



DISTRICT COUNCILS

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Minutes from Public Meeting

DC 016 will be holding a public meeting. Below are the details:

- Meeting Type: Regular
- Date: June 9, 2026
- Start Time: 6:35 PM
- End Time: 7:28 PM
- Location: Hiawatha Park - 8029 W Forest Preserve Ave Chicago, IL 60634

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Daniel Martin	Present: x Remote: ☐ Absent:
Community Engagement: Colleen Murphy	Present: X Remote : ☐ Absent: ☐
Nominating Committee: Colleen Dillon	Present: X Remote : ☐ Absent: ☐
Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: X No: ☐	

Attendance	
# of attendees in person	9
# of attendees virtual	0
# of CPD attendees	1
CPD rank of attendees	Captain Reyes

I. Public Comment

- Neighbor: Cook County State's Attorney decisions, including stopping the maintenance of lists of discredited officers.
- A report titled "500 Days Forward, 10 Years Back" by Chicago Appleseed Center analyzing the State's Attorney's first 500 days.
- Lack of transparency on ICE activities in the area (an incident where ICE agents, described as crashing into people and abducting an individual, with no CPD follow-up shared).
- CPD's low community engagement and failure to comply with consent decree expectations (reference to the study "CAP at 10").
- Noted poor attendance at community meetings, suggesting low turnout is due to perceived inactivity or lack of results

II. Approved April and May minutes

III. Reports from the Councilors

- A. Recent activity: Six names sent to the mayor; two have been selected. A term is ending in September
- B. Fundraising & Support for Officer's Family Large turnout (300–400 people) at a benefit supporting Officer B, a 17th District officer residing in the 16th District, who suffered

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a tragedy. Event supported by local businesses (Firewater, Tony's, Delaware Market Distributors) and community leaders. A retired Chicago police officer/fireman donated \$100,000 to the officer's family. Emphasized the strength and generosity of the community in times of need.

IV. Trends and Concerns

- A. Ongoing airbag thefts, with a targeted group believed responsible but no suspects yet apprehended.
- B. Most targeted vehicles: Honda and Acura models, especially Honda CR-Vs.
- C. Community members are resorting to steering wheel locks as deterrence.
- D. Recommendation: Do not confront suspects, call 911, and provide as detailed a description as possible.
- E. Noted recent community alert about four burglaries; detectives are investigating. B.
- F. Community Policing & Reporting
 - 1. Emphasis on the importance of calling 911 for suspicious activity or crimes rather than contacting neighbors or the district desk. Calls to 911 trigger logged service calls, which influence resource allocation. School has just let out—anticipation of parks being a focal point for youth activity and potential calls for service. Possible resource strains due to upcoming festivals and events, sometimes necessitating shifting police coverage. Seasonal Crime Trends (Scam Season Be Aware)- emphasis on community education to prevent senior citizens from being victimized

V. Discussion:

- A. Alternative Response to Mental Health Crises
 - 1. Community members noted seeing the alternate mental health response unit (EMT mental health response) operating in Chicago's 60th district as an alternative to standard 911 police/fire response.
 - 2. These specialized teams address mental health crises with trained personnel and are part of a city initiative seeking expansion.
 - 3. Concerns were raised about pay discrepancies—these EMT mental health responders earn less than police officers—and possible union issues if services expand. Currently, such teams operate during the day only.
- B. Mental Health Resource Gaps
 - 1. Launch of a new crisis intervention webpage on June 9th, 2026, highlighting gaps in mental health facilities.
 - 2. Notably absent are facilities in the 38th, 41st, and 45th wards; residents in crisis must go to the Addison Emergency Hospital, with no options in their own wards.

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3. Hundreds of mental health facilities exist citywide, but none serve these three wards, which border several suburban communities (e.g., Smokey, Norwich, Park Ridge, Niles).
4. Setting up a facility in these wards would require coordination and funding from city, state, and possibly federal sources.

C. Resource Allocation and Need

1. Discussion about placing resources where they are most needed, based on call/service data.
2. Acknowledgment that wards with fewer crisis calls may not get new facilities, but concerns remain about actual needs.
3. Anecdotal evidence from a school nurse (with a background in psychiatry and long experience) that schools see several student mental health issues daily, regardless of age.
4. Suggestion that issues seen in school environments likely reflect broader community needs.

D. Compensation and Staffing for City Roles

1. Animal Control Salary Concerns: Significant dissatisfaction with the low pay (\$60,000/year) for animal control officers, viewed as "nothing" considering their work and responsibility.
2. Understaffing: Repeated concerns about understaffing in certain city departments, particularly animal control and mental health crisis intervention teams.
3. Equitable Compensation for Mental Health Workers: As mental health programs expand, the group stressed the need to ensure workers are fairly paid and compensated for their responsibilities.

E. Funding for Community Programs and Mental Health Services- CARE

1. Funding Sources: New/existing mental health programs to be funded through a "social media tax" that the community already pays.
2. Program Expansion: Discussion about expanding programs citywide; strategic questions posed about citywide vs. neighborhood-specific resource placement.
3. Community Equity: Residents strongly feel that regardless of location (e.g., Dunning, Harwood Heights, Norwood), all should have equal access to city/state/federal/county programs. Site Selection for New Facilities: Multiple proposed locations; acknowledgment that geographic borders complicate equitable program siting.

F. Community Engagement & Public Meeting Attendance Poor Attendance Trends:

1. Attendance at meetings and neighborhood beat meetings has dropped over the years—from 25-30 people to as few as 5-10. Meeting Timing Challenges: Residents cite difficulty attending due to work, family, and other commitments. Some district councils alternate meeting times (Tuesdays,

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Saturdays, Sundays) but consistent timing is seen as easier for recall. Virtual (Zoom) options noted but do not fully address barriers.

2. Factors Affecting Attendance: Crises (e.g., shootings, burglaries) drive attendance. Otherwise, people are less likely to attend. Many residents don't know their neighbors, reducing word-of-mouth engagement
3. Potential Solutions: Combining meetings (e.g., beat meetings and district council meetings together on one night) suggested but concerns about meeting length and space limitations. Encouragement for residents to attend 2-4 meetings a year. Emphasizing strength in numbers and building community connections.

VI. Final Announcements and Adjournment:

- Next Meeting Date: July 14, 2026
- Next Meeting Time: 6:30 PM
- Location: Brooks Park