

15TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

15th District Council Public Meeting Minutes

(Minutes)-Aligned Version)

Date: September 17, 2026

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: 5100 W. Harrison (BUILD)

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

- Meeting called to order at **6:05PM**
- Roll call conducted
- **Quorum established** (All three councilors present)
- Councilor Earls, Councilor Rutues, Councilor Ekua (In-person)

2. Approval of Remote Attendance

- Zoom use acknowledged
- No objections raised
- **Remote/Zoom format approved by consensus**

3. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda reviewed by Council
- Motion made and seconded
- **Agenda approved as presented**

4. Approval of Past Minutes

- Review of **July 16 & August 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- Motion to approve minutes by Councilor Rutues, second by Councilor Earls.
- **Minutes were approved.**

15TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. Public Comment

- No public comment.

6. Public Discussion on Trends & Concerns

- Smash and grab of ATM.
- High industrial fences blocking residence view of sidewalks and alleys.
- Work trucks parked on residential streets.
- Car theft.
- Street vendors.

7. Reports from Councilors

The Community Justice Alliance and Mediation Pilot is close to ending stages. This concept is to create a structured process for handling nonviolent community-to-community disputes, such as:

- Noisy neighbors
- Pet complaint
- Small disputes
- The envisioned model would bring together a district councilor, a police officer, and a trained community member to mediate disputes. A city resource, the **Center for Conflict Resolution** under the Commission on Human Relations. The local pilot idea remained centered on the 15th District and neighborhood-based mediation. Councilor Rutues explained that the training pipeline includes restorative justice, community mediation, and truth, healing, racial transformation work.
- Councilor Earls expressed that there is an open position on the Community Commission for the youth position. There's a candidate chosen but the Mayor has to sign off on it.

8. Police Report and Crime Statistics:

- No CPD in attendance

15TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

9. Hearings and Discussions

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

- Have street experience.
- Connect with the community.
- Enforce the ordinance:
- Management skills: Promoting officers who's best qualified for the job, not their friends.
- The community member emphasized that the superintendent should be someone who understands Chicago neighborhoods, can relate to residents, and can respond with strong leadership.
- The council also discussed the need for the next superintendent to prioritize:
 - consent decree compliance
 - community relationship-building
 - youth outreach
 - alternative response systems
 - enforcement of ordinances and traffic rules
- There was significant interest in a superintendent with **command presence**, **administrative courage**, and the willingness to challenge political pressure.

What worked and what didn't work well under the former Superintendent?

- Several speakers praised the former superintendent's internal CPD experience and familiarity with the department but also criticized the political obstacles that limited his initiatives.
- There was significant interest in a superintendent with **command presence**, **administrative courage**, and the willingness to challenge political pressure.

10. Presentations

- No presenter

15TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

11. Final Actions

- Motion to create a resolution recommending that superintendent candidates understand and support alternate policing response: **passed**. Motioned by Councilor Rutues and second by Councilor Earls
- Motion to use the NPI initiative to formulate questions for superintendent candidates: **passed**. Motioned by Councilor Earls and second by Councilor Rutues

12. Final Announcements & Adjournment

- **Next District Council Meeting:** October 15, 2026
- **Location:** Cicero & Ferdinand
- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:35PM