# 7TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

## COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

**Notice of Public Meeting Minutes**

DC 007 will be holding a public meeting. Below are the details:

- Meeting Type: Regular
- Date: August 19, 2026
- Start Time: 6:00 PM
- End Time: 7:00 PM
- Location: Lindblom Park 6054 S. Damen Ave 60636

| District Council Member Name | Attendance |
|---|---|
| **Chair: Teresa Chandler** | Present: ☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: **X** |
| **Community Engagement:** Joseph Williams | Present: ☐ Remote :☐ Absent: **X** |
| **Nominating Committee:** Dion McGill | Present: **X** Remote :☐ Absent: ☐ |
| **Quorum (2 out of 3 Members):** Yes: ☐ No: **X** | |

| **Attendance** | |
|---|---|
| # of attendees in person | 5 |
| # of attendees virtual | 0 |
| # of CPD attendees | 1 |
| CPD rank of attendees | Lt. Thompson |

**Agenda for the Public Meeting**

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

I. Call to Order, Roll Call
The Council will begin the meeting and establish a quorum of at least two Councilors.
**Teresa Chandler – Absent**
**Joseph Williams – Absent**
**Dion McGill – Present**

II. Approval of Remote Attendance of Councilor
If applicable, the Council will vote to allow the third Councilor to participate remotely after establishing a valid basis for the absence from the meeting.
**NA**

III. Approval of Agenda
**NA**

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.

IV. Public Comment
**NA**

V. Public Discussion on Trends and Concerns in the District
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.

**Trends**

- **Growing interest in community-led public safety structures**
  District councils, CCPSA involvement, and public feedback loops are becoming more normalized and better understood.
- **Shift toward alternative response models**
  CARE teams and "Treatment Not Trauma"-aligned approaches are expanding citywide, though staffing and resources lag behind demand.
- **Increasing community engagement expectations**
  Residents and partners want more listening sessions, transparency, and accessible avenues for feedback (virtual, in-person, QR codes, etc.).
- **Emphasis on collaboration across agencies**
  CPD, CCPSA, victim service agencies, CDPH, county support groups, CVI organizations, and faith-based partners are working together more often.
- **Growing conversations around officer wellness**
  EAP utilization, clinician availability, mental health supports, and recognition of burnout/overwork are becoming central.
- **Rising visibility of immigration-related concerns**
  ICE and federal agent activity have shaped conversations about trust, safety, and trauma in impacted districts.
- **Recruitment challenges for CPD**
  Declining test participation, generational differences, perceptions of policing, and workload issues are influencing recruitment numbers.
- **Focus on transparency and data dashboards**
  Clearance rates, investigative accountability, and public reporting are increasingly seen as essential for trust-building.

**Concerns**

- **Insufficient resources for CARE teams**
  Citywide expansion did not include more staff or vehicles, limiting the effectiveness of mental health response alternatives.
- **Community fear due to federal enforcement actions**
  Reports of people being picked up, children being monitored, and uncertainty at schools and transit areas causing widespread anxiety.

- **Officer-community relationship strain**
  Issues include:
  - young officers lacking experience
  - inconsistent foot/bike patrol engagement
  - high call volumes in Tier 1 districts reducing time for community connection
- **Superintendent selection concerns**
  - Tension over old vs new search firm
  - Fear new mayor may clash with selected superintendent
  - Worries about politicization of the process
  - Concern for maintaining continuity under election timelines
- **Low morale inside CPD**
  Heavy workloads, overtime dependence, staffing shortages, and generational cultural shifts impacting officer well-being.
- **Victim services confusion and fragmentation**
  Many groups involved (CPD, CDPH, county services, Chicago Survivors, CVI orgs), but coordination and clarity are inconsistent.
- **Public safety issues in neighborhoods**
  Multiple shootings, disturbances, high activity in Tier 1 districts, and residents feeling unsafe in daily routines.
- **Community perception that feedback may not matter**
  Residents express worry that their experiences or concerns won't meaningfully shape policies or leadership decisions.

VI. Reports from the Councilors

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.

**June-Aug Community Engagement Report from DC McGill:**
**Community engagement attendance**

- June 16, R.A.G.E. Members' Only Meet Up: I spoke with several community members.
- June 25, Teen Trend Town Hall: Approximately 100 attendees, including youth and representatives from community organizations.
- June 30, ICIRR press conference: Approximately 100 community members and organizational representatives.

The total documented attendance was approximately 200 people, plus several community members engaged at the June 16 R.A.G.E. meeting.

CPD participation

I do not recall CPD members being present at these engagements. More broadly, I rarely encounter CPD personnel at the community events I attend outside of District Council meetings. Many of these events are organized by community organizations rather than CPD.

Trends and concerns

- Community members have expressed concern about reported ICE activity, including consistent ICE sightings and reported abductions in Englewood. At the June 30 press conference, participants discussed CPD and ICE interactions, the birthright-citizenship ruling, and a broader sense that community members do not feel safe.
- Residents and community organizations continue to discuss pop-up parties and block takeovers. These gatherings are not exclusively composed of young people, although public discussion frequently frames them as a youth issue.
- Community members are concerned about identifying constructive and effective responses to large youth gatherings without defaulting to increased arrest, detention, or incarceration.
- In these discussions, I have raised CILOA as a potential tool and encouraged residents and community organizations to become more familiar with the SAFE-T Act so they can better recognize when their rights may be violated.

Councilor reports

- On June 2, The TRiiBE published my opinion piece, “Y’all really want to create a youth incarceration machine over teen trends, huh?” The piece addressed youth gatherings, public-safety policy, and the risks of responding by expanding youth incarceration.
- On June 16, I attended the R.A.G.E. Members’ Only Meet Up and spoke with several community members about the work of the District Councils and the impending search for Chicago’s next police superintendent.
- On June 23, I delivered remarks to the Chicago Reparations Task Force concerning police torture, wrongful convictions, public distrust, healing, restorative approaches, and community-centered public safety.
- On June 23, I participated in a panel concerning the Chicago Integrated Legal and Other Alternatives program with Cook County Public Defender Sharone Mitchell Jr. and Alexandra Van Brunt of Impact for Equity. The discussion included CILOA implementation, training, supervision, accountability, public education, and data transparency.
- On June 25, I attended the Teen Trend Town Hall and engaged in discussion concerning youth gatherings and appropriate community and public-safety responses.
- On June 27, I attended the District Councilors’ quarterly meeting at Chicago State University. The meeting included discussion of annual priority proposals to the Commission based on monthly-meeting and community-engagement feedback.
- On June 30, I attended an ICIRR press conference concerning the birthright-citizenship ruling, immigration enforcement, and CPD and ICE interactions.

VII. Update from the Commission

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.

**NA**

VIII. 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.

**NA**

IX. Hearings and Discussions
The Council will discuss any topics it decides to prioritize at the meeting.

X. 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.

- **Superintendent Search Listening Session**

XI. 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.

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

- Next Meeting Date: September 16, 2026
- Next Meeting Time: 06:00 PM
- Location: Ogden Park, 6500 S. Racine