

1 COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and
2 ACCOUNTABILITY
3 PUBLIC MEETING

4 Thursday, May 28, 2026
5 6:30 p.m.
6 Irish American Heritage Center
7 Chicago, Illinois

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9 APPEARANCES:

10 President Remel Terry
11 Vice President Angel Rubi Navarajo
12 Commissioner Sandra Wortham
13 Commissioner Aaron Gottlieb
14 Commissioner Abierre Minor
15 Commissioner Gina Piemonte
16 Commissioner Anthony Driver
17 Executive Director Adam Gross
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1 PRESIDENT TERRY: Good evening. Thank you
2 all so much for being here.

3 The May 28th meeting of the
4 Community Commission for Public Safety and
5 Accountability is now called to order.

6 Good evening, everyone, and we are
7 going to get started. Please make sure to place
8 your cell phones on silent mode. Remain seated,
9 and if you will be using any small hand-held
10 devices, please refrain from using them in a way
11 that interferes with the ability of others to
12 hear or see the proceedings.

13 So we will begin by calling of the
14 roll to establish a quorum. Commissioner Driver

15 COMMISSIONER DRIVER: Present.

16 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Gottlieb?

17 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Present.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Minor?

19 Commissioner Piemonte.

20 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Present.

21 PRESIDENT TERRY: Vice President Rubi
22 Navarijo.

23 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Present.

24 PRESIDENT TERRY: President Terry is present.

1 Commissioner Wortham.

2 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Present.

3 PRESIDENT TERRY: With six of seven
4 commissioners present of the Community Commission
5 for Public Safety and Accountability, we have a
6 quorum, and we can conduct the Commission's
7 business.

8 The next order of business is
9 public comment.

10 Before we begin public comment, I'd
11 like to say a few words about the Commission's
12 rules for behavior at Commission meetings.

13 The Commission's bylaws have rules
14 that apply to everyone at our meetings, both
15 commissioners and people in the audience. The
16 rules are designed to make these meetings a place
17 where all speakers are safe, have an opportunity
18 to be heard and are able to speak without
19 disruption or intimidation.

20 If people interrupt, disrupt,
21 harass, threaten, discriminate, or disrespect,
22 the chair of this meeting will call for order,
23 issue warnings to people who are violating the
24 ruled, and can ultimately have someone removed

1 for violating the rules.

2 Commissioners can also make motions
3 to enforce these rules. We ask everyone to help
4 create space where we can have hard conversations
5 respectfully and allow every speaker to be heard.
6 Thank you.

7 If you would like to share
8 something related to the Commission's work on
9 Public Safety and Accountability, you have a few
10 options. You can speak at a public meeting such
11 as this. You can also submit public comment to
12 us by emailing
13 CommunityCommissionpubliccomment@City.org.

14 If you have a printed version of
15 your comment, you can also give it to one of our
16 members of staff or someone on the Commission.

17 People who wanted to speak had
18 submitted their names.

19 I have, I believe, probably nine
20 names up here now because I just got another one.
21 Each person will be allotted two minutes to
22 speak, and we do ask that prior to you giving
23 your public comments, that you say your name and
24 you spell your name for the record.

1 And, again, if you have any
2 comments, you can email them to
3 CommunityCommissionPublicComment@cityofchicago.
4 org.

5 And I'm going to call up the first
6 three speakers, and we have the mic here.

7 Gianna Escareno, Maria Puga, and
8 Celso Rivera.

9 MS. ESCARENO: Good evening. My name is
10 Gianna. I'm a member of CAARPR's working
11 community, a member of the South Side community
12 which is an immigrant community that was hit
13 hardest during ICE operations.

14 I'm here on behalf of the community
15 members who are demanding that the Commission do
16 what it can do to end CPD and ICE collaboration,
17 as a community has seen it with our own eyes,
18 them collaborating, and we know that you all have
19 the power to hold CPD accountable when
20 collaborating with ICE or immigration forces.

21 CPD should be publishing a monthly
22 report on 911 calls that were made by federal
23 agents to CPD, any dispatch orders to scenes
24 where known federal agents were carrying out

1 operations, and any other forms of communication
2 between ICE and CPD.

3 These reports should include the
4 names of any officers found to be collaborating
5 with ICE and names of their police commanders
6 and the districts they are located in.

7 A list of known collaborators
8 should be published monthly so repeated offenders
9 or districts with persistent issues can be
10 addressed. The video footage from the shooting
11 of Marimar Martinez, a member of the southwest
12 side community Brighton Park, who was shot five
13 times by ICE as they ran into her car and an
14 innocent community member's car. This video
15 footage from the shooting from Marimar Martinez
16 explicitly shows a CPD officer -- telling CPD
17 officers to move away and not record. This is
18 explicit collaboration. Who are these officers?
19 Who are the commander? We cannot allow this
20 information to be sequestered and hidden by CPD
21 and addressed internally without public
22 participation.

23 The community knows that CPD does,
24 in fact, collaborate with ICE, and we have seen

1 an increase of ICE activity in the neighborhood
2 and our communities.

3 Recently, a mother and child were
4 kidnapped by ICE in the neighborhood a few weeks
5 ago.

6 So we know that the ICE presence
7 has not stopped, and they will not continue to
8 stop under Trump's administration, and we are
9 demanding that the Commission hold CPD and ICE
10 accountable when they collaborate, and we are
11 also demanding that CPOP referendum be passed so
12 the community can elect their own commission.
13 Thank you.

14 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

15 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: I will be
16 translating from Spanish to English.

17 MS. PUGA: About a year ago, my son went with
18 his girlfriend to go have dinner in Pilsen. I
19 guess he was coming out of his car after the
20 event. Unfortunately, he was shot and killed as
21 he was stepping out of his car.

22 We lived in the area for over 30
23 years and request justice for my son.

24 It's been one year and six months

1 since I've communicated with the detective about
2 my case with my son, and I haven't had any
3 follow-up about speaking with detectives.

4 It's been trouble getting in
5 communication with them. Time passes, and it
6 feels like justice won't be served for my son,
7 and the person who committed this crime won't be
8 held accountable.

9 My son would have turned 21, and
10 it's not fair that he was just out in the street
11 and his life was taken away from me.

12 I urge anyone, whether you're on
13 the commission or anyone in the public, to help
14 me navigate this difficult situation so I can
15 find justice for my son and get in touch with
16 detectives responsible.

17 As the days and years continue, I
18 will continue to fight for my son.

19 Thank you so much.

20 MR. RIVERA: Celso Rivera. C-E-L, as in
21 Larry, S-O, Rivera, R-I-V-E-R-A, and I'm here
22 representing myself, my neighbors, my family that
23 lives in the neighborhood.

24 It's getting pretty warm out there,

1 and we've had an increase in crime in the
2 neighborhood in the area. We just recently had
3 that sexual assault in LaBagh Woods, and we've
4 got crime that's being attracted from the -- from
5 the unhoused, drug deals, and, you know, just a
6 lot of transient traffic coming in and out of the
7 neighborhood.

8 What we are asking for, really,
9 just more of police presence. More of a sign
10 that they're patrolling, they are around, because
11 kids' programming is going to begin. School is
12 going to let out next week, and we want our
13 children and our neighbors to be safe. So thank
14 you very much.

15 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Nicole Foster,
16 Kayla Nguyen, Connor Martinez.

17 MS. FOSTER: Nicole Foster. N-I-C-O-L-E
18 F-O-S-T-E-R. I've lived in the neighborhood for
19 20 years, and we have been trying to work with
20 some of the homeless encampments that we have
21 over here in Eugene Field Park, and we've worked
22 with DFFS and Park District about having good
23 neighbors with good behaviors, and we have some
24 bad actors coming in kind of preying upon a lot

1 of those within the encampments. We see it as
2 mental health issue. And some of the drugs and
3 the alcohol that is permeating is being set upon
4 by people coming in and selling them drugs, and
5 we see night ministry come in to dispense clean
6 needles, and immediately thereafter we're seeing
7 the drug dealers to keep them sick and keep them
8 dependent. And so we have a lot of used needles
9 that we've uncovered in the park.

10 We're really concerned about as
11 kids start to utilize the services when school
12 lets out, and we have some of the after-school
13 programming that's beginning to start summer
14 camps.

15 We're seeing just a rampant illegal
16 activity with drug use and alcohol in the parks
17 themselves.

18 So we're looking for help from CPD
19 in order to curb just some of the illegal
20 behaviors that we're seeing. Not criminalize
21 homelessness, but help us to ensure that the
22 families and the kids using these parks are able
23 to do so safely, and that parks are for everyone,
24 and that everyone has equal access to them.

1 MS. NJUYEN: My name is Kayla Nguyen.
2 K-A-Y-L-A. Last name N-G-U-Y-E-N.

3 On April 30th, the Immigration
4 Accountability Committee tasked by Mayor Brandon
5 Johnson through the ICD on Notice essentially
6 submitted their final report on their
7 investigation on ICE's conduct, and not just
8 ICE's conduct, but also local law enforcement
9 conduct during operation Midway Blitz.

10 This report enforces what we
11 already know. ICE brutalized our black and brown
12 communities, and CPD's policies were insufficient
13 to properly respond to these.

14 We continually see -- I mean even
15 here today and then last meeting as well --
16 during these victim services announcements, that
17 there is no follow-up from CPD for victim
18 services, fewer, inadequate resources for
19 grieving families.

20 It's been a month. We see the same
21 people here. These families have had no
22 progress. That's unacceptable.

23 All of these are failures of CPD
24 accountability, lack of CPD policy. They've been

1 directed multiple times by several bodies to
2 create measures and been urged by the community
3 on multiple occasions now for months and months
4 to develop some kind of policy or action or do
5 something about this.

6 As an accountability body, this
7 committee is also -- this Commission is also
8 tasked with making sure that happens, and I don't
9 see progress. We come here month after month and
10 nothing is happening.

11 So I -- it leads the community to
12 question what exactly is this Commission good for
13 if there is no progress, if the community
14 continues to be grieving, continues to be in
15 pain, continues to call for action and no action
16 is taken. How are people supposed to trust CPD?
17 How are people supposed to trust our
18 accountability bodies if there is no
19 transparency, there is no accountability, and
20 these are the people that are supposed to protect
21 and serve us?

22 We move into a summer now where
23 it's warm. People are looking to have fun
24 outside, and, what? We're supposed to look

1 around and have CPD protect and serve us? I
2 don't think so. I don't think so. I don't think
3 that the community has that trust.

4 MR. MARTINEZ: Hello. My name is Connor
5 Martinez. That's C-O-N-N-E-R M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z.
6 And I'm here to echo a lot of things that have
7 already been said.

8 As a member of CAARPR's immigrants
9 rights working committee, I want to speak in
10 support of CCPSA's potential recommendation that
11 the OIG conduct an audit of CPD's implementation
12 of the Welcoming City Ordinance.

13 Every quarter, CPD is required to
14 submit a report of compliance with the Welcoming
15 City Ordinance. This report is generally about
16 two pages long and really only states when CPD
17 receives a detainer request from ICE.

18 There's no information available
19 about -- there's no information available about
20 closed or open investigations of WCO violations.

21 Without OIG's oversight, we will
22 continue to see the bare minimum of compliance
23 from CPD or possibly none.

24 Official City bodies, oversight

1 agencies like the Immigration Accountability
2 Committee continued recommending stronger
3 accountability, as well as stronger transparency
4 measures regarding CPD's role in immigration
5 enforcement, and yet CPD's reporting compliance
6 practices remain unchanged. We'd like to see
7 that actually changed. Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

9 Our last two speakers, Maya
10 Sanchez -- three. Maya Sanchez, Gio Araujo, and
11 Kamaria Powell.

12 MS. SANCHEZ: I'm Maya Sanchez. M-A-Y-A
13 S-A-N-C-H-E-Z. CPD crowd control during
14 immigration enforcement activities legitimizes
15 and encourages ICE's extrajudicial kidnappings
16 and recognized violations of federal law.

17 In Chicago specifically, ICE has a
18 pattern and practice of detaining people without
19 warrants or probable cause. Being protected by a
20 line of CPD officers allows them to carry out
21 these illegal detentions with little public
22 accountability.

23 In Chicago and other cities, we
24 have seen that local law enforcement emboldens

1 ICE and results in injuries to the public.

2 If the federal government wishes to
3 carry out immigration enforcement activities in
4 Chicago, then their own resources should be
5 sufficient to manage all of the following
6 consequences.

7 The people of Chicago should not
8 have to worry about aggression from their own law
9 enforcement as they simultaneously face the
10 violence and brutality of federal agents.

11 Since I have another minute, I also
12 wanted to talk about how there are known white
13 supremacists and current and former Oath Keepers
14 that still remain on the CPD force today.

15 Recent ordinances have failed to
16 address the white supremacist affiliations within
17 CPD.

18 There's no reason to assume they
19 would treat immigration enforcement in a manner
20 inconsistent with their stated world views.

