

11TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

11th District Council Public Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Type: Regular
- Date: March 16, 2026
- Time: 5:30 PM
- Location: Legler Regional Library 115 S. Pulaski Rd

Agenda for the Public Meeting

Items on this agenda are subject to change. If you have any questions regarding this agenda, please contact 312-742-8888.

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call
 - Meeting called to order at **5:57 PM**
 - Roll call conducted
 - Quorum established** (Councilor Edwards and Councilor Woodards present)
 - Councilor Ramson absent
- II. Approval of Remote Attendance of Councilor
 - No remote attendance
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - Agenda reviewed by Council
 - Motion made and seconded
 - Agenda approved as presented**
- IV. Approvals of Past Minutes
 - Review of **February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**
 - Motion to approve minutes by Councilor Woodards, second by Councilor Edwards.
 - Minutes were approved.**

District Council Public Meeting Notice & Agenda, continued

V. Public Comment

Gentrification and Housing:

Urgent calls for residents to participate in neighborhood ownership and development.

Emphasis that positive changes for new arrivals should also benefit long-term residents, not price them out.

Noted price spikes and market changes already transforming the area.

Quality of Life Plan was cited as a framework to directly address gentrification.

Street Drug Activity & Safety:

Concerning that community responses to drug activity (e.g., heaters and gatherings on corners) only receive official attention when new demographics move in.

Calls for more sustained, community-driven interventions and partnerships with CPD, but with leadership from long-term residents.

Need for Male Community Leaders:

Repeated calls for more black men to participate in neighborhood safety efforts.

Suggestion that visible leadership helps reassert community ownership of public spaces.

Repeat issues:

Issues with ongoing drug activity, parking violations, and fires tied to street life.

District Council Public Meeting Notice & Agenda, continued

Quality of life problems are seen as persistent and deeply rooted, requiring cultural, economic, and policing responses.

VI. Public Discussion on Trends and Concerns in the District

1. No prepared crime statistics as the usual provider (Mr. Bryant) was absent.
2. Noted general trend: murder rate in Chicago has dropped below 500.
3. Despite decreased murder rates and some reduction in reported crimes, the feeling of safety in the community remains low.
4. Persistent issues with open-air drug markets (especially Costner & Monroe area).
5. Street drug activity persists, and quality of life issues (fires, unhoused individuals defecating) around the new Sankofa building.
6. Parking issues anticipated as Erie, Rush, and YMCA facilities continue to ramp up operations at the new site.

Community Perceptions:

7. Trauma from past incidents, even as statistics improve, sustains fear and insecurity.
8. Increase in visible policing and response when white residents or new developments are present, prompting concerns about gentrification and unequal attention.
9. Discussions around cultural change as the key to reclaiming community spaces, rather than just law enforcement action.

VII. Reports from the Councilors

Nominating Committee (Councilor Woodards)

• **Vacancy process update:**

- o Committee submitted six candidate names for three CCPSA (Civilian Commission for Police and Safety Accountability) vacancies.
- o Candidates: Angelique Guzman, Hamza Jelani, Darian Johnson, Rebecca Le-, Javier Vasquez, and Anjanette Young.

District Council Public Meeting Notice & Agenda, continued

- o Two appointees must be youth representatives; balance includes South Side and North Side candidates.
- o Outgoing commissioners: Angel Navarro, Aaron Gottlieb, Abier Minor.
- o Mayor will select from the submitted names, no fixed deadline for decision.

Community Engagement (Councilor Edwards)

- **Incident overview:**

- o Officer-involved shooting occurred at Chicago & Trump area.
- o Victim: Derek Jordan, aged 39.
- o It occurred approximately five days before the meeting (around March 11, 2026).
- o Incident details remain limited due to ongoing COPA (Civilian Office of Police Accountability) investigation.
- o Unconfirmed reports circulating about the victim being under the influence and possible pursuit preceding the shooting.
- o Body cam footage has not yet released.
- o This is the first officer-involved shooting in the 11th district for 2026.

VIII. Update from the Commission
No updates.

IX. Report from the Police District

Family outreach:

1. CPD's community policing team contacted the victim's mother.
2. Support and counseling resources are being offered to the family.
3. Participation at the family's balloon release event noted.

Limitations:

4. Tactical and investigative details not available; DCO scope tightly focused on supporting victims' families and community response.

District Council Public Meeting Notice & Agenda, continued

X. Hearings and Discussions

Safety Assessment and Facility Security

- **Sankofa Wellness Project:**

- o \$49 million new facility lacked a formal safety assessment prior to opening.
- o Need identified to install more security cameras, improve safety, and accommodate community needs (ADA, access, etc.).
- o Responsibility for assessment to be clarified between property owners and community.
- o Staff and healthcare service operations beginning; expected impact on parking and neighborhood activity.

2.6. Alternative Response and Mental Health

- **Quality of life interventions:**

- o Incidents attributed at least in part to mental health and lack of services for unhoused people.
- o Discussion of alternative response programs and employment opportunities as means for long-term improvement.

XI. Presentations

No presenter.

XII. Final Actions

No votes.

XIII. Final Announcements and Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Next meeting April 13, 2026