



DISTRICT COUNCILS

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

District Council 002 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 17, 2026

Time: 6:05 PM

Location: Washington Park Refectory, 5531 S. Russell Drive

Meeting Attendance: 14 community members

CPD Representative: Commander Williams

Attendance & Quorum

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

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

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

Approval of Remote Attendance

- The Council voted to allow the third Councilor to participate remotely after establishing a valid basis for absence.

Approval of Agenda

- The February 2026 agenda was reviewed and approved.
- No additional action items were added at the start of the meeting.

Approval of Past Minutes

- The Council approved the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 17, 2026.
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Public Comment

- The public comment period lasted 30 minutes, with each speaker allotted two (2) minutes.
- Written comments may be submitted to: DC2@cityofchicago.org

Key Public Comment Topics

District Strategic Plan (DSP) Documentation Concerns

- Draft DSP shared December 30, 2025; final draft expected February 8, 2026.
- Final documents appeared to resemble a progress report rather than a comprehensive strategic plan.
- Discrepancies noted between draft and progress reports, including service call data.

Recommendations to the Council

- Report absence of required documentation.
 - Ensure a valid strategic plan is formally on record.
 - Request updated progress reports.
 - Request service call data to reconcile inconsistencies.
 - A moment of silence was observed in honor of Reverend Jackson, recognizing his passing and his significant contributions to the City of Chicago.
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Public Discussion: Trends and District Concerns

- Chair Ephraim Lee opened the floor for discussion regarding district-wide concerns.

Discussion Highlights

- Continued resident anxiety regarding crime and safety.
 - Ongoing engagement through block meetings and community outreach.
 - No significant surge reported beyond vehicle-related incidents and robberies previously noted.
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Council Reports

Community Engagement – Alexander Perez

Self-Defense Course

- Proposed partnership with Brazilian Southside Jiu Jitsu.
- Capacity: Approximately 20 residents.
- Tentative date: March 28, 2026 (subject to change).
- Free and open to the public; updates to be shared via newsletter and social media.

Gunshot Wound Critical Care Support Course

- Collaboration with Ujima Medics.
- Focus: Community trauma response training.
- Anticipated April 2026 (possibly aligned with April Council meeting).
- Free and open to the public.

Mental Health Working Group

- Coordination with CDPH, OUC, and CPD to support expansion of the CARE (Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement) program in 2026.
 - CARE provides clinician-based crisis response.
 - Anticipated citywide launch in Q2 2026 (Second District not yet included).
 - Eight response vans allocated (two on demand).
 - Public awareness campaign planned in collaboration with CPD, CFD, OEMC, and community organizations.
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Workforce Allocation Study & CPD Staffing

Consultant Partnership

- Matrix Consulting Group

Key Findings

- Persistent staffing pressures in patrol and supervision.
- Approximately 600 potential civilianization opportunities across 170 roles.
- CPD civilian staffing ratio is lower than peer cities.

Recommendations

- Reallocate 130 officers to patrol through civilianization.
- Target proactive time: 40% (currently closer to 30% during peak periods).

- Multi-year implementation strategy required.
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Commission Updates & Strategic Priorities

- On January 29, 2026, Lakenya White was unanimously nominated as Chief Administrator of COPA.

Seven Strategic Priorities for 2026 Include

- Finalization of traffic stop policy.
 - Expansion of preventative public safety approaches.
 - Improvements to misconduct investigations and clearance rates.
 - Strengthening officer wellness initiatives.
 - Strengthening accountability related to CPD-ICE interactions.
 - Annual performance assessments were established for the Superintendent, COPA Chief Administrator, and Police Board President.
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Report from the Police District

Presenter

- Commander Williams (Second District)

Crime Overview

- Reduction in several crime categories during 2025.
- 200% increase in vehicle break-ins during the first six weeks of 2026.
- Incidents included up to 30 vehicles targeted on a single block.

Strategic Adjustments

- Tactical team deployment shifted to 1:00–5:00 AM.
- Morning canvassing (7:00–9:00 AM) and evening canvassing (6:00–8:00 PM).
- Collaboration with detectives on pattern identification.

Interventions

- Arrest of three juveniles in connection with vehicle break-ins.
- Targeted enforcement at 47th & Indiana.
- Distribution of steering wheel clubs and catalytic converter etching kits.

Community Safety Event

- Saturday, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 - 4210 S. Berkeley
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Discussions

- Delays in posting the 2026 District Strategic Plan (DSP).
 - Confirmation that the DSP was submitted and approved, pending website publication.
 - Commitment to follow up with CPD leadership regarding posting.
 - Clarification that progress reports and annual strategic plans are separate documents.
 - The Council has submitted over 30 recommended documentations and process improvements to enhance DSP transparency and flexibility.
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Additional Community Q&A

Topics Included

- Helicopter usage availability citywide.
 - Resource allocation during large-scale youth events.
 - Confirmation that all neighborhoods are included within the DSP framework.
 - Emphasis on maintaining the DSP as a living and adaptable document.
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Task Force on Extremism in Government

- Mayor Johnson launched a citywide initiative to identify and prevent extremist affiliations within the city government.
 - Council representation included.
 - Draft policy under development with legal consultation.
 - Target implementation: June 2026.
 - Public survey circulated for community input.
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Final Actions

- Vote on resolution for Commission policy, as applicable.

Action Items

- Follow up with CPD leadership regarding the timely posting of the 2026 DSP.
- Investigate reported service call discrepancies.
- Reschedule and promote the self-defense course.
- Coordinate CARE program outreach campaign.
- Distribute DSP process recommendations to residents.
- Support the catalytic converter etching event.
- Monitor Task Force policy development.

Follow-Up

- Monitor the CPD website for DSP publication.
- Confirm updated self-defense course date.
- Continue collaboration on staffing strategies and CARE program rollout.
- Publicize Task Force survey results when available.

Next Meeting

- Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: Washington Park Refectory, 5331 South Russell Drive, Chicago, IL

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM