



DISTRICT COUNCILS

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Date: February 7, 2026

Time: 10:15 AM – 10:49 AM

Location: Jackson Park Fieldhouse, 6401 S Stony Island Ave

Meeting Type: District Council Meeting

Attendance

- Kenya Franklin – Present
- Janice Jones – Present
- Additional community stakeholders and residents in attendance (approximately 20–40 participants throughout the meeting).
- COC-Dannette Kennedy Salaam
- No one from CPD
- Two attendees

I. Call to Order

Chair Kenya Franklin called the meeting to order and initiated an open discussion.

- **Quorum Established**
 - **Approval of Minutes:** January 10, 2026, meeting minutes were approved, including discussions regarding:
 - Vehicle and block-level crime
 - Quality-of-life concerns
 - Infrastructure improvements, including lighting and surveillance
 - School safety
 - Community policing initiatives
 - Maintenance coordination and community meeting engagement
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II. Key Discussion Topics

A. Community Engagement and Upcoming Events

Councilor Janice Jones provided updates on community engagement and upcoming events. Council members encouraged public participation in the following:

- Greater Grand Crossing Town Hall Meeting
- Together We Can monthly community meetings

- Metro South Open Walk Wednesdays
- Love Day – Next Generation Lifesavers
- Community Table Talk & Million Women United Family March
- Mardi Gras Gala – St. Moses the Black Parish
- Lit Fest Literacy Festival
- Community Organized to Win Convention & Black History Festival

Flyers and promotional materials were available for community distribution.

B. Crime Trends and Community Concerns

- Increased robberies were reported, particularly near 75th Street and local retail establishments.
 - Residents expressed concerns regarding limited follow-up after crime reports.
 - Community members discussed organizing neighborhood phone trees to improve safety communication.
 - Concerns were raised that district strategic plans do not adequately reflect community priorities, particularly violence affecting the 75th Street corridor.
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C. Strategic Planning Process Concerns

Community members expressed concerns regarding:

- Insufficient notification for community planning events.
- Community input is not reflected in final strategic plans.
- Perceived overreliance on police data rather than community experience.
- Need for greater transparency and accountability in planning processes.

Discussion included improving visibility of events through police department calendars to increase community participation.

D. Violence Interruption Programs

- Violence interruption programs were credited with contributing to reduced violence due to strong community engagement.
- Concerns were raised about potential funding reductions.
- Clarification provided that most funding originates from state resources.

- Community members were encouraged to advocate for sustained funding and pursue additional grant opportunities.
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E. District Advisory Council (DAC) Leadership Transition

- The current DAC Chair announced an intention to retire in the near future.
 - Community members discussed possible successors.
 - Emphasis was placed on ensuring transparent procedures and proper voting processes for leadership selection.
 - Concerns were raised regarding access to DAC meetings, with requests for clearer and consistent attendance procedures.
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F. General Community Concerns

- Calls were made to improve police responsiveness and communication.
 - Concerns were raised about scheduling conflicts with community events.
 - Emphasis placed on transparency, accountability, and adherence to open meeting principles.
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III. Action Items

- Increase visibility of Council meetings and community events.
 - Ensure community priorities are incorporated into future strategic plans.
 - Advocate for continued funding of violence interruption initiatives.
 - Clarify DAC leadership transition and selection procedures.
 - Develop standardized procedures for DAC meeting attendance.
 - Improve police follow-up communications on crime trends.
 - Enhance the responsiveness of community policing offices.
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IV. Next Meeting

Date: March 27, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Jackson Park Fieldhouse, 6401 S Stony Island Ave

Note: Meeting date adjusted due to commission scheduling. Community members were encouraged to participate in upcoming elections.

V. Closing Remarks

Discussion emphasized the importance of strategic planning as a record of community priorities and a tool for securing future resources. Leadership transition discussions highlighted continued community advocacy regardless of formal roles.

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