACPS Referendum Support**

Terry Watkins asked for the councilors' positions on the 2021 ACPS referendum (requiring city council approval before going to a public vote).

- Chair Ephraim Lee affirmed strong support and pledged further advocacy with community members and alderpersons in the 2nd and 4th Wards.

#### **Teen Events and Safety at 31st Street Beach**

Community concerns were raised about a scheduled “teen trend” event (June 13) and potential safety risks.

- The council noted uncertainty due to misleading promotions but committed to monitoring police presence and safety efforts.
- Broader conversation emphasized root causes of youth violence and the importance of family, community engagement, and city coordination.

## **Chair's Emphasis on Holistic Safety Strategies**

- Stressed social accountability over reactionary enforcement.
- Recalled recent shootings and advocated collaborative solutions with the Office of Public Safety.
- Highlighted the economic burden of violence, particularly on the African American community, estimating \$4.8M annually in funeral costs alone.

## **Police-Community Relations**

- Called for mutual respect between residents and officers by the federal consent decree.
  - Encouraged ongoing patience and community involvement despite slow progress.
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## **Mayor's Office & Public Safety Initiatives**

- Alexandra Goodman (Senior Advisor to the Mayor) was unable to attend.
  - She was expected to present new public safety strategies and community communication efforts.
  - The Council remains committed to partnering with the Mayor's Office and Director Darian Gatewood.
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## **District Council Updates**

### **Meeting Participation**

- Councilor Alex Perez reported a steady increase in public attendance (averaging 19–20), though June 12 was lightly attended.

### **District Strategic Plan (DSP)**

- The council is revising the DSP in collaboration with the CPD and the Superintendent's Office.
- Community feedback is being gathered at local events, including a "Pink Campus" feedback session.

### **Back-to-School Event: District Day**

- **Date:** August 3, 2025
- **Location:** Armstrong Park, Bronzeville
- **Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 PM
- Over 200 backpacks will be distributed, with free haircuts, food, games, and more.
- Volunteers are needed, and working groups are being formed.

## Citywide Debt Relief Programs

- **Vehicle Violation Relief:** Eligible fines must be paid in full (no fees/penalties) by **June 30, 2025**.
- **Eligible violations** include non-meter parking, registration, speed cameras (pre-December 31, 2023), etc.
- **Ineligible:** Expired meters or tickets in legal proceedings.
- More info: [www.chicago.gov](http://www.chicago.gov) or call **(312) 744-7275**.
- **Commercial Driveway/Sign Violations:** Call **(312) 236-3644**.

## Media & Outreach

- Collaborating with local influencer **Dilla** on a police reform awareness video (expected by late June/early July).
- Attended the Alternate Response Conference (New York) to study non-police emergency response models.
- Upcoming Evanston ride-along are planned to explore their CARE alternative response program.

## CARES Program Development

- Chicago's CARE program needs expansion to match Evanston's 24/7 staffing and response capability.
- Council to study best practices and funding models.

## Community Role in Policy

- Public input is being collected for the **CPD Workforce Allocation Study** (due by **July 7, 2025**).
- Feedback solicited via neighborhood groups, newsletters, and digital platforms.

## Traffic Stops Policy Reform

- Drafting continues in partnership with CPD, CCPSA, and the City Attorney's Office.
- Key priorities:
  - Reasonable articulable suspicion
  - Clear conduct standards
  - Stop documentation
  - Respectful officer communication
- Public feedback is ongoing. Inclusion in the federal consent decree is under discussion.

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## Action Items

- Continue advocacy for the ACPS referendum and outreach to alderpersons.
- Monitor and follow up on youth events and police presence (June 13).

- Coordinate coalition-building with city offices to reduce youth violence.
  - Organize August 3 District Day: recruit volunteers and partners.
  - Promote and distribute information on citywide debt relief programs before June 30.
  - Finalize and release police reform awareness video.
  - Conduct a ride along with Evanston CARE teams and share findings.
  - Expand outreach for the CPD workforce allocation study; collect input by July 7.
  - Share Evanston program insights and apply learnings locally.
  - Promote community engagement worksheets and encourage partner participation.
  - Advocate for full funding and expansion of Chicago's CARE program.
  - Identify guest speakers and invite subject matter experts.
  - Bring in officials for fact-based updates on high-profile incidents (e.g., ICE raids, police-involved shootings).
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## **Follow-Up and Upcoming Meetings**

- Continue exploring Evanston's alternative response model—funding, structure, accessibility.
- Strengthening ties with the Mayor's Office and the Office of Public Safety to tackle youth violence trends.
- Maintain updates on traffic stop reform and CPD workforce study.

## **Next District Council Meeting**

- **Date:** July 29, 2025
  - **Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 PM
  - **Location:** Washington Park Fieldhouse
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## **Announcements & Closing Remarks**

- Community members are invited to recommend guest speakers and relevant topics.
  - Council emphasized the importance of fact-driven, transparent conversations and public education.
  - Meeting adjourned at **7:15 PM**.
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## **Key Dates & Deadlines**

- **June 30, 2025:** Deadline for city violation debt relief payments.
- **July 7, 2025:** Deadline for CPD Workforce Allocation feedback.
- **July 29, 2025:** Next District Council meeting.
- **August 3, 2025:** District Day Back-to-School Event at Armstrong Park, 1–3 PM.

