

Chicago Police Department
Office of Community

COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY PANEL REPORT

First Quarter 2026



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INTRODUCTION

The Community Policing Advisory Panel (CPAP) was commissioned by Chicago Police Department (the Department or CPD) in October 2016. The Panel’s primary task was to develop recommendations “for the Department’s renewed community engagement and collaboration efforts, in order to enhance public safety and restore trust.”

In October 2017, the Panel published its proposed recommendations to improve the Department’s community engagement efforts. The recommendations were organized across seven pillars of community policing:

1. Sustainable relationships of trust between police and community.
2. A strong focus on engagement with the City’s youth.
3. Standards for community policing initiatives so that these initiatives have clearly defined objectives and contribute to the overall community policing effort.
4. A structure that reinforces community policing in every aspect of policing.
5. Robust community-oriented training for all members of the Department.
6. Effective problem solving exercised jointly with the community and other city agencies.
7. Regular evaluation of the quality of community policing throughout the Department.

The Superintendent accepted all the Panel’s recommendations, and the implementation of all recommendations was incorporated into the consent decree negotiated between the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago. The consent decree took effect March 1, 2019. In its report, the Panel tasked the Office of Community Policing (OCP) with monitoring progress toward implementation and issuing quarterly status reports. This Quarterly Report for the Community Policing Advisory Panel is intended to provide Panel members with a snapshot of progress made on the implementation of its proposals.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY PANEL (CPAP)

CPAP Executive Leadership

- **John C. Robak, Chair** – Former Chairman and CEO, Greeley and Hansen
- **Dr. Nikki Harvey, Vice Chair** – Director of Constituent Development, Office of Congressman Danny K. Davis

Current Members

- **Glen Brooks, Jr.** – Director of Community Policing, Chicago Police Department
- **Thomas Bucaro, Esq.** – 16th District DAC Chair
- **Dr. Jeffrey Dillard** – Professor of Criminal Justice, Olive-Harvey College
- **Maggie Finucane** – 9th District DAC Chair
- **Mark Iris** – Former Chicago Police Board Executive Director
- **Luciano Leon** – Community Representative
- **Jim Lew** – Community Representative
- **Christine Perez** – Area Coordinator, Chicago Police Department
- **Ariel E. Reboyras** – Former 30th Ward Alderman at City of Chicago
- **Adal Regis** – Director of Strategy at Elevate
- **Christopher Taliaferro** – 29th Ward Alderman at City of Chicago
- **Eric Washington** – Retired CPD Deputy Chief of Community Policing

SUMMARY PROJECT UPDATES

1. Building Relationship of Trust

District Strategic Plans

1st Quarter Progress

- Supported the completion of District Strategic Plan Progress Reports across all 22 police districts to assist with tracking district-level goals, initiatives, and community engagement efforts.
- Coordinated the collection and submission of all required signatures for district progress reports to support accountability and timely reporting processes.

Looking Ahead

- OCP will submit finalized District Strategic Plan Progress Reports during Quarter 2.
- Continue supporting districts in tracking progress related to problem-solving initiatives and community engagement priorities throughout the year.

2. Providing a Strong Focus on Engagement with the City's Youth

Youth District Advisory Councils

1st Quarter Progress

- Hosted 22 Youth District Advisory Council (YDAC) meetings during the first quarter, engaging more than 180 participants in youth and police collaboration efforts focused on community engagement and public safety discussions.

Looking Ahead

- In Q2, we look forward to continued engagement with YDAC members through scheduled meetings, movie nights, prom preparation, and YDAC Night Out engagements.
- OCP will continue reviewing feedback and recommendations gathered through YDAC meetings to ensure youth voices and perspectives help inform community safety strategies and strengthen youth engagement initiatives.

Youth Education Programs

1st Quarter Progress

- Engaged more than 800 youth through partnerships with Chicago public, charter, and private schools through programs such as Officer Friendly and D.A.R.E., promoting positive police relationships, healthy decision-making, and awareness surrounding issues including teen dating violence and relationship safety.
- Explorer Programs continued across multiple districts, providing youth with opportunities focused on leadership development, mentorship, and career exploration in law enforcement and public service.

Looking Ahead

- OCP will continue expanding youth engagement initiatives through ongoing school and community partnerships, providing students with continued opportunities for education, mentorship, leadership development, and positive interactions with officers throughout the academic year.



