

17TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

District Council 017 Public Meeting Minutes

- **Meeting Type:** Regular
- **Date:** February 10, 2026
- **Planned Start Time:** 6:30 PM
- **Location:** Roosevelt High School, 3436 W Wilson Ave, 60625
- **Zoom link:** <https://bit.ly/DC17zoom>

I. **Call to Order, Roll Call**

Under Illinois law, the District Council can only conduct official public business if the Council establishes a physically present quorum of two Councilors.

Start time: 6:34 PM

Roll call:

Councilor Name	Role	Present
Luis Bermudez	Chair	Yes
Elizabeth Rochford	Nominating Committee Member	Yes
Anthony Tamez	Community Engagement Coordinator	Virtually

Quorum achieved: Yes

II. **Approval of Remote Attendance of Councilor - passed**

According to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA; 5 ILCS 120/7(a)), the two Councilors physically present at the meeting may vote to approve remote attendance of the third Councilor if one of the following exemptions listed below has prevented the third Councilor's physical attendance:

- (i) personal illness/disability
- (ii) employment purposes/business of the public body
- (iii) family/other emergency
- (iv) unexpected childcare obligations
- (v) performance of active military service as a service member

III. **Approval of Agenda**

The Council may vote to approve the agenda. The Council may add or remove items. The Council cannot add new items to vote on. Even after deciding on the agenda, the Council may decide to add more items later on.

Vote:

Councilor Name	Vote
Luis Bermudez	Aye
Elizabeth Rochford	Aye
Anthony Tamez	Aye

Outcome: Approved

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IV. Approvals of Past Minutes

The Council will vote on past meeting minutes.

1. Approval of **January 10, 2026 regular** meeting minutes was postponed to March meeting

V. Public Comment

The Council will listen to comments from attendees. Each comment is limited to 2 minutes. Anyone interested in giving public comment should write their name on a card provided at the meeting and give it to the members of the Council or staff in the meeting room any time within 30 minutes of the start of the meeting. The public comment session is limited to 20 minutes. If the number of interested speakers exceeds the time dedicated to public comment, speakers will be selected by a random drawing. Anyone may submit a written comment by delivering it at the meeting or by emailing dc017publiccomment@gmail.com.

Notes:

- Paddy: thanked District Councilors for ongoing advocacy around community safety concerns tied to CPD's possible collusion with ICE; shared community anxiety about the potential of federal agents returning to the community; asked for updates on:
 - the actual hearing following CCPSA's listening session in January;
 - routing any collaboration allegations to COPA;
 - enforcement of Mayor's recent "ICE on Notice executive order"
- Leatrice: is the Manager of school-based health center, part of the Tapestry 360 Health; shared the services available to enrolled students during non-core classes or free periods from 8:00-4:00 PM, which include:
 - Vaccinations
 - School physicals
 - Reproductive health services
 - Counseling
 - pediatrics

VI. Presentations

If the Council has arranged for a presentation from an outside organization, the Council will recognize the outside speaker to present to the community.

1. Radhika Sharma, Madiha Hussaini – Apna Ghar

Notes:

- Facilitators gave a brief history of Apna Ghar organization and facilitated a workshop entitled "Teen and Young Adult Intimacy: Recognizing Harm, Supporting Survivors, and Promoting Respect and Accountability" which included:

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- Discussions on healthy relationship habits
- A review of the cycle of abuse for teens and young adult relationships
- Examples of how to support teens and young adults if observing less healthy relationship dynamics
- Resources

2. Bailey Nelson, Rileigh Heeke – Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen – 12th District

Notes:

- Provided an overview of the role of the County in domestic violence (DV) response and shared updates on:
 - American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) directed to local DV programs and organizations;
 - A city-County Task Force on Violence Against Women brings various representatives together to focus on:
 - Gaps in laws and policies;
 - Expanding lethality assessments;
 - Broadening no-contact orders related to stalking

VII. Public Discussion on Trends and Concerns in the District – provided via written addendum due to time

The Council will facilitate a discussion with the room on the most prevalent trends and concerns in the district, share their own observations from community engagement, and record a summary for the minutes.

Trend/concern: Sexual Assaults are up 800% over last year
Notes from discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A request has been made that DV issues be added as part of the Community section in the DSP and made one of the 3 Crime Priorities for the year since Shootings, Robberies, and Burglaries are all down from previous years. This recommendation was not accepted by District leadership
Trend/concern:

VIII. Reports from the Councilors – provided via written addendum due to time

Each Councilor will provide an update. Councilors will discuss their updates with themselves and meeting attendees. The Council may or may not have time limits for these updates depending on what they previously agreed upon.

