CITY OF CHICAGO

DISTRICT COUNCIL 005

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: X Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

MEETING DATE: August 24,2026

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: . Most Worshipful King Cyrus Grand Lodge

11400 South EdBrooke Ave

MEETING START TIME: 6:15 pm

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

District Council Member Name	**Attendance**
Chair: Robert McKay	Present: x☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Nominator: Thomas McMahon	Present:x ☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Community Engagement: Ponchita Moore	Present: x☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐

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

Public Comment
A community member described a previous experience trying to access the CARE team and said the service did not go as expected. They said they were taken to a different location, mentioned Harvey, and explained that the service felt unlike the care-van experience they had been told to expect. The vehicle they believed should have been a blue and white van did not match what arrived. The discussion clarified that the CARE team is a citywide crisis-response resource staffed by social workers or mental-health professionals and is available in all 22 police districts.

District Councilor Ponchita Moore noted that many residents in the room did not know the service existed or did not understand how it works. The issue was framed as something the working group should discuss further because it involves service quality, transportation, and making sure people can get home or be served close to their area after crisis intervention

Approval of Minutes
District Councilor Thomas McMahon raised a motion to approve the July 27,2026 005th District Council regular monthly meeting

minutes. District Councilor Robert McKay seconded the motion.
The minutes were approved.

Discussions
Participants discussed a community care-team issue, local safety concerns, National Night Out, Teen Takeovers, youth gatherings, public safety concerns, and the upcoming superintendent listening session, while also conducting their districts listening session, and broader district priorities for the next superintendent.

Superintendent Search / Listening Session Input

The meeting included a formal listening-session segment tied to the upcoming superintendent search process.

It was announced that a listening session would be held on August 27, 2026, at Morgan Park High School, 1700 West Pryor at 111th Street, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The room was told there would be signs and people directing attendees, and that the event would be one of several held across the city.

The community was asked what qualities and experiences they want in the next superintendent.

Input included:

The next superintendent should have Chicago experience, preferably having served in districts on south and west sides.

They should be committed, community-based, and not a quick outsider appointment

They should show compassion, honesty, kindness, integrity, and calm under pressure

They should have community involvement or volunteering experience

They should be able to work with the community and district councils as partners

Residents wanted the person to go through the ranks rather than be an outsider

The group also discussed how the public process works, including that the district councils are helping compile community input that will later be aggregated citywide.

Public Safety Priorities for the Next Superintendent

The room identified key policing and public-safety priorities to send back through the district council process.

Priorities included:

Community safety and security

Youth engagement strategies and positive alternatives for young people

Better partnering with district councils and other community bodies

Addressing pretextual stops by police

Improving access to and funding for the CARE team

The community also wanted the next superintendent to be responsive to residents, measurable in reducing crime, and aware of neighborhood-level harms

Updates

National Night Out and Community Participation

National Night Out was discussed as a successful community engagement example.

One District Councilor Ponchita Moore praised the event being held on the other side of the viaduct and noted that moving the event around helps meet residents where they are. With the event being held at Palmer Park. District Councilor Moore said their booth was well received and that residents

were asking about what the organization does.

The turnout at National Night Out was described as phenomenal, and one speaker said they ran out of

handout materials, including a set of 100 packs and whistles.

The event was also used as an opportunity to explain the purpose of the district council and encourage

participation in district council meetings.

COP House / Community-Oriented Police Facility at 12020 South Indiana

A report was given about the open house for the new cop house at 12020 South Indiana.

The grand opening was said to be planned for around September 18.

It was explained that the facility will be run primarily by community-based organizations, with only a police

footprint there rather than police running it directly.

Organizations mentioned included: KOB / Kids Off the Block, Metropolitan Family Services**, and** Phalanx.

The development was described as part of a long-term neighborhood stabilization strategy, inspired by a model used by the Racine Police Department. The idea is that after one or two years, if the area improves and crime is reduced, the house could eventually be sold and the proceeds used to support another neighborhood location. CNI (Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives) was noted as the lead development partner, and the project had been in the works for about 5 years. The group also discussed how this project is intended to help “rehab neighborhoods” as well as houses. District Councilor Moore stated that she would be hesitant to hold council meetings there with the name staying “The COP house”.

Police District Crime Report and Public Safety Trends

The police district update included year-to-date crime trends and specific incident categories.

Key points included: Homicides were up by 1, which was described as a 5% increase year to date.

A recent shooting and homicide occurred in the Oakdale Gardens/Murray Homes area, in the 1300 block of Langley. The case was reported as open and ongoing, with a white sedan sought in connection with the investigation. A burglary pattern was active in the 1200 block of Lafayette, where several residences were forcibly entered. An ATM-related pattern was said to be subsiding, with overlap between the 22nd District and 4th District. Motor vehicle thefts were decreasing in one sector but increasing in another.

Residential burglaries involving rehabbed properties and small appliances were also mentioned. Officers asked residents to remain vigilant, especially around vehicles, gas stations, and unattended property. Residents were told to be the district's eyes and ears, and to call in suspicious activity when they see something unusual.

Ring Cameras, Neighbor Awareness, and Face-to-Face Outreach

The commander emphasized the importance of having operable Ring cameras and other working security equipment. Residents were encouraged to share footage with police when crimes occur. The commander explained that police cannot rely on flyers alone and need direct, face-to-face contact and neighborhood familiarity. Examples were given about knowing when a neighbor is out of town and recognizing suspicious activity that would otherwise be missed. The discussion stressed the importance of learning neighbor's routines, vehicles, and who belongs at a property.

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 28, 2026
NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Most Worshipful King Crus Grand Lodge, 11400 S. EdBrooke
District Council ended the meeting at:7:30 pm