Cops and Kids Chess Program

1st Quarter Progress

- Hosted 20 Cops and Kids Chess engagements with over 135 attendees, fostering positive relationship-building between officers and youth through structured chess activities.
- Engaged additional attendees at the Chicago Auto Show through a dedicated chess setup, providing an interactive space for youth and officers to connect.

Looking Ahead

- Continue to identify and expand partnerships with schools across all districts to increase opportunities for Cops and Kids

Chess engagements, with the goal of strengthening relationships, building trust, and breaking down barriers between youth and officers.

Police Athletic League (PAL)

1st Quarter Progress

- PAL hosted three sports clinics during the first quarter, including a boxing clinic with over 120 attendees, a basketball clinic with over 30 attendees, and a baseball clinic with over 25 attendees.
- A kickball and baseball event was also held at the UIC Indoor Baseball Facility during the MLK holiday weekend, engaging more than 40 youth participants.



Looking Ahead

- PAL will host a boxing clinic in Humboldt Park with the goal of engaging more than 25 youth participants in the Spring.
- PAL will continue hosting youth sporting engagements throughout the year to promote physical activity, strengthen positive connections, and increase youth engagement across Chicago communities.



Finish Strong

1st Quarter Progress

- The Chicago Police Department partnered with Target Stores to provide school supplies to students at four Chicago-area schools, supporting efforts to encourage students to finish the school year strong.
- Through this partnership, OCP staff and officers engaged with up to 1,900 youth, strengthening positive relationships with students and school communities.

Looking Ahead

- OCP will continue to pursue partnerships with community stakeholders and private sector partners to support youth-focused initiatives that promote education, engagement, and positive community relationships.

3. Community Policing Standards

Community Outreach and Strategic Partnerships

1st Quarter Progress

- The LGBTQ+ Unit expanded outreach efforts through engagement with recruits at the New Academy, providing information on unit services, community resources, and available support programs.
- LGBTQ+ Unit members attended the “Red Disco” event hosted by Lurie Children’s Hospital, supporting LGBTQ+ youth through visibility, engagement, and resource sharing in an affirming environment.
- In collaboration with the Homeless Liaison Unit, personnel supported the Community Connections Closet initiative to assist vulnerable populations through resource outreach and service coordination.
- Additional partnership-building efforts included engagement with representatives at the Metropolitan Correctional Center and participation in the OEMC Resource Fair, where unit members shared information regarding LGBTQ+ services and community-based resources.

Looking Ahead

- Moving forward, the department aims to build on the success of its clothing drive by encouraging even wider district participation and further streamlining the donation process to maximize its positive impact.
- Efforts will remain focused on strengthening relationships with community organizations, city agencies, and institutional partners to improve access to resources, referrals, and affirming services throughout Chicago.

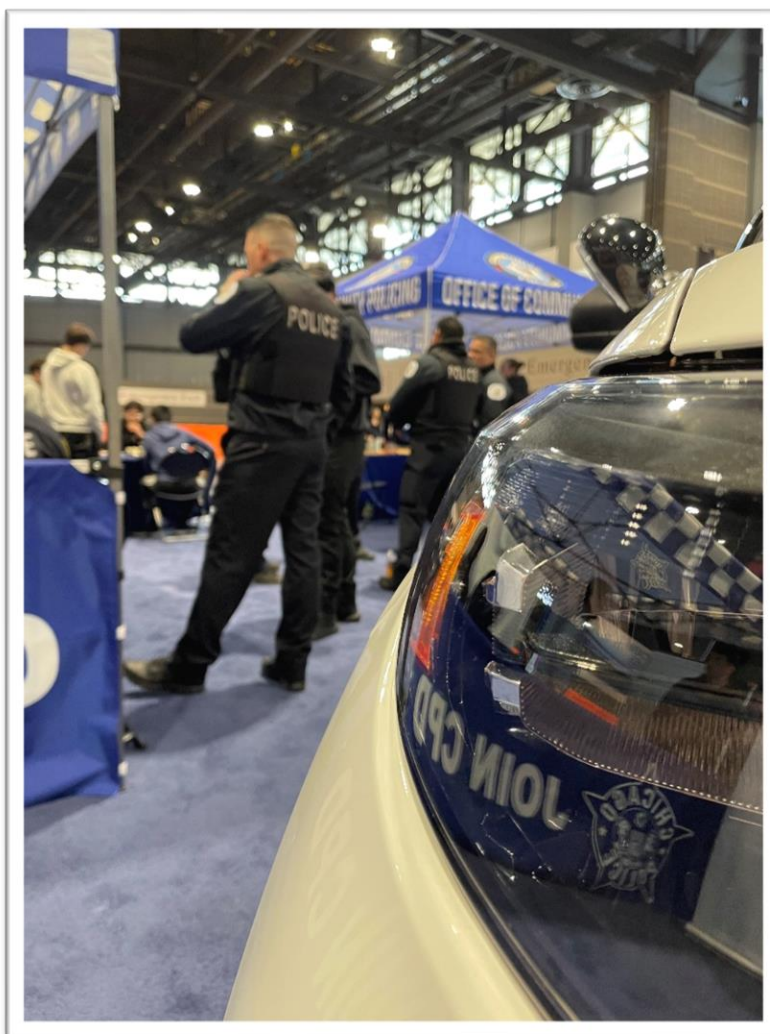
Auto Show

1st Quarter Progress

- Participated in the Chicago Auto Show held at McCormick Place from February 7 through February 16, engaging attendees throughout the duration of the event.
- Had the opportunity to interact with and provide information to more than 100 participants daily, increasing visibility and community engagement efforts.
- Developed and distributed a QR code that directed participants to beat-specific information. Data indicated a rise in website traffic from the QR code to the "Find Your Beat" map tool on the CPD website.

Looking Ahead

- The department will continue seeking opportunities to participate in large-scale public events to strengthen community relationships, increase public awareness of available services, and expand outreach efforts across diverse audiences.



4. Creating Structure that Supports & Institutionalizes Community Policing

Staffing Additions

1st Quarter Progress

- OCP expanded its staffing by adding four Information Service Coordinators and two Officers to support community engagement and departmental operations, with Information Service Coordinators maintaining ongoing documentation of outreach activities and community engagement efforts to support transparency and accountability.

Looking Ahead

- OCP looks forward to the onboarding and full integration of new civilian staff in Q2 to further enhance outreach capacity, strengthen community partnerships, and support engagement efforts across the city.

5. Developing and Implementing Community- Oriented Training

Community Police Academy

1st Quarter Progress

- A graduation ceremony for twelve Community Academy participants was hosted during this quarter, marking the successful completion of the program.
- The Community Academy program gives community members first-hand experience in our operations and training through engagement with officers. This program aims to strengthen trust and partnership with residents citywide.

Looking Ahead

- OCP will continue to offer the Community Police Academy, providing additional opportunities for community members to engage with Chicago Police Department training and operations firsthand, fostering transparency, understanding, and community engagement



6. Problem Solving with the Community, City Departments and Sister Agencies

Public Safety Strategy Meeting

1st Quarter Progress

- Year to date there has been a total of 9 Public Safety Strategy Meetings.

Looking Ahead

- Continue to coordinate resources and strategies that prevent crime, improve emergency response, and support safer communities citywide.

Gun Turn-in

1st Quarter Progress

- During Q1, OCP initiated planning efforts to update public facing materials for upcoming gun turn-in event, including revised informational flyers and an updated FAQ resource page.
- Continued early stage coordination and planning to strengthen outreach and communication strategies in support of upcoming gun turn-in events, with a focus on increasing community awareness and participation.

Looking Ahead

- OCP will host two gun turn-in events during Q2 on the South and West sides of Chicago, providing safe and anonymous opportunities for residents to turn in firearms and support ongoing violence prevention efforts.

7. Evaluation of Implementation and Impact

ZenCity Collaboration

1st Quarter Progress

- During Q1, CPD continued utilizing Blockwise data through its partnership with ZenCity to better understand community concerns, perceptions of safety, and resident interactions with police.
- Community sentiment remained generally consistent throughout the quarter, with no significant shifts in the primary concerns identified by residents.
 - Theft, burglary, violence, and crime prevention continued to be among the most frequently cited public safety concerns, reinforcing the importance of proactive enforcement and community-based strategies.
- Residents frequently identified location-based safety concerns involving CTA lines, particularly the Red Line, as well as major corridors and public parks. Feedback also reflected broader concerns regarding overall feelings of safety in certain neighborhoods.
- Community feedback regarding police interactions indicated that approximately one-third of surveyed residents reported contact with officers, primarily through calls for service. While procedural justice feedback remained generally positive, responses also identified opportunities to improve consistency in communication and responsiveness during interactions.

