

CITY OF CHICAGO
DISTRICT COUNCIL 006
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: X Regular Special Closed

MEETING DATE: May 19, 2025

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: 8422 South Damen

MEETING START TIME: 6:00 pm

Attendance & Quorum

The OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: David Boykin	Present: <input type="checkbox"/> Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: x <input type="checkbox"/>
Nominator: Aisha Humphries	Present: x <input type="checkbox"/> Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Engagement: Ciera Whitaker	Present: x <input type="checkbox"/> Remote: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: x No:

Attendees: Quorum present, members of District 6 Council, community members, CPD representatives (Sergeant Seals, Sergeant Davis), district council staff, CCPSA representatives, local association leaders, and residents

Public Comment:

Phillip Simpson expressed relief over the removal of the “Happy Liquors” sign, thanked the council, and updated on ongoing contact with Jessica Nash of New Community

Recognition of improved community communication and engagement by council.

Approval of Minutes N/A

Discussions

Main Topics Discussed

Gather structured community feedback on the District Strategic Plan (DSP) as part of a citywide overhaul.

Context for Overhaul: New responsibilities for the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA), including oversight of police superintendent nominations and district-level strategy.

Requirement under federal consent decree: DSPs are mandated components and not discretionary.

All 22 Chicago police districts are soliciting input this cycle.

Upcoming Timeline

Quarterly District Councils Meeting: June (exact date TBD)

Collation and presentation of community feedback.

Informing CCPSA's final recommendations to Superintendent Snelling and command staff.

Changes in DSP process and format are expected for 2025.

What Is the District Strategic Plans (DSPs)?

Definition: Annual, district-specific formulations identifying priorities and approaches for safety and engagement.

Core Components:

Crime reduction strategies

Community engagement plans

Mandate: DSPs are required by CPD policy and federal consent decree.

Reporting: Districts are supposed to publish quarterly progress reports.

Key DSP Purposes

Improve public safety

Build community trust

Improve accountability

Smarter resource allocation (noted as a future topic for deeper discussion)

Development Process

Community conversations engage local voices in setting priorities.

Two rounds of engagement—first to identify concerns, then to develop solutions.

Priorities split between crime issues and engagement.

Current CPD Process for DSPs: Sergeants Seals and Davis explained engagement mechanisms:

CPD facilitates “café style” community conversations with table hosts and note-takers. Community input drives identification of crime and engagement priorities; these become the focus of annual strategic plans.

Data-driven approach: Officers compare reported issues with district-wide statistics, allocate resources, and review outcomes quarterly.

Ongoing challenge noted: Need for greater diversity in participation—both geographically and across demographics, particularly renters and younger/transitioning populations.

Coordination with Bureau of Detectives

District focus: reduction in crime, not just case clearance.

Recent practice: District officers and trained District Intelligence Officers (DIOs) expedite preliminary investigation and identification, facilitating detective follow-up.

Successes cited in year-to-date crime reductions (see “Figures and Outcomes”).

Community Feedback on DSP Engagement

Experiences have improved:

Recent years marked by increased transparency, responsiveness, and feedback loops between community suggestions and police action.

Noted improvement tied to current CPD leadership (Commander Tate, Sergeants Seals and Davis).

Ongoing Gaps:

Persistent low turnout—room not full, especially underrepresentation from western side of district and renters.

Recurring participants: Feedback is often collected from the same individuals, risking echo chamber and lack of new perspectives.

Requests for broader outreach and direct invitations, including suggestions to collaborate with local civic associations to expand mailing lists and engagement.

Accessibility issues for older residents (need for non-digital communications, e.g., mailed updates).

Barriers to renter engagement due to mobility and lack of long-term stake.

Community Suggestions

Rotate meeting locations and times to increase accessibility (weekday, weekend, daytime for retirees).

Strengthen partnerships with existing organizations and events (e.g., North Beverly Civic Association, church events, Foster Park senior events, youth forums).

Propose hybrid meetings and enhanced digital options, while recognizing limits due to venue technology.

Use direct mail for elderly or less tech-savvy community members.

Leverage large community events (e.g., National Night Out, sports tournaments) for visibility and sign-ups.

Calls for Improved Communication

Ongoing confusion about roles and acronyms (district council, CCPSA, CAPS), need for citywide marketing and clarity.

Feedback loop requested: Participants want not just to provide input but to see how their feedback affects plans and outcomes (“what made the cut and why”).

Suggestion for a more visual, accessible DSP format (charts, graphics, summaries instead of dense text).

Data & Measurable Outcomes

Recent Crime Statistics (Year to Date vs. Previous Year):

Homicides: 15 (down from 30)

Shootings: 41 (down from 78)

Two years ago: 110 shooting victims (now 34)

Robberies: 170 (down from 217)

Carjackings: 19 (down from 40)

Quarterly reports track progress on these metrics and guide resource shifts.

Newsletter: Regularly emailed to those on list; includes detailed event and crime data, but accessibility and readability for less-digitally-inclined residents remain a concern.

Challenges & Opportunities Identified

Participation/Engagement

Difficulty attracting new and diverse participants (renters, young adults, underrepresented sectors, seniors).

Reluctance and fear among some residents, especially seniors, to attend or speak at meetings.

Leadership turnover in both police and community organizations causes loss of institutional knowledge and undermines continuity in efforts and engagement.

Need for written records and transition protocols between outgoing/incoming facilitators or commanders.

Problems with facilitator training and process adherence—some beat meetings have become less structured and less effective, with diminished emphasis on actionable plans.

Recommendation: Advocate for restored facilitator training and ensure beat-level priorities feed into strategic planning.

Improving Feedback Practices

Strong desire for more tangible, visible “results” from community input—requests for reporting on which suggestions were taken, progress against community-identified priorities, and clearer explanations of action/inaction.

Suggestions and Ideas for Future Improvements

Expand Outreach

attend and present at popular community gatherings (faith-based events, youth sports, senior activities).

Make direct requests for neighborhood-specific events and flexible scheduling.

Provide physical sign-up sheets at large district gatherings (e.g., National Night Out).

Collaborate/Coordinate

Fewer, larger joint events with other organizations (wards, community groups, police districts), to maximize engagement.

Communication Tools

Build and maintain a comprehensive mailing list that includes both digital and paper (postal) options.

Simplify and clarify DSP materials; include summaries and visual data where possible.

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 16,2025

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Bordeau Griffin Design Center 8237 South Princeton District Council ended the meeting at:7:49 pm