21 We cannot be a, quote/unquote,
22 "Welcoming City" when bigots are employed by any
23 municipal agency, least of all the CPD.

24 Participating in any kind of hate

1 group should disqualify someone from service on
2 CPD, given the high stakes of both criminal and
3 immigration law enforcement.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

5 MS. POWELL: Good evening, Commission. My
6 name is Kamaria Powell. K-A-M-A-R-I-A
7 P-O-W-E-L-L. My comment is directed towards the
8 teen trends we've had lately.

9 I wanted to know, in CCPSA's
10 discussions with CPD or the Mayor's Office, if we
11 have a formal intergovernmental agreement or
12 partnership between CPD and Cook County juvenile
13 probation for those youth who commit violent acts
14 on property, not persons, but if they damage
15 property, cars? Is there an agreement that we
16 will have what I think is corrective
17 consequences, meaning you're mandated to do
18 community service for three, six, nine, or a
19 12-month period to repay that debt you caused to
20 an individual or their property, so they'll know,
21 Okay, I damaged property. I jumped on someone's
22 car, and not just be released into the custody of
23 my parent or guardian and not understand that you
24 need to put in some work to repay that debt.

1 I don't want to throw the kids
2 away, and I'm not talking about young people who
3 commit violent offenses against people.

4 I'm talking about damage to
5 property and to correct the behavior, because
6 they're still young people. They're still going
7 to do rebellious acts, but when you commit a
8 crime that causes tens of thousands of dollars to
9 someone's property, and you are arrested and
10 apprehended, usually if it's non-violent to a
11 person, you will be released into the custody of
12 your parent or guardian, but what else happens?

13 CPD used to have a program
14 called -- what was this? Peer Jury, where they
15 would have to come every month or so and do some
16 type of community service.

17 I want to see if we can have those
18 fruitful discussions with non-profits, because
19 some of you, if you commit a crime, and you
20 damage someone's property, like a car, why
21 wouldn't you volunteer for six months at a soup
22 kitchen or clean up trash where you caused harm?

23 I just want to know if there are
24 any discussions, or if you can make strong

1 recommendations for the Mayor's Office and CPD to
2 enter some kind of agreement, because it is up to
3 the Cook County judge to do that. Thank you.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. We've reached
5 the end of the public comment period. Thank you
6 again to all of our speakers. We do value your
7 input.

8 The next order of business is the
9 approval of minutes.

10 Before today's meeting, draft
11 meeting minutes of the Commission's regular
12 meeting held on April 30th were shared with all
13 commissioners.

14 Are there any corrections to the
15 draft minutes that have been circulated?

16 If there no corrections, I move to
17 approve the minutes.

18 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Second.

19 PRESIDENT TERRY: I have moved to approve the
20 minutes of the Commission's meeting held on April
21 30th. Commissioner Piemonte has seconded. Is
22 there any debate on the motion?

23 Hearing none, those in favor of
24 adopting the motion to approve the minutes of the

1 Commission meeting held on April 30th, please
2 signal by saying aye.

3 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Those opposed, say nay.

5 (NO RESPONSE.)

6 PRESIDENT TERRY: All right. The ayes have
7 it, and the motion passes.

8 Special presentations on summer
9 safety.

10 Today we will be focusing on an
11 important and timely topic, how our City is
12 preparing to keep communities safe throughout the
13 summer. Many of you have also touched upon this
14 in your recent comments. This discussion is part
15 of the Commission's strategic priority to advance
16 preventative, proactive, community-based and
17 evidence-based approaches to public safety,
18 including approaches that involve people and
19 organizations outside of the Police Department.

20 At our June meeting, we hope to have
21 CPD to join us to continue the discussion around
22 public safety and discuss their recent workforce
23 allocation plan and community policing
24 assessment.

1 We're pleased to have a
2 representative from the Mayor's Office, along
3 with several organizations dedicated to community
4 safety here to share their plans and their
5 insights.

6 During today's presentations, you
7 will hear about key summer safety concerns
8 affecting our communities, including children and
9 youth practical strategy programs designed to
10 support safe environments and opportunities for
11 deeper collaboration with community partners.
12 Our goal is to gain clear understanding of the
13 challenges faced by our communities, explore how
14 we can work together to ensure that all
15 residents, especially young people, have a safe
16 and positive summer.

17 First, I would like to invite Norman
18 Livingston Kerr to the podium, founder and chief
19 executive officer of Trajectory Changing
20 Solutions, a firm that strengthens
21 community-based organizations and municipalities
22 to effectively implement evidence-informed
23 violence reduction.

24 Mr. Kerr has over 30 years of

1 experience in community violence and prevention.

2 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: Good evening, everyone.
3 Good to see you all.

4 I know this is a very heartfelt
5 topic that we're discussing.

6 I'm so sorry for your loss and
7 those of you who have experienced just different
8 challenges in Chicago.

9 I love Chicago. And I know you all
10 do, and the work that we do has to be focused on
11 how can we make Chicago better.

12 So I'm going to talk a little bit
13 tonight. I do want to thank the Commissioners
14 for having me to share my work. I'm going to
15 talk about -- thank you. I'm going to talk about
16 reducing violence in Chicago and what we do at my
17 company Trajectory Changing Solutions.

18 Just a little bit of my background.
19 I worked in this field for 30 years. I've been
20 doing this for a long time. I love doing it. I
21 don't want to do anything else. This is where I
22 feel good. I have a master's degree in social
23 work. I utilize that to help understand the
24 impact of trauma in our individuals, in our

1 families, in our communities. These are things
2 we don't talk about enough. I served as the
3 Deputy Mayor Public Safety for Lori Lightfoot a
4 few years ago, and I started my own company since
5 that time.

6 Next slide. I just want to
7 highlight that I do this work across the country,
8 several different cities. The same work that I'm
9 talking about right now that we do in Chicago and
10 other places, bringing people together to reduce
11 violence.

12 So you guys remember COVID? Yes.
13 So during COVID, I went to the Mayor's Office,
14 and everyone -- at 8:00 o'clock, we had a phone
15 call talking about what's happening, reviewing
16 the data, where are the rates increasing and why,
17 what was the messaging strategy, what
18 communication do we need to tighten up, and you
19 know what? If you look at the slide, all these
20 entities were at the table talking about COVID.
21 Does this make sense? Because it was an
22 emergency. We were losing lives. We were
23 spending a lot of money.

24 Look at that, street outreach,

1 schools, mental health providers, elected
2 officials, businesses, not just public health
3 professionals and hospitals. Nobody said, You
4 know what, churches? We don't need you. We got
5 it under control. They said, We need everybody.
6 That's the only way it's going to change is if
7 everybody is at the table.

8 There was a role for everyone in
9 addressing COVID and rightfully so.

10 Go to the next slide, please. This
11 is the same exact slide when addressing those who
12 are violent. But you know what? Many of these
13 partners don't think that they have a role in
14 addressing violence. Why is it that we can come
15 together to address COVID, but we can't come
16 together to address violence, which we spent so
17 much money addressing violence every year?

18 There's so many people who are
19 killed or injured that we lose. It's the same
20 magnitude.

21 We have to look at violence as a
22 public health issue, and when we're not, that's
23 the problem. We think somebody else is going to
24 do it. It will go away. It is not going away.

1 The police can't do it by
2 themselves. They will tell you that.

3 Street interventions like the one
4 here, they can't do it by themselves. They will
5 tell you that.

6 There's a role for everyone just
7 like we addressed COVID. So we need
8 partnerships.

9 Go on. In the summer of 2021,
10 after we were doing all this COVID stuff, I went
11 to the Mayor's Office, we said, You know, we're
12 going to do a summer safety strategy where we had
13 meetings every day with those same entities, City
14 departments, parks, buildings, law department,
15 libraries. We came together during the summer
16 and met to talk about strategies. We were in one
17 conversation together. Simply because we were
18 communicating more, we saw a reduction of 25
19 percent in shootings. Just because we were
20 talking more, and we were more aligned. People
21 felt, Oh, they have a role. So the coordination
22 is essential.

23 Next slide, please. We have this
24 thing at my company, we have the three Ps to

1 success. Personnel. You got right participants.
2 You have to have paperwork. Let me tell you
3 something. In our program, people say all kinds
4 of things about programs, whatever, the area,
5 some programs are better than others. One of the
6 main ingredients is personnel. The work that
7 we're trying to do to reduce violence. Everybody
8 can't do that work. People think they can do it.
9 But this is not just playing sports for kids.
10 It's way deeper than that. We're dealing with
11 generational trauma. We're dealing with people
12 who are injured physically, emotionally. We're
13 dealing with people who have access to guns. We
14 have to have the right people on these teams. We
15 can't just give any organization this
16 responsibility. Everybody can't do this work.
17 That's one of our problems. Groups are doing it.
18 They're spending money. Wasting money because
19 they are not getting the right staff. They don't
20 get the right training, and these are the things
21 that are essential for us to see results.

22 All of us want to see Chicago
23 safer. I'm going deeper and showing you
24 something that needs to change. Some of these

1 organizations are hiring the wrong people, and we
2 will not be able to deploy the strategies that
3 are needed.

4 So the right candidates, the proper
5 training. We want people that have lived
6 experience, yes, but they need the right training
7 and consistent. College kids? Yes, we need them
8 in roles, yes. But, again, they got to have the
9 right training as well.

10 Go to the next slide. And my last
11 point I'm going to focus on is messaging. It's
12 any campaign, you have to have messaging. The
13 COVID campaign was messaging. Think of any
14 campaign that you think changes behavior. It's a
15 major campaign. It's non-stop. Seat belts,
16 major campaign. Non-smoking, major campaign.
17 Right? Anybody drink Coca-Cola here? Drink
18 Coke? Coke never stops advertising. They never
19 stop messaging. Even if they're number one, they
20 don't stop, because they want people to
21 consistently purchase their product. We have to
22 have messaging.

23 You look at social media. There's
24 so much negative messaging. All the time.

1 Videos of people fighting in Popeyes and
2 fast-food restaurants. Where's the positive
3 messages? We don't see it. These are things
4 that we can coordinate together.

5 So we need media, public service
6 announcements, billboards, talking about the pain
7 that we feel right now.

8 Next slide, please. During COVID,
9 we had messaging, specifically for COVID, people
10 in the streets.

11 Keep going. Just some more
12 messages to your entire population. Look at
13 that. Sharing of blunts, no hand-to-hand sales.
14 These are real messages.

15 Next slide. We want to highlight
16 streets. Stop shooting. Positive messages as
17 well. Messages alone don't do it. In
18 combination with everything else we're doing, we
19 have to see the visibility.

20 Next slide. On the left,
21 Chattanooga went over 365 days without a homicide
22 in the zone. 414 days total because we were
23 collaborating, we were working together. It's
24 possible. That's my last slide. Thank you.

1 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you for your
2 presentation, Mr. Kerr.

3 Do we have any questions?
4 Commissioners have any questions?

5 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you so much for
6 your presentation.

7 I was just looking into your
8 background, and I know you used to work as a CVI
9 worker doing violent interruption. I want to
10 know what is your position -- I know that
11 messaging is super important right now. I want
12 to know, one, what should we be anticipating from
13 your organization; and, two, what do you think
14 the role of CVI workers and violence interrupters
15 should look like in the summer, and are you doing
16 anything to coordinate with them?

17 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: So CVI worker's role in
18 the summer, I mean they do a good job right now
19 making themselves available for summer. There
20 are teams who are working seven days. Seven-day
21 coverage to make sure that they can address.
22 Some teams are doing 24-hour coverage. Part of
23 the issue is, there are not enough workers.

24 So the models are sound, the

1 strategies are good, but the work has to be
2 scaled up. So this strategy is proven. It's
3 been evaluated multiple times in different
4 context, different cities, even in different
5 countries, and it works. So we don't need to
6 find a model. We have a model. Let's invest in
7 it. Not short-term, long-term. This is
8 permanent work. This is not in a couple years,
9 How did we do? This is permanent work. This is
10 a profession that we can't do without moving
11 forward.

12 So the investment has to be there.
13 Summertime, we need to adjust. We need more
14 coverage. So we deploy other teams.

15 If we need to do special summer
16 teams, we don't take away from the community
17 teams, but we add summer teams to hit other
18 areas, like downtown, which Metropolitan will
19 talk about, other areas. But we have to have
20 some consistency with this work, and we have to
21 strive to build it.

22 So think about it as permanent
23 work, how can we get this in every area, in every
24 community. There needs to be some version of

1 this that's working with people who are
2 struggling.

3 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Vice president
4 Rubi Navarijo.

5 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you so
6 much for your presentation and time tonight.

7 Based on your work in the past,
8 what has been the best strategy interventions for
9 at-risk youth? How do you get a young person who
10 is maybe thinking of going down a certain path,
11 what are the best tools that you have seen that
12 worked?

13 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: I mean we do a lot of
14 work with people who are involved in the streets
15 already. Right? But to get folks not to get to
16 that point, we need a lot of touches, a lot of
17 interaction, a lot of activities.

18 We've heard all this before, but we
19 need to do this for real. We need a lot of
20 exposure.

21 Our young people need to see
22 something else, other communities, other cities,
23 other countries.

24 We're not doing enough around them.

1 We talk about young people. We have to be
2 thinking about their ecosystems. What do their
3 family situations look like? Some of the
4 families need mentoring. Some of the parents
5 need support. Because if the parents aren't
6 stable, that young person is going to have a hard
7 time. And I may invest two hours a week in that
8 young person, and if they're in a household
9 that's very dysfunctional, and we're not
10 addressing the family, we're going to lose that
11 battle.

12 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Commissioner
13 Driver.

14 COMMISSIONER DRIVER: I really appreciate
15 things you have to say. And as a person who's
16 been able to watch some of your work over the
17 years, very grateful for the work that you do.

18 But you also have this unique
19 experience of being like one of the top people in
20 the Mayor's Office doing this work, and one of
21 the top people on the outside doing this work.
22 And there's been a lot of pushing from community
23 members for a permanent gun violence prevention
24 that is separate and detached from the Mayor's

1 Office. And I guess I would ask you, do you
2 think this needs to be housed in City government,
3 and do you think it needs to be separate from the
4 Mayor's Office?

5 It's not -- we've had some amazing
6 people in the Mayor's Office do this work, but
7 the turnover rate is pretty high, and it seems
8 like we start over again each and every time, and
9 I think you have a unique perspective on both
10 inside and outside.

11 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: Thank you for that
12 question, and this office needs to be protected.
13 Right? What you don't want is a new
14 administration to come in and say, Oh, we don't
15 need that. Right? So it has to be stable. I'm
16 sure required some sort of ordinance for it to
17 happen. Right?

18 And Baton Rouge, they went through
19 a mayoral change last fall. The office got wiped
20 out immediately as soon as the election happened,
21 so now they're struggling because they are
22 employing a different strategy that's nothing
23 like this. It is a more heavy law enforcement
24 strategy that's not as effective.

1 So we have to protect this office.
2 It shouldn't matter if Johnson's in, somebody
3 else comes in. It doesn't matter. It's because
4 we know the community wants this.

5 So when I have this conversation
6 around the country, and I had one today, what
7 makes this work stable is community has to lobby
8 for it as well. They have to feel it. I mean
9 most of the workers in CVI are from the
10 community. So they engage with community.
11 That's a big part of the strategy, and the
12 community is going to make noise about it.
13 Right?

14 So example of this current
15 administration. I heard Mayor Johnson when he
16 was coming in, youth jobs. That was a violence
17 prevention strategy. CVI was already here. The
18 CVI workers and organizations made sure it didn't
19 go anywhere.

20 Yes, I believe in youth jobs, but
21 not at the expense of cutting any of these
22 programs.

23 So the community has to be very
24 involved to make noise, or we need our groups

1 also to get the best training possible so
2 nobody's arguing if they're effective or not, and
3 they all have to be collaborating on the same
4 page.

5 COMMISSIONER DRIVER: Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Wortham.

7 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Good evening. Thank
8 you for being here.

9 So I have a multiple-part question.
10 I'll try to get them all out in a sequence that
11 makes sense.

12 The first question is, you
13 mentioned, of course, that a lot of the CVI
14 workers -- I'm going to misquote you.
15 Paraphrase, Are involved in the street. My first
16 question is, do you believe in -- does your
17 organization conduct background checks on the
18 people you employ as CVI workers?

19 A related question. I understand
20 involved in the streets, so a lot of them may
21 have a criminal background, have been involved in
22 the criminal justice system. I understand the
23 question may seem strange, but the reason I'm
24 asking is because, not you and your presentation,

1 but other people who talked about CVI, I've heard
2 people, not you again, but other people involved
3 in CVI say, yeah, we know some of these guys
4 still have one foot in, one foot out, and you
5 just said community wants it, and I always say in
6 this -- in this space, that community means a lot
7 of things. So I want to be careful to not paint
8 with a broad brush every single community in the
9 City. So how -- those were the first two
10 questions.

11 The third question is, how do you
12 respond to a community that, depending on the
13 answer to the first two questions, may not be
14 comfortable with their violence-reduction
15 strategy involving people who are still involved
16 in criminal activity or have proximately been
17 involved in criminal activity?

18 How do you respond to that very
19 real existing part of some Chicago communities?

20 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: So I just want to
21 clarify, when I say involved in the streets, I'm
22 not talking about currently involved. I'm
23 talking about they have been -- they have a
24 background of being in the streets.

1 The workers now, we're talking
2 about CVI workers, they are screened; they're
3 background checked; they're street checked,
4 because -- and this is not even something that
5 I'm talking about. Right? Yes, I believe in
6 that, but the teams hold themselves accountable
7 because they don't want to see this work
8 disappear.

9 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Before you go on, I
10 want to make sure I'm clear. You're saying
11 they're street checked. Is that by their
12 colleague, or you're saying you do a background
13 check? Those are two different things.

14 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: I said background
15 check, a formal background check, yes. But the
16 street checks are done by their colleagues
17 because they don't want their programs to end.
18 So they're holding each other accountable because
19 they want to continue doing this work.
20 Right?

21 So for communities that maybe have
22 some trepidation about this work, I think they
23 need to -- maybe they're not clear about what it
24 is, and I say that because there's a lot of

Now, are there bad apples? In every field there are bad apples. In law enforcement there are bad apples. In law there's bad apples. In medicine there's bad apples. But we don't show the same grace for this field. Let me just say that.

The minute somebody does something, which they will, they're humans, we say, Get rid of the whole field.

We never say that for doctors. We never say that for lawyers or law enforcement. We say, There's bad apples. Get rid of the bad apples. Yes, we hold teams accountable. If there is a bad apple, we get rid of the bad apple.

PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Commissioner

1 Gottlieb.

2 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you so much,
3 President Terry. And thank you for your
4 presentation.

5 Obviously, the work is extremely
6 hard and stressful. So what are the kinds of
7 protections in place to protect the mental health
8 of workers?

9 I know there have been studies that
10 have recently shown that's a serious risk factor
11 or serious challenge in this work. What are the
12 kinds of things that can protect that?

13 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: I mean I'm glad you
14 asked that question, Commissioner Gottlieb. It's
15 like wellness is a big part of this. Just like
16 any work that's stressful. Any frontline worker
17 position, you have to have all this in place, and
18 we realize that we have some workers who are very
19 committed and dedicated. We have to force them
20 to take time off. Right? So we're going to
21 incorporate things like, Oh, here's a gift card
22 for a massage, whatever it is. Different things
23 mandating their time off, because this is very
24 serious work.

1 Many of them are traumatized in the
2 field. We have to tap into EAP programs within
3 organizations and other therapists and mental
4 health providers. That's a real thing. And
5 that's something that we're very conscious about,
6 and it's one of our main focuses right now.

7 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Commissioner
8 Piemonte.

9 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Thank you. In your
10 view, what does a truly community-centered public
11 safety system look like in Chicago in five to ten
12 years from now?

13 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: Five to ten years from
14 now, well, I mean a truly --

15 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Truly community
16 centered.

17 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: Well --

18 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: And safety system.

19 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: Well, this work doesn't
20 work without community. It really doesn't. Like
21 you could deploy teams. If the community's not
22 brought in, they're just going to be like, Oh, we
23 don't rock with them. Right? It's a lot of
24 engagement every day, canvassing, events,

1 resources, conversations, building relationships.
2 And one of the reasons why we focus so much on
3 personnel, because we are trying to minimize
4 turnover because we need consistency. Right?

5 A lot of times we build
6 relationships with different entities. That
7 person gets promoted or they leave, the
8 relationship ends. So we have to have
9 consistency with community. And we also have to
10 provide them resources so they can learn and
11 build. Right? Provide resources for them to
12 grow as a community. You know, increase their
13 aptitude, their education, all those things.
14 Being very intentional about that. That's not
15 just going to happen.

16 These are things that we have to
17 coordinate to have these conversations, to have
18 these gatherings and these engagements.

19 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: So when you say
20 "community," you mean on an individual level as
21 well as an organized level?

22 MR. LIVINGSTON KERR: I'm talking about all
23 levels. Residents who feel it, individually,
24 block clubs, organizations. At every level.

1 They got to feel like they're a part of this
2 thing.

3 As I talked about earlier with
4 COVID, usually people who have a public health
5 background would think, Oh, we got it. We're the
6 experts.

7 Churches played a big role because
8 they were welcomed in.

9 Outreach programs played a big role
10 because they were welcomed in.

11 I'm sure people were waiting for
12 them to say, Oh, no, we got it. No. We need
13 everything. And community has to be the same
14 way. We need everybody on the block, there's a
15 role for everybody. A person walking their dog,
16 there's a role. Somebody's got a Kool-Aid, a
17 lemonade stand, whatever. I'm making stuff up.
18 There's a role for everybody.

19 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Thank you so
21 much, Mr. Kerr, for your presentation.

22 Now, I would like to invite Jesus
23 Salazar, training director from Metropolitan
24 Peace Initiatives to the podium.

Metropolitan Peace Initiatives, a division of Metropolitan Family Services, convenes community-based and city-wide organizations to help heal Chicago communities experiencing the highest levels of gun violence.

MR. SALAZAR: Thank you for having us. I have a colleague of mine with me as well, James Mitchell. He is a subject matter expert for CPRU, and he will explain what CPRU is specifically. He will kick it off for us.

I want to say this. I'm a product of Chicago circumstances. I grew up in a single-family home, a mother who was struggling and, unfortunately, I got pulled into the streets. Right? And I wanted to just say this, if it wasn't for Jorge Roque who works at the New Life Centers in Little Village, I would not be here talking to you today. He saved my life. I'm forever grateful for that. And I turned my life around. I transitioned, and now I'm doing this work. And I enjoy every minute of it.

So I will turn it over to my
colleague, James Mitchell, and introduce himself.

MR. MITCHELL: Good evening, everyone. My

1 names is James Mitchell. I am the field manager
2 at Metropolitan Peace Initiative for CPRU.
3 That's our crisis prevention response unit tasked
4 with what some of you spoke about tonight. It
5 seems to be what I know to be a big subject, teen
6 trends or teen takeovers.

7 So CPRU was started -- founded in
8 July of 2023. That's essentially when we noticed
9 that teens were starting to go downtown, and it
10 was starting to become essentially out of control
11 a little bit, and we couldn't keep pulling
12 violence prevention guys or outreach workers from
13 their hot spots, which are in their communities,
14 to then deploy them downtown which leaves a
15 vacancy in the community. We would see crimes
16 and trends go down, but then they will pick up in
17 the neighborhood because we moved those
18 resources, so CPRU was formed.

19 So CPRU's goal is to
20 victimization -- prevent victimization, prevent
21 arrests, and then also connect those who are at
22 high risk with the best resources, right? And
23 then be strategic about that. We don't want to
24 place people or send people to a program with no

1 merit. Right? We want to make sure this program
2 is somewhat tailor fit for this participant or
3 this young person or this old person, returning
4 citizens, or anybody who might need support in
5 community. Especially for our young people who
6 are at the trends. We have 24 crisis responders.

7 When we developed CPRU, we have this
8 thing called LTO, licensed to operate. What
9 makes our CVI specialists so good is because they
10 are from those communities. They have an
11 intimate relationship with the community. So
12 much distrust in the community, that you need
13 that.

14 We are strong believers that
15 everything is done with relationships. If you
16 have a relationship with that community or the
17 people inside the community, you can get things
18 done.

19 So when we designed CPRU, we took
20 24 individuals from the most -- from the
21 community that had the most violent incidents and
22 that had been -- that had been doing CVI for
23 awhile. So when we designed this team, we knew
24 that kids were going to come from all over the

1 City, and we wanted to be able to have
2 relationships. So our goal was that we know
3 these people working in this community. They
4 have some of the best relationships in this
5 community. Once they get to the team trends or
6 the teen takeovers, they will have those
7 relationships and be able to leverage them with
8 our young people.

9 Next slide. So the main purpose of
10 this and what we learned, especially lately, if
11 you can get there in time -- if you can get
12 there, then you can monitor some of the behavior
13 of the kids.

14 Not every teen trend has ended bad.
15 There are more trends than I'm pretty sure more
16 people know about because they don't get as much
17 publicity as the one we seen on the beach at
18 57th.

19 Today I think there's been maybe
20 700, 750 teen trends.

21 Most teen trends do not even end in
22 arrests or victimization or damage to property,
23 especially when CPRU where we have violence
24 prevention specialists attending those teen

1 trends.

2 When you look at the data that it
3 shows, it's when they're not present. It's when
4 the looting -- I mean the destruction of property
5 happens or fights break out. It's when they have
6 nobody there to monitor them.

7 Next slide. CPRU highlights. So
8 what we've been able to do as of lately, if you
9 look from 2023 to 2024, it was high volumes of
10 trends. We found those who were actually -- to
11 start up trends and gave them jobs. If you can
12 create a trend, if you can gather people or get
13 people to come here, well, then there's also a
14 skill-set that can be transferred. So we found
15 the guys and girls who were actually starting
16 teen trends, and then we found them employment.
17 Right? If you can do a teen trend, then you can
18 do a party plan.

19 We got them into community with they
20 local aldermen and then helped them plan events,
21 and they no longer did teen trends.

22 If you look at the data from that
23 time period, it died off. It wasn't that many
24 teen trends. It wasn't happening as much. But

1 like most things with young people, it became
2 trending. It is a thing for them to congregate,
3 and it is not a weird thing. Right? It is not
4 unnatural for young people to want to be in a
5 space or in community with each other, nor is it
6 illegal. Right?

7 So the goal is, one, make sure that
8 they can enjoy the space, beaches, parks, but
9 also make sure that it's safe for residents.

10 As I said before, not all trends end
11 in violence or with destruction of property.
12 It's actually quite opposite.

13 If you look at the data, if there's
14 ten trends, and there's violence prevention
15 specialists or CPRU attends this trend, the
16 chances of it being destruction of property are
17 almost zero.

18 From my knowledge, I've attended at
19 least 570 of the trends. I have never seen any
20 kid jump on top of a car at any other trends that
21 we've attended.

22 I'm not saying that they don't
23 do it, because clearly there's footage of it. I
24 wouldn't say that. But the ones that CPRU is

1 present at, it does not happen, and we noticed
2 that.

3 Next slide. Gender-based violence.

4 MR. SALAZAR: So, we wanted to touch on
5 gender-based violence in Chicago in 2025. We've
6 seen increase specifically, and this is the
7 reason why we wanted to talk about it.

8 So what our communities need to
9 know specifically, right, why we're talking about
10 this gender-based violence, it's not just a
11 private issue happening behind closed doors. In
12 Chicago, it has become a major public safety
13 concern that affects families, neighborhoods, and
14 the stability of entire communities.

15 In 2025, the numbers reached levels
16 we have never seen, and the impact being felt
17 across the City specifically.

18 Next slide. What the data tells
19 us, the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline
20 received just under 70,000 contacts in 2025. A
21 17 percent increase from 2024. And 181 percent
22 higher than before the pandemic specifically.

23 We heard stories about the pandemic
24 and how domestic-related violence or gender-based

1 violence was happening at astronomical numbers.
2 Right? Calls coming specifically from Chicago
3 increased 122 percent compared to 2019.

4 There were 20,623 requests for
5 emergency shelter, but Chicago had 157 days with
6 zero available shelter beds or cribs for
7 survivors.

8 Requests for housing support
9 increased 56 percent in Chicago, showing that
10 survivors are struggling to find stable places to
11 go. This is not a one-year spike. It's
12 happening -- it's a multi-year trend that has
13 been rising since 2020. So it's been happening.

14 Next slide. Why this matters for
15 public safety. One, domestic violence spills
16 into the community. When survivors can't find
17 safety, situations escalate. We see retaliatory
18 harm, increased crisis calls, children exposed to
19 trauma, higher risk of lethal violence, and
20 gender-based violence is directly connected to
21 the broader violence we see in our communities.

22 We have a lesson that we teach at
23 Metropolitan Peace Academy around red flag
24 relationships, and all of our CVI workers are

1 trained in domestic violence and response.

2 Two. Lack of shelter. It increases
3 danger, with half the year showing no available
4 shelter beds. Survivors are forced to stay with
5 their abusers, sleep in cars or public spaces,
6 enter unsafe temporary situations. This
7 increases the risk of further harm and puts
8 pressure on outreach workers, hospitals, and
9 police.

10 Next slide. Number three, black and
11 LatinX communities are hit the hardest.

12 Chicago's data shows that the
13 communities already facing the highest levels of
14 gun violence and economic hardship are also
15 experiencing the highest levels of domestic
16 violence.

17 This deepens existing inequities and
18 trauma.

19 And the last, the system is
20 overwhelmed. Honestly, hotlines, shelters, legal
21 advocates, and outreach teams are stretched very,
22 very thin. When the system is overloaded,
23 survivors wait longer, options shrink, and
24 dangerous situations escalate.

1 Next slide. So what we've seen our
2 community needs is more emergency shelter beds
3 and safe housing options, stronger coordination
4 between outreach workers, DV agencies, hospitals,
5 and City departments, trauma-informed support for
6 survivors and children, investment in long-term
7 housing pathways so survivors don't have to
8 return to unsafe environments, community
9 awareness and involvement, because safety is
10 everyone's responsibility, and we've heard that
11 over and over tonight.

12 Next slide. So the bottom line is
13 this, so gender-based violence is rising in
14 Chicago, and it is reshaping the safety of our
15 neighborhoods.

16 When survivors cannot access
17 shelter, housing, or support, the risk of
18 community violence is a lot higher when these
19 things are not being met specifically. Right?

20 And we do have constant
21 communication with CPD. We have our regional
22 coordination calls with CPD, and outreach staff
23 specifically, and we've talked about these issues
24 in the -- on a City level with CVI professionals

1 and Chicago Police Department, and we've talked
2 about these increases and how we're going to
3 respond to these increases. Right?

4 So we've changed our strategy around
5 a little bit, and now more outreach workers are
6 focusing on when we are reporting back and
7 following up to these incidents of violence, when
8 we're mediating conflicts. If it is a DV or
9 gender-based incident, our staff will contact DV
10 agencies, make them aware of these incidents, and
11 red flag relationships are ultimately at the top
12 of our goals right now. Thank you, all.

13 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, both, so much
14 for your presentation.

15 Do we have any questions?
16 Commissioner Minor.

17 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you so much for
18 your presentation. I have two questions. The
19 first one is about DV.

20 So we recently had a conversation
21 on victim services at the Commission meeting. It
22 was a priority for us last year. This year by
23 activation with conversations, we're still trying
24 to figure out some synergy and some next steps

1 that we can do as a commission to address some of
2 the issues that we're seeing around the City.

3 In your data, it says there was a
4 122 percent increase in 2019 in call search for
5 help and service.

6 You talked a little about some of
7 the issues or one of the solutions was to have
8 coordination of services.

9 I also want to understand a little
10 bit more about some of the bottlenecks and how
11 can we as a Commission that has civilian
12 oversight of Chicago Police Department that has
13 relationships with COPA, the Chicago Police
14 Board, what do you think our role should be in
15 the future on addressing DV?

16 MR. SALAZAR: So our recommendation on our
17 behalf would be to help us advocate for more
18 funding when it comes to, you know, DV agencies
19 specifically. I know that they struggle with
20 funding.

21 There is also a lack of
22 communication when it comes to DV agencies and
23 other agencies that can offer support as well.

24 We are building an infrastructure

1 to make sure that we have a -- or build a
2 coalition around communicating back and forth
3 with DV organizations throughout the whole entire
4 City of Chicago, but it takes work. And that is
5 on us as well, so it isn't just on you all
6 specifically. It's definitely, you know,
7 something that has to happen, you know,
8 holistically and multiple agencies in the City of
9 Chicago.

10 COMMISSIONER MINOR: That's so good. Thank
11 you for uplifting that. Funding is a key issue.

12 The second question that I have is
13 to the point of the teen trends. So I have been
14 organizing in this coalition called the Youth
15 Empowerment Space, and we have been activating
16 spaces for young people and facilitating town
17 halls to talk about the teen trends.

18 One of the interesting parts about
19 the coalition is that it's ran by young people.
20 So a lot of folks are 17 to 24 years old that's
21 coming in and providing feedback, and there were
22 hosting events based on what we've heard from
23 them.

24 One of the young ladies on our

1 Tuesday call talked about being at a teen trend
2 and experiencing excessive force by CPD when they
3 came on scene, but she also talked about being
4 bullied by one of her peers. And they had a
5 picnic, it was like a beach situation, and he was
6 stepping on everybody's food, and later that
7 night, he was killed. And she talked about like
8 the grief and impact of being in that
9 environment, and then we asked her what do you
10 think some of the solutions to the problem was;
11 she was saying that she wanted to see a more
12 coordinated response for the community and wanted
13 to see more CVI workers, violence interrupter
14 folks to advocate for the young people and making
15 sure that their rights are protected, because
16 there were some folks who were not participating
17 in the violence that got wrapped up in CPD's
18 response to the shooting that happened that
19 night.

20 I'm wondering, one of the things
21 you all uplifted in your conversation -- in your
22 PowerPoint is that you all have really great
23 trainings. Do you all make those trainings
24 accessible to the community members? Because it

1 looks like you all have a very lean team that's
2 responding to these teen trends.

3 So I'm wondering if community
4 members can be certified through you all and be
5 on scene?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, so we do -- we do -- the
7 team is small because they are trained. So every
8 CPRU member goes to an 18-week cohort where we do
9 everything from trauma-informed care, crisis
10 response, training. You have to be certified.
11 They do a stop-the-bleed class, and I think last
12 time I checked it was 23 trainings that you go
13 over in the course.

14 So the thing about just having
15 anybody come out is, we want somebody who is
16 competent.

17 We do welcome the community to come
18 out. We have faith-based leaders going forward.
19 We've had cameras come out lately.

20 So we do welcome it. We just want
21 to make sure it's coordinated.

22 The last thing we want is adults
23 coming out and grabbing someone else's child
24 essentially who's not trained. Right?

1 We don't understand the difference
2 between somebody being on a spectrum and somebody
3 having bad behavior, somebody having an episode,
4 and somebody just having bad behavior. So we
5 want to make sure that it's not just people
6 coming out and essentially turning into
7 vigilantes on our young people.

8 We welcome the community to come
9 out because the community shares space. We
10 believe in a beloved community. This cannot be
11 solved with just us.

12 So we do welcome it, but we ask
13 that it be in a coordinated fashion.

14 We are -- CPRU or Metropolitan
15 Peace Initiative is open to collaborations. We
16 welcome it. It's been growing as of lately. I
17 would love to be involved with that call. We
18 actually have focus groups with our young people
19 to try to figure out what would be the best
20 solution -- what they believe will be the best
21 solution.

22 A lot of times we have
23 conversations about young people without young
24 people present, and we take the approach that we

1 adults, we know better, and we assume it's going
2 to work.

3 This generation of young people are
4 not always acceptable to that. So what we've
5 learned is getting them involved, giving them
6 ownership.

7 We were having a lot of teen trends
8 in Streeterville by the AMC movie theater.

9 What we did -- we have one coming
10 up in June -- it's a walk. We start with
11 bringing the community people out, CPRU, and
12 start introducing them to young people, because a
13 lot of times it can be misunderstanding.

14 I will give you a story. We had a
15 resident -- a couple who lived in a building
16 adjacent from where the kids liked to gather, and
17 she was afraid. Right? She'd get off work.
18 40 -- essentially, 40 kids in front of a building
19 that she's never seen. And to someone who
20 don't -- who's not competent, that can look like
21 something else. Right? Kids dancing to loud
22 music. It can look like a violent act. And she
23 was afraid to come in.

24 I actually seen the lady get out.

1 She kind of wandered a little bit. I could tell
2 her body language, so I walked to her. I said,
3 Hey, are you all right? She said, I actually
4 stay in that building. I don't want to walk in.
5 Me and the team took her. And what we did was
6 before she came in, we had already had
7 conversations with our young people. Introduced
8 her to the young people. They immediately moved
9 out of the way. And she came back down. She had
10 maybe like a ten-minute conversation. She came
11 back down. She has a real like, I believe --
12 somebody is going to get me for this. A doodle,
13 and it was like gold, and it had -- she had like
14 the fur almost did like locks. So when she
15 brought the dog out, the young people was
16 intrigued by it. They couldn't believe it. She
17 was happy that they were happy about the dog.
18 They end up having long conversations. She took
19 pictures with them and the dog.

20 The next weekend, we had another
21 trend down there, and the kids were in the same
22 spot. She was not afraid. She actually had a
23 conversation with them. She brought the dog back
24 out. The dog played with them, and it changed

1 her perspective, but it changed theirs.

2 A lot of times our young people go
3 places, they immediately feel not welcomed.
4 Right? They immediately feel not welcomed.

5 People discuss strategies on how
6 can I keep them from here. Right? How can I
7 keep them away from me. I don't care about the
8 problem. I don't want them by me.

9 The City belongs to all of us
10 collectively, it doesn't belong to them, nor does
11 it just belong to the residents.

12 What we learned is building that
13 relationship, it changes things. Right? We all
14 are definitely for accountability. A hundred
15 percent for accountability. People have to be
16 held accountable for they actions, but we have to
17 be competent and understand why things are like
18 this and not just be afraid.

19 As I said earlier, not every single
20 teen trend ends in violence or destruction of
21 property.

22 We've been out where young people
23 are just literally standing around. They will
24 just stand around, conversating, and nothing

1 happens. Nothing happens.

2 If you pull the data, not every
3 trend even ends in arrests.

4 CPD does a fantastic job. We have
5 a great professional understanding of the work,
6 and they do a tremendous job of help keeping the
7 beach safe.

8 When you talk to them -- we get out
9 there and talk to them, we introduce them to the
10 young people, they don't have a problem with it.
11 Right?

12 Now, when it gets bad,
13 unfortunately it does get bad. Right? It has,
14 or we wouldn't be having this conversation. So I
15 won't -- there needs to be work. A lot of it.
16 Right? Needs to be more collaboration.

17 We are currently and constantly
18 figuring out strategic ways to make sure we do
19 that. Make sure we get messaging out.

20 I think messaging being out is
21 essential. But, yeah, it's not -- this is not
22 some hopeless problem. Right? This is not --
23 young people have been convening since the
24 beginning of time. It's adding structure to

1 that. Right? Actually caring and collaborating
2 and figuring out best practices.

3 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Vice President Rubi
5 Navarijo.

6 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: I have a more
7 practical question with what we've been seeing
8 with the teen trends.

9 What does that look like when
10 something like that occurs, a mass gathering of
11 young people? Are you all on site? Do you all
12 get advanced notice? Walk the public through
13 what occurs in something we see on the media, for
14 example, what's your role in that?

15 MR. MITCHELL: So what we do is monitor their
16 social media. It starts they disseminate the
17 flyer, usually through social media. We know
18 that's the way they communicate. If we can
19 catch -- we have a team who's really good at
20 that. Usually we can catch it beforehand. We
21 have a good collaboration with CPD and with the
22 City. If we can get the flyer beforehand --
23 because usually they'll disseminate it. Right?
24 If you get it out early, you can get a big enough

1 crowd. A lot of them are doing it for YouTube or
2 streaming dreams and careers. So we know it's
3 going to be made public.

4 We're monitoring it 24 hours a day.
5 When it comes out, and we can start designing
6 best strategies around it.

7 When we get the information, we
8 will also share with our partners, and then we
9 will go to the location.

10 I will go to the location
11 personally sometimes, and then I will just look,
12 right, what's going to be the access points.
13 What's going to be the best way for
14 transportation, how the kids going to get here.
15 Not everybody going to be in a ride share.
16 What's going to be the closest train.

17 So we will get all that figured out
18 and come up with the best strategy. We'll get
19 there ahead of time. The goal is to get there
20 before the young people start getting there, so
21 you can start engaging. You don't want to be
22 talking to them only essentially when a fight is
23 going on, or they maybe need some type of
24 behavior correction. You want to start building

1 the relationship ahead of time because it makes
2 it easier to talk to them when it's time for it.
3 So a team will get out there, start interacting,
4 do what we call engagement.

5 So from the moment they start
6 coming until the moment they start to leave, we
7 make sure we interact with them.

8 The thing is that sometimes it gets
9 large. Right? And sometimes it does get out of
10 hand.

11 We've had CPRU workers hit,
12 punched. We've had CPRU workers hit, punched,
13 maced, and a few other things, but they keep
14 coming back. And this is not all the time.
15 Right? It doesn't happen all the time. But it
16 is a testament to they relentless engagement.

17 We know as -- Norm earlier, we
18 don't allow one apple to spoil the bunch. Right?
19 We can't be like, okay, this kid hit him, so
20 we're done. Right? All of them going to that.
21 That's not the case. That's not been our
22 experience.

23 Like I said before, when it does
24 get bad, it does get bad. Like most situations

1 when they go bad, especially in a large setting.
2 But what we noticed is, wen we're there, we're
3 able to mediate those conflicts. We've been able
4 to do it. Also with the help of CPD.

5 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

6 Commissioner Wortham.

7 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Hi. Thank you,
8 gentlemen, for your presentation.

9 Same question as Mr. Livingston
10 Kerr. I don't know who wants to answer. I have
11 an addition to it. Thank you for sharing some of
12 your experience. How do you -- does your
13 organization background check? Are there any --
14 are there any disqualifications offenses? How do
15 you deal with members of the community who may
16 not be comfortable with people who have been
17 engaged in criminal activity being part of the
18 violence reduction strategy? And then I had a
19 question on teen trend, and it just left my
20 brain. I'll think about it before you finish.

21 MR. SALAZAR: So our -- the infrastructure
22 that we created with CVI specifically is there's
23 two things that -- two offenses that you can't
24 have in your background, domestic violence and

1 any sexual charges, so SA, or, you know, rape, or
2 any of that type of charge specifically. Those
3 are the two disqualifying factors for any CVI
4 professional specifically.

5 And for us specifically, we are a
6 second opportunity employer specifically. Right?
7 So we are very, you know, focused on re-entry.
8 Right? That's one of our models that we, you
9 know, address in this work specifically. So
10 we -- you know, I have an extensive background,
11 unfortunately, but, fortunately enough, my
12 testimony, the things that I have been through in
13 my life, I can deter young people from making the
14 same mistakes. And I talk to them about the
15 things that I've been through and the changes
16 I've made in my life specifically and the things
17 that helped me think about change specifically.
18 Right? Or promote change. I'm constantly, you
19 know, self-rescuing. Right? I have intrusive
20 thoughts all the time, because I do have a lot of
21 trauma that I've experienced in my life. Right?
22 And whenever I go to a hospital response or a
23 friend of mine who is still involved in street
24 activities is shot and killed, it affects me.

1 Right?

2 I've been to therapy. Fortunately
3 enough, we do have an infrastructure at the Peace
4 Academy at Metropolitan Peace Initiatives where
5 we do have behavioral health specialists that
6 work with our team specifically, and they work
7 with community, and they offer services to every
8 organization that is affiliated with those
9 specifically.

10 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you. Super
11 quickly. I hear this a lot, so I'm not shocked
12 of the disqualifying offenses. I understand.
13 Those are particularly heinous offenses.

14 I will just throw out a comment,
15 not for us to discuss today, but a perspective
16 for you all, that while we would all probably
17 agree sexual assault and domestic violence are
18 heinous offenses, as is murder. So it's just
19 always interesting to me when those are
20 disqualifying, but murder is not.

21 So it's a conversation I would love
22 to just throw out there for your organizations
23 and your partner organizations, because I think
24 it's an interesting point, that those two are

1 disqualifying, but we allow murderers.

2 MR. SALAZAR: Yeah. There is a friend of
3 mine, Xavier McBeth, who, unfortunately, at a
4 very young age committed a homicide. He actually
5 reached out -- or the family reached out to him
6 specifically. And I remember we did an event,
7 Dia de Los Muertos. It was a Mexican holiday
8 that we celebrate, and I started a graffiti mural
9 project, covering up graffiti throughout Little
10 Village community. Replacing gang graffiti with
11 murals -- cultural murals. And we had in our
12 event at St. Agnes Church at 28th and Central
13 Park, and he was there with the person who,
14 unfortunately, he killed, and he was there with
15 his sister. Right?

16 So there is redemption that needs
17 to take place when it comes to these incidents.
18 That's why restorative justice is one of our
19 biggest components in this work.

20 We don't have a lot of stories like
21 that, unfortunately, of forgiveness. Right?
22 There is special circumstances where we see those
23 things. So I know that it can become a huge
24 factor. Those are things that you can't come

1 back specifically.

2 So we understand the concern. So
3 thank you for providing that perspective as well.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you all so much.

5 I would like to invite Emmanuel
6 Andre, the new Deputy Mayor for Community Safety.

7 Before joining the Mayor's Office,
8 Mr. Andre helped to start Circles & Ciphers Youth
9 Development Organization. He served in the Cook
10 County Public Defender's Office in deputy policy
11 and strategic litigation, and he has been very
12 involved in expanding Cook County's Restorative
13 Justice Community Courts and the use of
14 restorative justice practices.

15 FIRST DEPUTY ANDRE: Thank you all for that.
16 I wish my kids would give me that kind of round
17 of applause when they first see me step up.

18 First and foremost, I just want to
19 say thank you to this elected official for all
20 the hard work you all do in this work and
21 providing a forum for this and also to everybody
22 still here.

23 I recognize I stand between you and
24 probably a great dinner or a great time, so I'm

1 definitely going to try to be as quick as I
2 possibly can, especially given the fact that
3 those who went before me have already covered
4 most of it in much more detail, so really excited
5 about that.

6 And one last thing, I really want to
7 thank all the commenters who stepped up and
8 provided their perspective. Thank you. We're
9 thinking about you and your loss.

10 So with that said, just very
11 quickly, one thing that's not included in that
12 brief bio is really who sent me.

13 Inevitably, I've learned that in
14 Chicago, that's really the question a lot of
15 people want to know. Who in the world sent you,
16 how did you get here. And to that, I would add
17 the names of Cheryl Graves and Ora Schub.

18 So, if one is interested in getting
19 to know about what is this restorative lens that
20 they keep talking about, what is this restorative
21 justice they keep talking about, does Mr. Andre
22 really want us to just stand here and hug it out
23 with everyone who's done us wrong? First and
24 foremost, no, not necessarily. What I am going

1 to say, if you are serious about trying to get a
2 deeper background in some of this stuff, I would
3 challenge you all to sort of Google their names,
4 because two heroines who have had a huge impact
5 on the Chicago infrastructure when we think about
6 this lens of restorative practices.

7 With that said, I will realize I'm
8 here today to talk about summer safety planning
9 and what that looks like. And a lot of what I'm
10 here to talk about has already been tapped on, so
11 maybe I'll start like this. Part of -- as Deputy
12 Mayor, part of our thinking behind is this idea
13 of the collective call, summer 2026. Community
14 and belonging.

15 I really want to highlight that word
16 "belonging" before we jump right in, because it's
17 been touched on by both of the presentations in
18 so many ways, and we're going to go into that.

19 Now, given how extensive -- and
20 special thanks to Mr. Kerr and people from
21 Metropolitan Services, given how extensive
22 they've gone in, I'm very, very hesitant to be
23 able to scrap my whole presentation and spend the
24 next few minutes here just talking about drill

1 music, but I see, unfortunately, the Mayor's
2 Office sent a team of people with me to make sure
3 I stand on message, and I don't go off script, so
4 I'm not going to do that, just for you all. But
5 what I am going to say, though, is, how
6 important -- if you look to your left, you look
7 to your right, you see these empty seats and just
8 think about the amount of young people that you
9 see here today to be part of this discussion as
10 we talk about summer safety.

11 We cannot have these discussions
12 without being able to center young people,
13 especially as we think about who are the
14 survivors, specifically around violence and gun
15 violence.

16 So I just wanted to share that and
17 start that off, and that's a little bit of why I
18 can't help myself.

19 Quick show of hands. How many
20 people have heard the term drill music? Great.
21 That's almost everybody. That's one of Chicago's
22 great exports, for better or for worse, but it's
23 a fact.

24 This is culturally in terms of

1 what has Chicago exported, and it's -- for those
2 who never heard of it, it is this genre that's
3 part of music, and it's part of hip hop, and what
4 that looks like and what stories does that tell.
5 It is not the promoting, but it is to say that
6 young people talk. And I as a parent, I can tell
7 you firsthand, I do a horrible job of listening.
8 So just continued to think about who's talking
9 and who are we listening to.

10 So with that said, I will go jump
11 right back into agenda really quick. I'm going
12 to go over the vision really quick, some key
13 summer safety concerns. Skip around that a lot
14 because a lot that was already covered, and then
15 we're going end on some actionable strategies and
16 steps that everybody in this room can take right
17 away to be able to help move forward.

18 Mayor's Office of Community Safety.
19 This is -- so part of the idea of the restorative
20 lens, I think inevitably, is this idea that --
21 has anyone ever heard of this Sankofa Bird. It's
22 this idea in order to move forward, you have to
23 look back. You have to -- your history has to be
24 centered in everything that you do.

1 So this office was not just started
2 with Mayor Johnson. Special shout out again to
3 Mr. Kerr and those who came before him and
4 continuously building it up on this work, but
5 this gives you an idea as Deputy Mayor what is it
6 that we do in terms of some of the coordination
7 that happens with all of these different
8 departments and everything else like that. For
9 those who are here, right, what else do you do?
10 We work closely, of course, with police in terms
11 of improving and extending what is safety, what
12 does safety look like.

13 This is much more of a layered
14 approach, so you are not going to hear me talk
15 about police strategies over the next ten minutes
16 I have.

17 A lot of this is really about what
18 else, other than policing, are we doing to be
19 able to move forward this idea of safety.

20 Next slide. Now, when I say this
21 idea of safety, like what is it we're talking
22 about. For us, part of it is defining it and not
23 just in the absence of violence. Right? Not
24 just the absence of violence, but what does it

1 really mean, and we've come -- this summer, this
2 idea was safety is belonging. Safety is
3 belonging.

4 This brother just did a phenomenal
5 example he presented when he talked about the
6 lady in the community who's walking by, I think a
7 group of kids, 40 kids, and the fear that went
8 into being able to have that presence, to be able
9 to have that communication, and how that's broken
10 down when there is a sense of belonging, because
11 when we have a sense of belonging with each
12 other, there's also a sense of accountability
13 that goes off of that.