Chair: Luis Bermudez
See addendum
Nominating Committee Member: Beth Rochford
See addendum.
Notes:

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 53 total applications were received for the 3 CCPSA vacancies that will open in June;• 37 adults, of which 4 will be interviewed and 2 will be recommended;• 16 youth (18-24 years old), of which 8 will be interviewed and 4 will be recommended.
Community Engagement Coordinator: Anthony Tamez
Notes from discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Announced that applications for a District Council Youth Council would be shared out soon

IX. Update from the Commission – pulled from Councilor Rochford’s addendum

The Council may provide and discuss updates received from the Commission. If the Council has not received updates from the Commission, the Council will announce it.

Notes:

- Next Commission meeting is **Thursday, February 26, 6:30 PM** at [Hubbard High School](#) (6200 S Hamlin Ave, 60629)
 - A request has been made to not have follow up hearing from January’s Listening Session occur at this meeting due to CPD Superintendent Snelling’s inability to attend. A special meeting will be held instead.

X. Report from the Police District

The Council may call upon local District Command staff from the Chicago Police Department to provide updates from the last month. The Council may use this time to ask the District Command representative questions on behalf of the community.

1. DV Liaison Officer Mary Jane Parks highlighted Teen Dating Violence activities at Schurz High School
2. Officer Tali promoted citywide prom attire donation drive

XI. Hearings and Discussions – N/A

The Council will discuss any topics it decides to prioritize at the meeting.

XII. Final Actions, Resolutions, Recommendations

The Council will discuss items for voting. This may include resolutions calling upon the Commission, the Chicago Police Department, City Council, the Mayor’s Office, or others to take action on a matter. Councilors may also share individual recommendations that are not formal, final actions of the Council. Individual recommendations do not require votes, and they may or may not be listed ahead of time.

1. Budget votes:
 - a. \$200 for Apna Ghar presentation - **passed**
 - b. \$350 for whistles - **passed**

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XIII. Final Announcements and Adjournment

The Council will make final announcements, such as announcements about upcoming Council events and meetings, and then close the meeting.

1. Next monthly meeting:
 - i. Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 PM
 - ii. Horner Park – 2741 W Montrose Ave, 60618
2. Adjourned at 7:57 PM

District Councilor Beth Rochford's Updates – Feb 2026

Trends & Concerns – Sexual Assaults (SAs) are up 800% over last year. A request has been made that DV issues be added as part of the Community section in the DSP and made one of the 3 Crime Priorities for the year since Shootings, Robberies, and Burglaries are all down from previous years. This recommendation was not accepted by District leadership.

Nominations – The District Council Nominating Committee has begun reviewing the applications for the 3 vacancies on the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA). We have over 50 applications so this will be a very difficult process and decision. These vacancies become effective in the summer of 2026 at the conclusion of the 2-year terms served by three current Commissioners. We have 53 adult and 16 are youth applicants. We will determine who to interview, do those interviews and then put the nominees forward on March 7th.

RJCC – We have had several wins in the last month on the RJCCs. We found out that the south side coverage area has expanded just as the north side has. More importantly though, we found out that the SA has changed their position and will be allowing gun possession cases back into the RJ courts! We believe our relentless pressure on the SA along with other elected and community stakeholders led to this decision.

DV – Family Focus has initiated their Fatherhood program in Belmont Cragin/Albany Park and LV and I have helped to connect them to ALSO for Albany Park so their participants can get access to this program. I sent the information to a DC in LV so they can spread the word there.

DSP – Our working group has followed up on setting a meeting that was offered with CPD leadership to review our recommendations. No word back yet on when that will take place but we will likely be asking all DCs to ask for Quarterly updates so at the April meeting we should get an update on how that is going and any adjustment being made.

Mayor's EO – For those who have not heard, the mayor signed an order that will require Officers who witness any criminal acts or excessive force by ICE/Etc to report this and send this to the SAO for possible prosecution. They have 30 days from the signing which was 1/31 to write and begin implementing this order. We will be in contact with the Commission who should be involved in overseeing this process.

Priority Proposal #1: Crime Clearance Rates – The commission has set this as a Priority for this year. Hopefully that will mean that we get regular updates on the progress so we can keep you informed of where things stand.

Priority Proposal #5: Community Mediation Process for Low-Level Complaints with Input from District Councilors. – This is still on COPAs goal for the year. We had a meeting today and the Mediator selection group has been finalized. COPA has developed the application for the mediators. They are still working with CPD on their policy that needs to be parallel to the COPA policy per the Consent Decree. No date for the release of the Application yet.

CCPSA meeting – Thursday, Feb 26th. We have asked for this meeting to NOT have the follow up panel discussion from the Jan 8th listening session. The Superintendent was not available for this date and the Subject matter experts we wanted had not been contacted as of last Friday so we felt

pushing it back a week or two would be best. Keep your eyes open for the next Special meeting where these issues will be discussed.