

25TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

25th District Council Public Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Type: Regular
- Date: March 26, 2026
- Time: 5:30 PM
- Location: Riis Park

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 5:42 PM

Roll call conducted

Quorum established (Councilor Arellano and Councilor Arena present)

Councilor Green 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 26, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes by Councilor Arellano, second by Councilor Arena.

Minutes were approved.

V. Public Comment

No public comment.

VI. Public Discussion on Trends and Concerns in the District

No trends and concerns.

VII. Reports from the Councilors

No trends and concerns.

VIII. Update from the Commission

No updates.

IX. Report from the Police District

No report.

X. Hearings and Discussions

COPA (Civilian Office of Police Accountability) Overview (**Mackenzie Thurman**)

- COPA is Chicago's independent agency that investigates serious police misconduct. It evolved from OPS to IPRA to COPA in 2017, gaining more authority after the Laquan McDonald case. COPA must release body-worn camera footage of major incidents within 60 days and is funded at a minimum of 1% of CPD's budget.
- How COPA Investigates
 - Anyone can file a complaint through multiple channels.
 - COPA handles serious cases like excessive force and civil rights violations; minor cases go to CPD's Internal Affairs.
 - Officer-involved shootings are automatically investigated.
 - Investigations include interviews, video review, and evidence collection.

- Findings include: sustained, not sustained, unfounded, or exonerated.
- COPA recommends discipline; the Police Superintendent makes the final decision.
 - o Current Updates
- District 25 complaint numbers for 2025 were below the city average.
- A new Community Police Mediation Program is launching for minor, low-level complaints.
- COPA now oversees cases related to the Welcoming City Ordinance, including alleged improper CPD cooperation with federal immigration authorities.
- All closed cases are publicly available on COPA's website.
- COPA is still investigating a May 2025 officer-involved shooting in District 25 and will provide updates when allowed.

XI. Presentations

OEMC Overview

(Led by Beverly Carrington)

OEMC handles more than 911—it includes 311 city services, Emergency Management, Traffic Management Aides, and public safety technology.

911 Operations

- Separate call takers and dispatchers for police and fire/EMS.
- Police call takers determine the issue and can transfer to fire/EMS or 311.
- Busiest days: July 4th, New Year's Eve, Halloween. Up to 20,000 calls.

Call	Taker	Process
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Focus on the Five W's:

- Where (most important), What, Who, When, Weapons.
- Collects detailed descriptions and updates dispatchers in real time—questions do NOT delay response.

Call Priorities

- Priority 1: Immediate danger (battery in progress, shots fired).

- Priority 2: Danger has passed, offender may still be nearby.
- Priority 3: Non-emergency or nuisance issues.
- Lower-priority calls wait when higher-priority ones are active.

911 vs. 311

- Emergencies: 911
- City services: 311 or the 311 app
- App features: submit photos, track requests, alerts, and Safe Walk.

Emergency Preparedness

- Keep disaster kits updated and have written contact lists.
- CERT training: six-week OEMC course beginning April 2.

From the Police Side

- Beat officers handle routine calls; specialized units handle serious crimes.
- Closest units may respond first.
- Officers may update or change the call priority based on what they find.

XII. Final Actions
No votes.

XIII. Final Announcements and Adjournment
The Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.
Next meeting April 30, 2026