Looking Ahead

- The department will continue collaborating with ZenCity to gather and evaluate community feedback through Blockwise survey efforts and data-driven engagement strategies.
- Insights collected will continue to inform deployment strategies, community outreach initiatives, and efforts focused on strengthening procedural justice, transparency, and public trust throughout Chicago communities.

ENGAGE WITH CPD

Community members play a vital role in shaping the safety and well-being of their neighborhoods, and the Chicago Police Department offers numerous ways to get involved and collaborate directly with officers and city leaders. Below are keyways community members can engage with CPD and help build a safer, stronger Chicago.

Attend a Beat Meeting

Beat meetings are held by the Department regularly in each of the city's 281 beats, where residents meet with beat officers to discuss community issues and develop solutions. Most meetings are held virtually. Attending beat meetings gives community members the opportunity to get to know the officers that work on their beat, provide information about concerns to police, meet other residents in their beat who may be working on similar issues, and bring back the latest information from police to their neighbors

Links:

- [Find My District](#)
- [Full Community Events Calendar](#)

Get Involved with a District Advisory Committee (DAC)

Each District Commander has a DAC that provides advice and organizes community-based strategies. Participating in a District Advisory Committee allows community members the opportunity/ability to help shape policies in their community that can have a long lasting impact on crime.

To learn more about how to get involved with DACs attend a beat meeting and/or ask your District community-policing officer for more information.

Links:

- [Find My District](#)
- [Community Events Calendar](#)

Submit a Non-Emergency Community Concern

Residents can submit concerns related to crime, quality of life, or neighborhood issues. By working together, the police and the community can address concerns and prioritize crime and disorder by sharing the responsibility for the development and implementation of proactive problem solving strategies to identify chronic issues.

Links:

- [Report a Community Concern](#)

Participate in CPD's Annual Strategic Planning Process

In 2019, the Office of Community Policing launched a brand new strategic planning process in which each District takes input from the community to develop a list of its top chronic, long-term problems. These problems will be tackled through special missions and efforts all year. Each District will give a report on its progress every quarter during beat meetings.

Below is the link to all District Strategic Plans. Be on the lookout for notice on upcoming opportunities to participate in the Strategic Plans process.

Links:

- [District Strategic Plans](#)

Join or Form a Block Club

Block clubs are groups of neighbors working together to improve the quality of life in their community. Read more about block clubs and learn about forming and registering your block club at the link below.

Links:

- [About Block Clubs](#)

Compliment a Police Officer

The Chicago Police Department aims to provide great service and build community partnerships. Officers sometimes go beyond in their work. If you see exemplary service, you can complement an officer.

Links:

- [Compliment an Officer](#)

Submit a Compliant

Community members who feel a Chicago Police officer has treated them unfairly should contact the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) to file a complaint.

Links:

- [COPA Online Complaint System](#)

CONCLUSION

Quarter 1 reflected continued progress in advancing community engagement, youth programming, and collaborative public safety initiatives through partnerships, outreach, and district-level engagement efforts across Chicago. OCP supported a variety of initiatives focused on strengthening trust, increasing transparency, and fostering positive relationships between community members and the Chicago Police Department. These efforts included youth education programs, Police Athletic League clinics, Cops and Kids Chess engagements, Youth District Advisory Council meetings, Community Police Academy, and participation in large-scale community events such as the Chicago Auto Show. OCP also expanded staffing through the addition of Information Service Coordinators and Officers to further support outreach, engagement, and community partnership efforts citywide.

Throughout the quarter, OCP continued supporting violence prevention and community-based engagement initiatives through planning efforts for upcoming gun turn-in events, district strategic planning coordination, and partnerships with schools, community organizations, and private sector stakeholders. CPD also continued collaborating with ZenCity to evaluate resident feedback regarding safety concerns, police interactions, and community priorities, helping inform data-driven and community-informed public safety strategies. Looking ahead, OCP remains committed to expanding outreach, youth engagement opportunities, and collaborative partnerships throughout Quarter 2 to strengthen trust, encourage dialogue, and support safer communities across Chicago.

The Office of Community Policing is always looking for community members to engage with and collaborate with on its various efforts. If you are interested in working with CPD, please contact OCP by calling 312-745-5900.

Opportunities to get involved and a calendar of upcoming events is available online at <https://home.chicagopolice.org/community-policing-group/>

