

City of Chicago
DISTRICT COUNCIL # 019
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: ☒ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

MEETING DATE: 8/26/2026

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: Uptown Church - 1134 W. Wilson Ave

MEETING START TIME: 6:37pm

Attendance & Quorum

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

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Maurilio Garcia	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Jenny Schaffer	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Sam Schoenburg	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Public Comment

****Julien Cohen****

* ****Alternative Response for Traffic Accidents:**** Cohen expressed excitement about the council's ongoing Parking Alternative Response Team (PART) initiative discussed in previous meetings. He suggested looking into a new pilot program in Minneapolis that uses alternative responders for traffic accidents.

* ****Police Efficiency:**** He argued that deploying armed police officers to minor "fender benders" where there are no injuries and no disputes over the accident is not an efficient use of police time.

* ****Focus on Current Initiatives:**** Cohen concluded by stating he didn't want to distract from the council's current alternative response initiatives, but wanted to put the traffic accident idea on the table for the future.

****Chris Abbott (44th Ward Action)****

* ****April 25th Masonic Hospital Incident:**** Abbott followed up on a request initially made in June for a formal explanation regarding an incident on April 25th. He stated that dozens of police vehicles completely blocked access to the Masonic Hospital emergency room at the Wellington Avenue entrance, and he is still seeking answers about why that happened. *(Note: The council responded that they are waiting for Commander Jani and Captain Clark to return from leave to address this).*

* ****Post-Pride Parade Policing:**** He expressed intense frustration over post-Pride policing, describing it as a "shit show." He noted that his group submitted a petition in May to discuss this but never received a response. He requested a meeting with the alderman and the 19th District Commander to understand who made the tactical decisions. Abbott also pointed out a contradiction: during a recent town hall, the alderman completely blamed CPD for the post-Pride decisions, despite issuing a press release the week prior claiming responsibility.

* ****Alternative Response for Youth:**** Abbott advocated for expanding the definition of alternative response to include how the city handles young people. He criticized the city's track record with youth and referenced a specific recent incident he witnessed, noting that "15-year-old girls are not scary" and that the heavy-handed response was embarrassing and unnecessary.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes are approved by the second regular meeting after they are taken.

Approved minutes are posted online within 10 days after approval.

n/a

District Council Member Updates

See presentation and recording below:

<https://ccpsa.chicago.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Meeting-Presentation-019-2026.08.26-regular.pdf>

Recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/GIoCLCANHDU>

Discussions

See presentation and recording below:

<https://ccpsa.chicago.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Meeting-Presentation-019-2026.08.26-regular.pdf>

Recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/GloCLCANH DU>

Votes

No Votes

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: 9/30/2026

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church 600 W Fullerton Pkwy.

District Council ended the meeting at: 07:57pm