14 Now you have to look out for each
15 other. It wouldn't be Chicago without me quoting
16 one of Chicago's great philosophers, One City,
17 one soul, one light in the dark. We build the
18 bridge from the street to the heart. From the
19 street to the heart. This idea of building a
20 bridge. Now, we all know Chicago is actually 77
21 neighborhoods. So what does it look like to be
22 that one? That's by Lupe Fiasco, for those who
23 don't know.

24 Unfortunately, I am out of time.

1 Usually I offer a prize if you can guess the
2 album it's from, but I am out of time.

3 There will be a QR code maybe put
4 that on the end.

5 So with that said, what are some of
6 the core areas that we want to look at this year?
7 And right before we go to that, these ideas,
8 these are the three critical values that we want
9 to further this lens through, these ideas of
10 access, agency, and accountability throughout our
11 summer safety plan. What does access look like,
12 who has the agency to be able to have impact, and
13 who are we holding accountable, both in and
14 outside of our communities which is absolutely an
15 incredible report.

16 Next slide. These are just our core
17 strategic pillars for the summer.

18 As mentioned before, some of this
19 stuff was already tapped, so I won't go too far
20 into it.

21 We very serious about gender-based
22 violence and victim services.

23 I think that's the other critical
24 piece on that that was not mentioned. We're

1 really looking at how are we holding each other
2 accountable. The story that was just shared.
3 What happens after the news headline? What
4 happens a year after that? How do we make sure
5 some of these stories are much more victim
6 centered? And what does that look like as we
7 move forward?

8 This idea around nimble youth
9 engagement, what are the things that we're doing?
10 Again, specifically, spreading the word nimble,
11 how we can interact and how we engage with young
12 people, but in a way that's really flexible to be
13 able to address the issues of our time today.

14 One of the things that we always
15 talk about is this need. I think somebody
16 stepped up and talked about probation, but this
17 need to be able to get engaged -- quick show of
18 hands. Who has heard of JTDC, the Juvenile
19 Temporary Detention Center? Great. They used to
20 call it the Audy Home. Sorry. For the real
21 Chicagoans in here, they used to call it the Audy
22 Home. I think she is picking on me because she
23 knows I am from New York City. Okay. That's my
24 paranoia there.

1 No, but perhaps that is one of the
2 most important homes everyone here needs to know
3 about. When we think, and we talk about safety,
4 that is the home where young people who are some
5 of the most in need navigate throughout the
6 summer, is when you get arrested as a young
7 person, that's where you go. And the average
8 stay we're talking about is 30 days -- 32 days I
9 believe. So what does that mean for our
10 community as young people coming in on out of
11 that space we're very interested in this summer
12 what does it look like to have a hundred percent
13 engagement with those young people that's coming
14 in this space for this summer and their families,
15 so we're very, very serious about that and
16 helping build that out.

17 You already heard a little bit about
18 the word re-entry and the like, so I won't
19 belabor that. And, of course, community violence
20 intervention and continuing to invest in that
21 work.

22 One of the things that's on
23 headlines -- it's on everyone's headline. If you
24 say Chicago, no matter what happened Memorial

1 Day, you turn on the TV, it's local, national,
2 it's everywhere, this idea of teen trends. So
3 I'm going to skip most of it, but there's
4 something I wanted us to just think about when we
5 talk about that when we prepare to go to the next
6 slide. There was a quote that I just heard, This
7 is our home. I feel like it's being invaded more
8 and more. This is our home. I feel like it's
9 being invaded more and more. Think about that
10 concept as we just go through a couple of quick
11 headlines. This is some of -- you know, again
12 some of the areas that we're going to be focusing
13 on. We already tapped into some of these. And I
14 know one of the things that we talked about when
15 we said teen trends, I think it was presented now
16 that 2023, we saw this big spike in young people
17 going downtown, but let's look at that for a bit
18 more historical context.

19 Go to the next slide. 1989 -- April
20 20th, 1989. Wilding. There you go. You have it
21 all.

22 So starting just from April 20th,
23 1989, that's the title. Some of you may have
24 heard of the documentary, When They See Us, the

1 Central Park jogger case. Those was teens.
2 Those was teens coming in. And this -- this was
3 how we were defining them, and this is how we
4 were writing this sort of -- informed the
5 policies that came from that. So just thinking
6 about that a little bit. So that's -- some of
7 you might be say saying, Mr. Andre, that's 1989.
8 That's ridiculous. Why would you put that up
9 there like that?

10 Fast forward, April 18th, 2019, so
11 about 30 years different. That's the title.
12 Alderman believes soft-on-crime policies to blame
13 for wilding by teens in Chicago. So that's 2019.
14 Right?

15 So one would figure if we get rid
16 of at least the politician that's soft on crime
17 when it comes to some of these prosecution, you
18 know, it will stop, but now here we are 2026, and
19 we're still battling the same thing.

20 So just, again, in order for us to
21 be able to continue our way forward, we have to
22 be able to be very aware of what happened in the
23 past, so it can help continue to form how we move
24 forward in some of the policies that we no work

1 and some that we know don't work.

2 So just keep that in mind. I'm not
3 going to go too far in to some of the teen trend
4 stuff and some of what we're thinking, because we
5 work directly with the group that just presented
6 right now.

7 Go to the next slide. This is just
8 national headlines. I know more headlines.
9 Viral teen takeover unleash chaos nationwide as
10 malls, beaches, and restaurants become
11 battlegrounds.

12 Imagine reading that. Imagine
13 waking up on a Tuesday after Memorial weekend,
14 and you're hearing and reading about
15 battleground. I don't know about you, but I'd
16 feel scared. I'd feel fear. I don't want to be
17 any part of any battleground.

18 That's one thing for us to think
19 about. What impact does violence have? You
20 know, this idea isolation. What's the antithesis
21 of isolation and fear as we move forward?

22 Next slide. This is just very
23 quickly some of the stuff around our teen trends.
24 And so some of this has just -- so you all know

1 what we're doing internally, just some of the
2 partners that's working day in and day out. Now,
3 this is just internal. Not to make mention of
4 some of the external partners that we're working
5 with around, okay, how do we resolve this issue,
6 how do we address this issue.

7 One thing I want you all to
8 highlight right then and there, though, is not
9 necessarily who is there internally, but who's
10 not there. What are the community partners that
11 you feel like is needed to be able to help make
12 this -- help make an impact.

13 Really quick. One thing that we've
14 done so far -- if you go to the next slide.
15 Besides teen trends, this executive order of the
16 peace book. Right? Go to the next slide. What
17 is the peace book for those who never heard of
18 it. It's an executive order by the Mayor
19 providing a year-round youth peacekeeping program
20 for young people between the ages of 16 and 24.
21 Again, thinking about how do we engage young
22 people, how do we center some young people to
23 some of the issues to be able to help resolve and
24 help move it forward.

1 Go on to the next. And this gives
2 some more background around the peace book, what
3 does that look like, how many young people we
4 want to get involved, engaged in and things.

5 I think Alex is giving me the cue
6 which means I'm almost out of time. We will go
7 to the next slide real quick.

8 Just call to action. I mean, when
9 we think about -- go to the next slide. When we
10 think about a call, in order to answer the call,
11 the call only works if the person on the other
12 side -- on the other end picks up.

13 And safety is a journey that cannot
14 be done, cannot be walked alone.

15 What does that mean? It means, of
16 course, as we said, this is our shared
17 responsibility. This supports coordinated action
18 together in order to move us towards a safer
19 community.

20 What are the three things you can do
21 right now? Very easy to it be able to be part of
22 that shared responsibility if you're sitting at
23 home right now watching this, or if you're
24 sitting here. One, we have Chicago Youth Works.

1 They are hiring. We will drop a link after this,
2 but they are hiring, so if you know of a young
3 person in your neighborhood -- even better yet,
4 if you don't know their name, it is empower
5 full -- it is a powerful act for you to be able
6 to stop them and say, Would you like to work this
7 summer? Do you have a summer job? I have a
8 connect -- or as the young people will say, I'm
9 the plug, and you will be able to make a
10 connection between a young person and the
11 possibility of having a City job.

12 And, again, we're saying this is not
13 just a vacuum by itself; this is being done in
14 conjunction with all the safety efforts that's
15 happening already, so this idea of engagement.

16 Number two is very, very simple.
17 Number two is even more simpler than pushing
18 jobs.

19 Get to know your neighbor.
20 Literally get to know your neighbor. Who is on
21 your block that you don't know. Who is on that
22 new person that's isolated. Get to know someone
23 new from your block. Invite them over for
24 dinner. Break bread. Do something with them.

1 Because that in itself can be a courageous act.

2 The last, but definitely not least,
3 I would also stress upon the need for more and
4 more alternatives to CPD to be able to -- making
5 sure that that is not our first and only
6 responses to everything that happens in terms of
7 dispute amongst us. We have to be critical
8 around that.

9 To that end, I believe next
10 Friday -- which I think Mr. Gross had made
11 mention of it -- there is a conference that's in
12 Chicago that's all of it's about alternatives to
13 CPD. I know the Mayor talked about his Care
14 program, which is a very important alternative.
15 So just keep all of those in mind as we move
16 forward towards a safer Chicago in 2026.

17 So the call is out there. May we
18 all add to the call.

19 With that said, any questions?

20 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you so much, Deputy
21 Mayor Andre.

22 Are there any questions from
23 Commissioners?

24 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you, Deputy

1 Mayor, for being here and your presentation.

2 Same question from the Mayor's
3 Office perspective. Shocking.

4 You talk about CVI. I know the
5 Mayor -- that's a big focus of the Mayor's
6 Office. So I will ask in relation to the
7 gentlemen that just presented. When the -- if
8 the Mayor's Office is doing direct funding or any
9 decision-making in funding for CVI organizations,
10 does the Mayor's Office have any bright line,
11 exclusionary offenses to which a person could not
12 have been involved and be a recipient of your
13 funding? The related question, that is, if you
14 don't -- same question I asked the gentlemen,
15 because I think when say we exclude DV, we
16 exclude sexual assault. I understand, right,
17 because we signal to people those are offenses we
18 don't accept. We are not going to accept you
19 doing that because we understand victimization
20 tied to that. I understand your background
21 coming from the public defender officer. That's
22 my question. Does the Mayor's Office have a
23 condition on, you know, things we're not going to
24 accept when we're giving government funding to

1 people doing work in violence prevention? So
2 those two questions.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR ANDRE: Thank you. The first
4 question in terms of the Mayor's Office position,
5 absolutely the mayor works with CVI
6 organizations, I want to say that. I have not --
7 in that work with CVI organizations, a lot is
8 through the work of CDPH, and they work
9 extensively in terms of metrics and background
10 and things like that. So I don't know exactly
11 what those layered exclusions look like, but I
12 would say that the office does that; however,
13 with that said, I would ask us all to think about
14 what all should be on that list of exclusions?
15 Especially when we want to be serious, and we
16 want to think about re-entry and what does that
17 really mean. So what all should be on that list
18 of included exclusions. At what point -- because
19 when we think about restorative practices, it is
20 about this idea there's been a tear in the
21 community. That's what harm does. There's been
22 a tear in the community, and it's asking us what
23 is needed to be -- for the community to be
24 healed. What is needed. So it's not necessarily

1 completely proscriptive, but thinking about what
2 is that end goal. What is needed to be able to
3 be healed. So when we think about people -- by
4 the way, mayor's been very clear, this idea you
5 get on trends, accountability, accountability of
6 parents, parents need to be do more, kids need to
7 do more. Kids will be held accountable. Some
8 kids are. Kids are prosecuted. Believe me when
9 I tell you, kids are prosecuted for this. We
10 have to continue to think about to what end,
11 because sooner or later, remember that stat I
12 gave you all. I said, what, 32 days. Somebody's
13 going to check me and say maybe it's 33, 34. But
14 young people are coming back into the community
15 after going to the Audy Home. Are they coming
16 back healthier? Are they coming back better?
17 Those are the questions we need to ask and
18 continue to center as we move forward.

19 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: And I appreciate that.
20 I'll just say to a further conversation, I think
21 it's good question, what should be excluded. But
22 if we are going to exclude some things, I think
23 we have to be careful not to predetermine which
24 harm is final and then which harm decision-makers

1 think people should be able to move past. That's
2 what I hear when you say, Okay, sexual assault,
3 DV, we're not going to allow that, but we're
4 going to allow murderers to be recipients of this
5 funding and participate in this work.

6 I'm not suggesting we come to an
7 answer today, but I do think from the Mayor's
8 Office, from the chief executive of the City,
9 that's a good conversation maybe to have, because
10 if we're talking about including communities, and
11 you want communities to accept these workers, I'm
12 just going to tell you, there are members of the
13 community who are going to be offended to say,
14 Well, you should take the murderers back, but
15 we're not going to allow the DV offenders.

