25TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

25th District Council Public Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Type: Regular
- Date: August 27, 2026
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: North Pulaski Library (4300 W. North Ave)

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.

Call to Order, Roll Call

Meeting called to order at **6:17 PM**

Roll call conducted

Quorum established (Councilor Arena and Councilor Green present)

Approval of Remote Attendance of Councilor

No remote attendance

Approval of Agenda

Agenda reviewed by Council

Motion made and seconded

Agenda approved as presented

Approvals of Past Minutes

Review of **June 25, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**

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

Minutes were approved.

Public Comment

- The group said community input should help shape the next Superintendent:
    - application materials
    - candidate interview questions
    - scoring rubrics
    - the final shortlist sent to the mayor
- Attendees described the search as a community-driven process and encouraged residents to participate so the commission hears local concerns directly.
- They discussed inviting and involving youth, faith leaders, police accountability groups, justice-impacted people, and immigrant Know Your Rights groups.
- Community members would like for candidates track records to be reviewed to see if they hold their officers accountable for misconduct.

Public Discussion on Trends and Concerns in the District
Officer wellness/ mental health.

Reports from the Councilors
Nominator emphasized that district councils are the channel for community voices, and that the superintendent search should reflect what residents want and do not want in the next police superintendent.

Update from the Commission
No update.

Report from the Police District

1. No CPD officers were present.

Hearings and Discussions

- The CARE program was discussed in depth as a critical alternative response model for mental health-related calls.
- Chair explained that CARE vans are staffed with psychologists/clinicians who respond to certain 911 calls instead of police.
- Nominator clarified that trained civilian responders are meant to handle mental health crises or situations requiring de-escalation, while police should focus on situations requiring their specific training.

- The group discussed the purpose of alternative responses such as:
    - connecting residents to needed services
    - improving outcomes for people in crisis
    - using limited resources more wisely
    - allowing police to focus on policing

Presentations

Superintendent Search:

- What qualities, characteristics, skills, and experiences would you like to see in Chicago's next police Superintendent?

  Several qualities were identified as important for the next superintendent:
    - Being local or from Chicago
    - Having extensive policing experience and community understanding
    - Being able to communicate well with the public
    - Having a plan and clear leadership style
    - Having a servant's heart and being for the people
    - Holding officers accountable without favoritism
    - Not being politically connected or overly influenced by politics
    - Not having a history of excessive complaints or tolerated misconduct
    - Being willing to challenge rogue officers and the FOP if necessary

- What worked and what didn't work well under the former Superintendent?
    - Being local was positive, but his communication was weak, especially during ICE-related activity when CPD's role was unclear.

- What public safety and policing issues should the next Superintendent prioritize?
    - Advocating for the cares program.

Final Actions

Chair motioned to vote on the Alternative Response resolution, Nominator second the motion. Vote passed.

Final Announcements and Adjournment
The Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.
Next meeting: September 23, 2026