16 I think that's an issue that
17 warrants further conversation. But I appreciate
18 your answer. Thank you.

19 DEPUTY MAYOR ANDRE: I appreciate. One last
20 point on that, though, the importance of
21 centering the voices of survivors and making sure
22 we're very intentional as to what is it that
23 survivors want, what is it survivors are looking
24 for, so we're not being, you know, completely

1 proscriptive, completely one size fits all. Who
2 gets to talk for survivors? Can we make sure
3 there's space for their own voices to be heard?

4 Also, one last thing I did want to
5 include, though, even this idea like sometimes
6 that's not what some of the data shows.

7 Next time I'll bring some of that.
8 If you look at who are the survivors, who is be
9 murdered in Chicago, unfortunately, it is very
10 segregated. That's something that -- and, you
11 know, we cannot spend time talking, but I would
12 be remiss if I didn't say that if you look at the
13 demographics -- and the demographics fall on both
14 sides. So this idea of perpetrator and survivor
15 is not as bright as we think. Great questions.
16 Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Commissioner
18 Piemonte.

19 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Hi, Emmanuel. What
20 strategies are in place to engage young people
21 not already involved in school or community
22 groups, community programs to help with trends
23 and the violence?

24 FIRST DEPUTY ANDRE: Yeah, thank you for that

1 question.

2 Feel free, by the way, you all, I
3 think whoever is working that, to put the QR code
4 back there, because I'm about to say something,
5 and one of the things I want to say, if there is
6 a strategy you know of, drop it in that please
7 for us. That's first and foremost. This is a
8 draft. This is highly preliminary.

9 But in terms of some direct
10 strategies, besides working with some of our
11 local organizations, there's a program called
12 Back To Our Futures, which specifically focuses
13 on young people who have been outside of CPS for
14 the past three months, to be able to figure out
15 ways to be able to engage with them.

16 But when it come to the trends
17 itself in terms of how to be able to better
18 engage -- I mean right now, we meet twice a week
19 just on that, just on the collaboration piece,
20 trying to figure out, Okay, how do we figure out
21 who's organizing these to be able to reach out,
22 to be able to reach out to more young people, to
23 be able to hear from them, and to be able to
24 center them and to be able to better engage with

1 young people. What is it that they want to see,
2 what is it that they're really trying to get done
3 here.

4 So I think that's something that's
5 constantly evolving.

6 I know in the Mayor's Office, we do
7 a ton of activations throughout the summer, and
8 this past weekend we had about 18 activations
9 throughout the City, whether it be game nights,
10 like literally open up local parks, giving young
11 people space. I think that's one of the most
12 critical pieces, to be able to give young people
13 space.

14 With that said, like I said, it is
15 not finite, it is not finished, and it needs more
16 of the bright minds that's in here to be able to
17 inform that. Thank you.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
19 Gottlieb.

20 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Other than that
21 spirit, a lot of these strategies do resonate
22 with me.

23 One thing that seems to be missing
24 that are like really low cost, like shouldn't be

1 super controversial, and have found consistently
2 to reduce violence. For instance, making sure
3 communities have proper lighting. Making sure
4 vacant lots are cleaned up and vacant homes are
5 cleaned up. Just some really basic low-cost
6 things -- thing. All these other things are
7 super important, but pretty straightforward
8 things that I think we should also be doing.

9 FIRST DEPUTY ANDRE: I mean, I cannot stress
10 that enough. I mean, you just articulated it
11 right on.

12 Part of the strategies is one
13 that's people based in terms of interacting with
14 people, but also what often gets forgotten is
15 place based. What's your environment like, and
16 how do we impact the environment to be able when
17 you walk in and what does it feel like.

18 So to that effect, one thing that
19 we've been doing -- I know in the past that's
20 been done -- is this idea around incident
21 response plans.

22 So it's this idea that there's some
23 key triggering events that throughout the City,
24 if this happens, you're going to see the full

1 force of government show up. That means Streets
2 and Sanitation is going to show up. And in that
3 space, to be able to address any of those space
4 issues that you just mentioned. That means
5 parks, CPS, just sort of the whole government to
6 be able to address those. But I cannot minimize
7 enough this idea around, you know, what does
8 safety feel like when you are walking through a
9 space, how critical that is.

10 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you.

11 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you so much, Deputy
12 Mayor Andre. We appreciate you for your time and
13 look forward to continuing our partnership.

14 MR. ANDRE: Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT TERRY: Our next order of business
16 will be reports and updates. I'll turn it over
17 to Commissioner Driver to provide an update on
18 2026 goals.

19 COMMISSIONER DRIVER: Thank you, President
20 Terry.

21 At our last meeting, we provided an
22 update on CPD's quarter one goal deliverables,
23 and I shared that we will provide an update in
24 goal number four after a meeting we had scheduled

1 with CPD.

2 Goal number four focuses on
3 understanding why CPD's reported use of force and
4 firearm pointing incidents have increased.

5 In quarter one, CPD was expected to
6 explain the methodology they plan to use to
7 analyze these increases.

8 When we asked this at our May 12th
9 quarterly goals meeting, CPD asked the Commission
10 to follow up in writing with specific questions.
11 We since sent that clarification and are now
12 waiting for the Department's response.

13 This analysis is important because
14 it will help both the Commission and the
15 Department to understand the trends to determine
16 whether any policy or training needs -- training
17 changes are needed.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
19 Driver.

20 Are there any questions?

21 Next we'll have Commissioner
22 Gottlieb who will provide an update on a letter
23 that was shared regarding firearm pointing

24 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you, President

1 Terry.

2 Myself, Commissioner Piemonte,
3 Commissioner Minor, Commissioner Driver, and Vice
4 President Rubi Navarijo sent CPD a letter
5 expressing concern about firearm pointing.

6 Goal four that Commissioner Driver
7 just discussed previously is focused in part
8 understanding why there has been increases in
9 firearm pointing in the last few years.

10 Regardless of the reason for these
11 increases or the reasons, CPD's firearm pointing
12 directive should provide a clear guidance and
13 operate in a way that maximizes the safety and
14 security of officers and civilians.

15 In this letter, we have asked CPD
16 to review its policy language as part of the
17 upcoming Consent Decree required policy review
18 and consider practices from comparable
19 jurisdictions, such as Philadelphia, which allows
20 firearm pointing only when officers reasonably
21 believe an immediate threat of serious bodily
22 injury or death to themselves or another person
23 exists.

24 Commissioners who've signed this

1 letter asked for a meeting with CPD to discuss
2 the current directive, the experience in other
3 jurisdictions, and whether the current directive
4 could be improved.

5 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
6 Gottlieb.

7 Are there any other questions on
8 this topic? Commissioner Wortham.

9 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you. All right.
10 So I just want to be -- I'm going to speak on
11 this. So I didn't sign the letter. I object to
12 the letter.

13 If those who were at our goals
14 meeting -- I believe it was January -- when the
15 Superintendent accepted the goals, I didn't
16 support this goal, but because, strangely, the
17 same Commissioners who signed the letter refused
18 to allow us to vote on goals individually. We
19 had to vote on the goals as a package, which I
20 object today, as well, because they had not been
21 publicly discussed, deliberated, but we were
22 basically forced to vote on all goals if we
23 wanted to vote for any of them.

24 The reason I objected to this goal

1 at the time was because my impression was that
2 some of my colleagues had already determined that
3 the increase in the firearm pointing indicated
4 wrongdoing on the part of CPD, and that they
5 already decided that CPD had to change something
6 without having actually done the work to analyze
7 the data, which is why I objected to the goal.

8 Again, having had to vote for the
9 package, the goal passed.

10 This letter, to me, is indicative
11 of my initial concern about this goal.

12 Thank you. Quarter one,
13 Commissioner Driver just talked about a meeting
14 they just had with CPD. Without giving CPD the
15 opportunity to fulfill the task of the goal we've
16 now sent -- not we. Sorry. The Commissioners
17 who signed the letter have sent a letter
18 recommending a change to the policy without the
19 follow-through on the goal.

20 I think that's -- frankly, I think
21 it's unprofessional. I think it signals an
22 underhanded interaction with the Department that
23 creates an adversarial -- an unnecessary
24 adversarial relationship for the Department,

1 frankly, that I think we should be working with
2 to maximize their ability to serve the citizens
3 of this City.

4 And so I just want to be really
5 clear. This is why I objected to the goal in the
6 first place. And then four months later, now the
7 same people who said, Well, no, we just want to
8 give CPD an opportunity to analyze the data, have
9 decided what they want CPD to do before CPD had
10 an opportunity to analyze the data. And I think
11 it's really why this Commission suffers a crisis
12 of legitimacy in certain segments of this City,
13 because we do things like this -- not we, some of
14 my colleagues do things like this without giving
15 people an opportunity to do what you said you
16 wanted them to do.

17 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Gottlieb.

18 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: I think -- I
19 understand what Commissioner Wortham is saying.

20 I think it represents an
21 unfortunate conflation that we have seen
22 throughout this, and sort of a lack of clarity.

23 The goal is about understanding
24 increases in these things. An increase -- to

1 understand an increase something needs to have
2 changed. An increase cannot be caused by a
3 status quo thing.

4 The policy we were looking at has
5 not changed. By definition, it cannot be
6 responsible for any increase.

7 The question is, whether the policy
8 is clear, whether it provides appropriate
9 guidance.

10 So it has nothing to do -- like
11 this goal, they're on the some topic. Things can
12 be on the same thing and not be the same thing.
13 These are not the same thing.

14 I personally have serious questions
15 about the clarity of the policy and the quality
16 of the guidance.

17 Other jurisdictions -- many pure
18 jurisdictions have more clear guidance and more
19 restrictions.

20 I believe firearm pointing is
21 something that is serious and should be treated
22 more seriously in the directive.

23 So we have a disagreement. I'll
24 leave it at that.

1 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

2 Any other thoughts?

3 All right. Our next update will be
4 from Commissioner Piemonte who will give an
5 update regarding community policing.

6 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: In response to one of
7 the Commission's 2026 goals for the
8 Superintendent, CPD created a community policing
9 working group made up of representatives and
10 offices of Community Policing and Constitutional
11 Policing and Reform.

12 Vice President Angel Rubi
13 Navarijo, myself Commissioner Gina Piemonte, and
14 District Councilors Alex Perez from the 2nd
15 District Council, Carmelita Earls from the 15th
16 District Council, Jenny Schaffer from the 19th
17 District Council, and Carisa Parker from the 22nd
18 District Council.

19 The working group met for the first
20 time on April 17th and reviewed the community
21 policing assessment.

22 The assessment is an in-depth study
23 that was conducted for CPD that looks at the
24 current state of the community policing in

1 Chicago and includes recommendations about steps
2 that could be taken to make community policing
3 more effective.

4 CPD asked working group members for
5 input on areas they would like to focus on, and
6 working group members provided a detailed
7 response highlighting many of the key work
8 streams that were proposed in the recent
9 community policing assessment report.

10 At the working group's next
11 meeting, members will discuss potential areas for
12 collaboration between CPD, the Commission, and
13 District Councilors to improve community
14 policing.

15 This is the first working group
16 collaboration between CPD, the Commission, and
17 District Councilors.

18 Additionally, at our next meeting,
19 we will invite CPD to discuss the community
20 policing assessment at the next meeting.

21 We look forward to continuing to
22 share updates with all of you on this important
23 work.

24 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner

1 Piemonte.

2 Are there any questions?

3 Now I'll turn it over to Vice
4 President Rubi Navarijo to provide update on the
5 Commission's work providing CPD compliance with
6 the Welcoming City Ordinance.

7 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you,
8 President Terry.

9 Since the Commission's special
10 meeting on April 2nd, the Commission has
11 continued to engage with CPD, the City, and other
12 stakeholders on this topic.

13 At the beginning of March, the
14 Commission sent a request to CPD for the
15 implementation guidance mandated by the Mayor's
16 ICE on Notice executive order.

17 Since then, CPD has updated the
18 Commission four times to let us know that the
19 guidance remains in draft form with the
20 Department of Law and the Mayor's Office.

21 We're going to continue requesting
22 updates from CPD on this matter.

23 Last week, President Terry met with
24 Interim Inspector General Tobar Richardson to

1 discuss the Commission's April 2nd recommendation
2 to OIG to evaluate CPD's compliance with the
3 Welcoming City Ordinance.

4 At the beginning of the month, the
5 Commission requested additional information from
6 CPD on the Department's policies and reporting
7 forms related to interactions between CPD members
8 and federal immigration authorities.

9 Earlier this week, the Department
10 requested an extension to respond to the
11 follow-up questions on federal immigration
12 enforcement.

13 The Commission expects to have a
14 response to our additional information request in
15 the upcoming two weeks.

16 Finally, as the Commission
17 continues to stay engaged on this topic, it is
18 most important that we hear from those who are
19 directly impacted or work closely with these
20 communities.

21 By ordinance, the Commission has
22 established a Noncitizen Advisory Council.

23 The NAC is a volunteer group of
24 Chicago residents to help ensure that the

1 perspective and experiences of noncitizens and
2 newly arrived Chicagoans are meaningfully
3 represented in the Commission's work.

4 The NAC is always looking for new
5 members, and the Commission encourages Chicagoans
6 to apply, regardless of your immigration status.

7 The application is on our website,
8 and I am the commissioner assist on working
9 group, and we meet regularly with Noncitizen
10 Advisory Council.

11 Thank you, President Terry.

12 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Vice President
13 Rubi Navarijo.

14 Are there any questions?

15 All right. I will turn it over now
16 to Commissioner Wortham who will now provide an
17 update on traffic stops.

18 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you, President
19 Terry.

20 All right. The traffic stop work
21 continues.

22 As many of you may be aware, but if
23 you're not aware, the Commission CPD policy
24 working group, comprised of President Terry and

1 myself, continue to work with the various
2 entities, the Illinois Attorney General's Office,
3 Chicago Police Department, Independent Monitor,
4 to come up with a traffic stop policy and/or
5 negotiate the terms of the stipulation which
6 would then govern traffic stop policy for the
7 Chicago Police Department. This work has been
8 going on for quite a while. The work continues.

9 I will note we've had various
10 public feedback forms for the Commission to
11 solicit public feedback.

12 Please continue to send your
13 feedback on traffic stops. Though the work
14 continues, our job, as I see it, is to continue
15 to be responsive to the community and your
16 thoughts and needs on this issue.

17 So while the stipulation process is
18 required to be confidential, so there are limits
19 to the things we can share, we will share what we
20 can and update you to the extent that we can.

21 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
22 Wortham. Are there any questions?

23 All right. Now we will transition
24 into miscellaneous business.

1 The next order of business is
2 miscellaneous business.

3 Commissioner Wortham would like to
4 provide update on the National Law Enforcement
5 Appreciation Month for National Police Week.

6 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you, President
7 Terry.

8 All right. So every second week of
9 May, by presidential proclamation in 1962, the
10 country recognizes National Police Week.

11 There is a week of events held
12 specifically in Washington, DC, to honor fallen
13 law enforcement members, and then departments all
14 across the country typically hold events to honor
15 their fallen and their specific jurisdiction.

16 Chicago has various events to honor
17 our fallen. St. Jude is a march now down on
18 Michigan Avenue again. And while we are
19 Community Commission for Public Safety and
20 Accountability, I think it's important -- and
21 these are my thoughts -- that people know about
22 our fallen, and they take a gander and read about
23 some of the stories of how our 608 Chicago police
24 officers have been killed in the line of duty,

1 and I hope that if people are willing to do that,
2 it might inform some of the perspectives on how
3 we, yes, make sure that the Chicago Police
4 Department operates professionally and within the
5 law, but also in a way that serves our officers
6 who are members of our community, who are mothers
7 and fathers, and sisters and brothers, and
8 daughters and sons, and community members so that
9 they can also be safe when doing their jobs.

10 So, again, National Police Week,
11 every second week of May. I encourage you next
12 year to please feel free to participate in some
13 of these activities.

14 And if you want to learn a little
15 about our fallen, all the information is
16 available online, so you can see some of the ways
17 that they have had their lives taken in the line
18 of duty and maybe keep that in mind as we do this
19 work. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT TERRY: So before we close today's
21 meeting, we want to give Commissioner Gottlieb
22 and Minor an opportunity to share some closing
23 remarks. Both commissioners' terms expire on
24 June 23rd of this year, so this will be their

1 last Commission meeting, and so we want to allow
2 them some time, a few minutes before we adjourn
3 to share.

4 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you, President
5 Terry.

6 So just to start, it has been an
7 honor to serve as a commissioner for CCPSA.

8 While it has been the most
9 challenging professional experience I've had to
10 date, I'm deeply grateful to have the opportunity
11 to serve in this role and to work towards better
12 policing, an issue I've been dedicated to both
13 personally and professionally for my entire
14 career. I must thank the GAPA Coalition and
15 CAARPR for doing the hard work over several years
16 that led to the creation of this Commission.

17 The District Council Nominating
18 Committee for nominating for this position, and
19 Mayor Johnson and City Council for approving my
20 appointment.

21 This is the most important that I
22 will say this evening. I want to thank each and
23 every community people who have traveled to these
24 meetings, prepared moving public comments, and

1 had the courage to share their experiences.

2 Some of you regularly and -- some
3 of you come regularly and continue to push us on
4 issues that need change.

5 I want you all to know that I've
6 listened to every single comment, and while you
7 do not hear responses from the Commission, I've
8 taken those comments in, and they have shaped my
9 work and continue to educate me on the state of
10 police in Chicago. Thank you so much for your
11 work.

12 As the Commission endures, it is
13 critical that as institution, it does more to
14 demonstrate that it clearly values community
15 members and District Councilors that ask it to do
16 more.

17 Throughout my tenure, I've always
18 been guided by clear understanding of why CCPSA
19 exists, and I believe it should be restated.
20 CCPSA was created to provide front-end oversight
21 over the Chicago Police Department.

22 Our role is to ensure that policies
23 and practices are in place so that CPD engages in
24 its public safety function without doing harm to

1 the communities it is responsible for serving.
2 And when there are clear gaps in policies and
3 practices, we have a responsibility to work to
4 address those problems.

5 We are meant to be a preventative
6 force rather than a response to misconduct that
7 has already occurred. And I know this because
8 I've spent years working to get the ordinance
9 that created this Commission passed.

10 As I reflect back on my time on
11 this Commission, it is clear that we have done
12 some important things.

13 I want to highlight a few issues
14 that I've played a particularly active role in
15 pushing forward because more work remains on each
16 of these issues, and I hope very much that the
17 new and remaining commissioners carry it forward.
18 Although it took far too long, we have a strong
19 public position on traffic stop policy that has
20 been supported by five out of seven
21 commissioners.

22 While the Commission does not have
23 full say over what the policy is, as you've heard
24 in our updates. There is the CPD, there's the

1 Attorney General's Office that are part of the
2 negotiations, it's critical that, in my view, the
3 Commission does not waiver significantly from its
4 public position, which substantially restricts
5 low-level stops and consent searches, both of
6 which are evidence-informed changes.

7 On the issue of alleged
8 collaboration between CPD and ICE, we've asked
9 the Inspector General to conduct an audit to
10 assess whether CPD has complied with the
11 Welcoming City Ordinance.

12 This is an important step, but it
13 should be the beginning, not the end, of the
14 Commission's work.

15 As an Illinois court recently
16 ruled, police departments are responsible for
17 conducting investigations into alleged criminal
18 behavior of its officers, yet, currently, there
19 are no clear guidelines on how CPD will conduct
20 these investigations, nor how they will share
21 information with the State's Attorney's Office.

22 Rather than continuing to wait for
23 the City to draft the policy, the Commission
24 should be proactively weighing in on what that

1 policy should look like.

2 Finally, on the issue of use of
3 force, the Commission has begun to take some
4 important steps. One of our goals for the year
5 was for CPD to do work to better understand the
6 alarming increases in use of force and firearm
7 pointing and to make that work public. And five
8 of seven commissioners, as you've today, have
9 sent a letter recommending that CPD take a look
10 at its firearm-pointing directive and look at
11 other major cities that provide more clarity on
12 restrictions when an officer can point a firearm.

13 If adopted and implemented
14 effectively, these changes would likely reduce
15 the use of firearms against unarmed community
16 members who make up by far significantly the most
17 common people who actually end up having a
18 firearm pointed at them. It's about two-thirds.
19 And ultimately that's where this use of force
20 work should go.

21 At a certain point it is no longer
22 sufficient to focus on checking off requirements
23 in the Consent Decree.

24 There must be a clear expectation

1 that outcomes and behaviors change.

2 There would be no need for a
3 court-enforced Consent Decree if issues with CPD
4 policy and training had not translated into
5 constitutional violations and excessive uses of
6 force.

7 Ultimately, I know many community
8 members who fought for the creation of the
9 Commission are disappointed in the Commission.

10 I certainly understand that, and to
11 be honest, I share some of those concerns;
12 however, the Commission will not make the changes
13 that many of you have been hoping for without
14 your continued engagement and advocacy.

15 Continue to push the Commission. I
16 hope you continue to fight for the change we
17 need, and I hope the next commissioners are
18 effective at bringing about that change. Thank
19 you.

20 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Commissioner
21 Minor.

22 COMMISSIONER MINOR: It is with a bittersweet
23 but very prevalent joy that I say I'm really
24 grateful to have been part of this Commission, to

1 have done the work that Commissioner Gottlieb
2 just talked about. I'm excited for the future of
3 the Commission. I hope that our next
4 commissioners are paying attention; that they are
5 ready to activate and to engage, and I hope that
6 all the community members and advocates who are
7 in the room today really take time to do some
8 outreach and establish relationships with them,
9 to talk to them, to get to know them as human
10 beings, and also get to know them as leaders.
11 I'm hoping the future of this work that Gottlieb
12 has talked about is protected; that it's still
13 pushed forward, that it's still worked on; that
14 we see some progress with the use of force; that
15 we see progress with DV and victims services;
16 that we see progress in the full implementation
17 of this traffic stop stipulation, and that it is
18 in alignment with what community had advocated
19 for time and time again during our listening
20 sessions.

21 I want to talk a little bit about
22 what's next. It's been quite awhile since we've
23 had miscellaneous business, so I really love this
24 part of the program to talk about ways that you

1 all can all engage outside of this space.

2 I know a lot of people care a lot
3 about teen trends. We talked about it a lot
4 today with the summer safety plan. There is a
5 lot of work happening with various organizations
6 that I will love for you all to tap into.

7 St. Sabina on June 13th is hosting
8 a conversation with young people centering Vic
9 Mensa. Not only is he a rapper/singer from
10 Chicago, but he also does various political
11 videos that talk about issues around the world
12 and the issues that impact us the most today.
13 That conversation is on June 13th at St. Sabina.
14 Hope you will be there.

15 Also, I talked a little bit the
16 youth empowerment space. It's a coalition full
17 of youth organizers between ages 18 to 24.

18 We also have youth service
19 organizations. It's a coalition of 24
20 organization to be exact. We're going to have a
21 conversation on June 25th at CTU headquarters at
22 4:00 p.m. It's centering the young people.
23 We'll have youth employers, youth programming,
24 but it's also centering civic education and

1 activation. I hope to see you all there as well.
2 And there's also on June 5th at BUILD Chicago the
3 Wear Orange Walk for violence prevention, and
4 they're also having a restorative justice
5 conference at BUILD. I got to tour the facility.
6 It is going to be beautiful. They have some
7 tickets available for free. It is for free for
8 community members. So I hope you're there.

9 Rainbow Push is also having another
10 convention. And for young people specifically
11 they're offering three-day free passes. I hope
12 you get on their website if you are interested
13 and be in the room. This is the future of the
14 work.

15 I hope -- I just want to say thank
16 you to the community organizers that I've been
17 able to build a relationship with during my term.
18 Shout out to CAARPR. Shout out to Joi Imobhio.
19 Yes. Shout out to District Councilor Leo
20 Quintero and District Councilor Dion McGill. All
21 of you all have been very consistent in
22 advocating for the best -- in my opinion, for a
23 better Chicago, for stronger direction and
24 account act.

1 And, honestly, this work would not
2 be what it was without you all, without your
3 continued advocacy and accountability. Keep
4 making noise. Keep staying strong. And I am
5 excited to see you all in the field.

6 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
7 Minor, Commissioner Gottlieb, and thank you for
8 your service to CCPSA and the citizens of
9 Chicago.

10 We will now move to adjournment.
11 To connect with the Commission via social media,
12 you can find us at Facebook ChicagoCCPSA or
13 search Community Commission for Public Safety and
14 Accountability. Instagram, Twitter,
15 CCPSA_Chicago. YouTube @ChicagoCCPSA.

16 The Commission's next regular
17 meeting will be Thursday, June 25th, at 6:30 at
18 Benito Juarez High School at 1450 West Cermak.

19 I would like to thank you all again
20 for joining us tonight and hope to see you on
21 June 25th, and we hope that you will stay engaged
22 and encourage other people that you know to join
23 us in this work.

24 Thank you all for your time this

1 evening and safe travels home.

2 (Meeting adjourned at 8:45

3 p.m.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 Re: Community Commission for Public Safety and
3 Accountability
4 May 28, 2026

5 I, MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., do hereby certify
6 that the foregoing Report of Proceedings was
7 recorded stenographically by me and was reduced
8 to computerized transcript under my direction,
9 and that the said transcript constitutes a true
10 record.

11 I further certify that I am not a
12 relative or employee or attorney or counsel of
13 any of the parties, or a relative or employee of
14 such attorney or counsel, or financially
15 interested directly or indirectly in this action.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
17 my hand of office at Chicago, Illinois, this 13
18 day of June 2026.

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MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
License No. 084.002740